

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 356 Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1918.

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.

Price 2d.

GILLET & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.
MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 3th March, 1918
Sons & Co.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

THE PROSPECTS FOR 1918.

The predominant thought, the overmastering desire, of everyone on the threshold of this new year must be that it will be a year in which we shall once more see peace in the world. There is no weakening in the determination of the British race to see this war through to a victorious end, but everywhere there is the hope that this devastating conflict will soon terminate, and that 1918 may go down the ages as the year not black with war, but illumined and made memorable by an enduring and a righteous peace. Without that desirable end of the present strife everything must be subsidiary to the struggle, and nothing but winning the war will matter. We have been told by those who are best in a position to judge that we have not yet reached the climax of our trials, and that we have still sterner tests to face before the end we have in view is gained. We have, therefore, to gird ourselves for the task, and if 1918 is to see the conclusion of the war we must be prepared to face even greater sacrifices.

While the war lasts there can be no hope of a revival of ringing. Everything must give way to the one universal effort. Ringers will not mind that, but the thousands who are fighting overseas or doing their part in other directions in this country, without any opportunity of following their cherished art, look to those who remain in the towers to keep the flag flying. A duty devolves upon those who are left to do their utmost to maintain the art, so that when peace returns, be it this year or some other year, those who come back may find, at any rate, a foundation upon which they can rebuild the fortunes of the Exercise. Whether that reconstruction can begin this year depends primarily upon the ending of the war; whether it can begin in any year depends ultimately upon those who are left to "carry on" while the majority of their colleagues are engaged upon the sterner duties of the times. We need not recapitulate now all that might be done to maintain the fabric of the Exercise. Much is being done in some quarters, but much more, we are convinced, could be done by many others. There is too much of the spirit of laissez faire prevailing among some of those who might do a good deal for the maintenance of the art in many ways, for, despite the drawbacks of the times, there are means by which the interests of ringing could be promoted. Unless greater energy is more generally shown than is at present exhibited the future of the Exercise, even with the return of peace, will not be all one could desire; and when the Central Council meet next Whitsun, one of the subjects to which they might well devote some of their attention is that of organising the revival of the art after the war.

Ringers as a class are optimists—the very nature of their art makes them so—and they will all look with hope to the future. But the essence of optimism is to be ready to help

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CHARLES CARR, LTD



OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.

Broomfield Village,
Chelmsford

Dear Sir,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract, — we may be able to assist you.

SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM

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SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

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CRACKED BELLS RECAST

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IN BEST SEASONED OAK
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IN ALL BRANCHES

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oneself, and therefore they can best serve the interests of the Exercise by making personal efforts to promote its well-being in face of the adverse times, instead of merely waiting till the better days arrive. That these brighter days may soon be with us, that the new year will see the dawn of peace and bring prosperity to all our friends, is our sincerest wish.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANCES;
Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

ALBERT WALKER Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS 7
THOMAS MILLER 2	JAMES GEORGE 8
FREDERICK DICKENS 3	ALF. PADDON SMITH 9
GEORGE F. SWANN 4	SAMUEL GROVE 10
JAMES L. WELLS 5	JAMES E. GROVES 11
WILLIAM KENT 6	JOHN NEAL Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

The first two courses of this peal are in the handstroke position and the remainder in the titum and handstroke position in alternate blocks of six courses each, with the treble in 2nd's place and the 6th in 5th's place at each course end. It is the first composed and rung on this plan.

TEN BELL PEAL.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 22, 1917, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;

C. BOWER Treble	J. LEIGH 6
J. BROADBENT 2	B. GILL 7
T. JAKEMAN 3	A. ADAMS 8
J. MELLOR 4	S. WOOD 9
S. GREENHALGH 5	H. CHAPMAN Tenor

Composed by the late JAMES WOOD, SENR., and
Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Rung to celebrate the occupation of Jerusalem by the British.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CARDIFF.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 16, 1917, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

WILLIAM BOLTON Treble	WILLIAM HEATH 5
JOHN HARRIS 2	ALLEN ROWLEY 6
EVAN COLES 3	WILLIAM COOMBS 7
SIDNEY DAVE 4	SEYMOUR R. BARKER Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM COOMBS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of William Miller, for many years a highly respected finger at the above church, who died the previous week, while on a holiday from the West Coast of Africa; also in memory of Mrs. H. Day, wife of a member of the St. John's band, who died on Dec. 14th, 1917.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

SIDNEY ANSTAY Treble	FREDK. J. CULLUM, JUNR. 5
ALBERT E. NEWICK 2	ISAAC EMERY 6
PERCY J. SPICE 3	EDWIN BARNETT, SENR. 7
FREDK. J. CULLUM, SENR. 4	EDWIN BARNETT, JUNR. Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, SENR.

* First peal. It is also the first peal by F. J. Cullum, Senr., after a lapse of over twenty years, and all peal ringers of this district will be pleased to welcome him back again in the ranks.

**NORTHOWRAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Monday, December 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,*

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANCES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSEPH BROADLEY Treble	HERBERT HAIGH 5
ALBERT JAGGER 2	THOMAS B. KENDALL 6
Pte. GEORGE NAYLOR 3	HERBERT DRANSFIELD 7
WILLIAM JOYCE 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES Tenor

Composed by J. E. JENKINSON, and
Conducted by J. E. SYKES.

Rung in honour of the Feast of Christmas and the capture of Jerusalem by the British Forces, and as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. W. Cundall, of Bradford, who was unable to stand in.

**NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
(PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.)**

*On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVE'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs.

JOHN SIMMONS Treble	ALBERT CALLAWAY 5
WILLIAM CHAMBERS 2	HARRY PHILLIPS 6
WILLIAM UPTON 3	HENRY JENNINGS 7
WALTER SCOTT 4	JOHN LEAL Tenor

Conducted by HENRY JENNINGS.

First peal by all except the conductor and first attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Pte. Fredk. James Chiverton, Hanis Regt., a former ringer at this church, who fell in action on the 30th Nov.; also as a mark of respect to all those from the parish who have made the supreme sacrifice.

**BIRMINGHAM
ST MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM**

*On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

JAMES E. GROVES Treble	JAMES GEORGE 5
JAMES L. WELLS 2	SAMUEL GROVE 6
ALBERT T. SCRIVENS 3	JOHN B. COLLETT 7
*WILLIAM F. WEBB 4	ALBERT E. NORMAN Tenor

Conducted by SAMUEL GROVE.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman inside.

**CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(GUILDFORD DISTRICT.)**

*On Wednesday, December 26th, 1917, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 11 cwt.

WALTER TROSLER Treble	ROBERT L. MELVILLE 5
CHARLES HAZELDEN 2	SEPTIMUS RADFORD 6
THOMAS ATTWELL 3	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE 7
ARTHUR J. BARTLETT 4	HARRY HARRIS Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES HAZELDEN.

This was R. W. Melville's first peal; also the conductor's first peal of Grandsire as conductor, and first attempt.

**COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.**

*On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,*

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANCES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

*WALTER LAGO Treble	ERNEST WEATHERBY 5
*THOMAS ABBOTT 2	CHARLES R. LILLEY 6
LEONARD HEWITT 3	ALFRED E. FULLICK 7
FREDERICK DARRALL 4	WILLIAM SAUNDERS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal in the method and first peal of Major. The composition is now rung for the first time. First peal in the method on the bells. The peal was specially arranged for the ringer of the 2nd who joins the Cadet Wing of the Royal Flying Corps, at Farnborough, on Jan. 11th, 1918.

**HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCK BRANCH.)
ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, HIGH WYCOMBE.**

*On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,*

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qrs.

*CADET EDWARD R. COLES Treble	RG.-ST.-MAJ. GEO WHITE 5
JAMES W. WILKINS 2	RALPH COLES 6
GEORGE TWITCHEN 3	JOHN GRANSBURY 7
*EDWARD MARKHAM 4	WILLIAM T. HORNE Tenor

Composed by the late SIR ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD, BART., and
Conducted by WILLIAM T. HORNE.

* First peal of Major. This peal was rung to celebrate the 40th year of Canon Drummond's presidency of the Branch—first as a local association in 1877 and merged into the Oxford Diocesan Guild in 1881. Also rung as a compliment to Cadet E. R. Coles who was home on leave.

**KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION**

*On Saturday, December 29, 1917, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN EATON Treble	JOHN T. PRITCHETT 5
GEORGE F. SWANN 2	SAMUEL GROVE 6
JAMES E. GROVER 3	ARTHUR CHAMBERS 7
THEODORE PRITCHETT 4	HARRY WITHERS Tenor

Composed by the late HENRY DAINS, and
Conducted by HARRY WITHERS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of William Palmer and Frank R. Withers.

FIVE BELL PEAL.

**BREDON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)**

*On Saturday, December 29, 1917, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Consisting of 42 Six-Scores of Canterbury, Plain Bob and Grandsire.
Tenor 19½ cwt.

FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... Treble	HARRY MIDDLETON 3
JAMES HEMMING 2	HENRY J. PHIPPS 4
CHARLES C. CAMM Tenor	

Conducted by JAMES HEMMING.

First peal on the bells. After the peal the Rector (the Rev. H. Holbeck) very kindly entertained the band to tea at the Rectory.

DEATH OF AN OLD BOSTON RINGER.

The death has occurred at Boston, Lines, of Mr. Thomas John Boyer, who was in his 73rd year. Mr. Boyer commenced his ringing career over 40 years ago at St. Botolph's Church, Boston, and was an enthusiastic follower of the art. Although no peals stand to his credit, he was none the less sincere in his congratulations to those who were fortunate enough to be successful in this direction. Mr. Boyer was a true type of an inoffensive and obliging man, regular in his habits, and genial in his disposition. He was highly respected by a large circle of ringing friends. He was a devoted husband, a loving father, a good Churchman, and a sincere and faithful friend. Mrs. Boyer predeceased her husband about six months ago. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London, the Yorkshire and the Lincolnshire Diocesan Associations.

Mr. Boyer, who passed away on December 12th, was interred on Monday, December 17th, at Boston Cemetery.

CHESTERFIELD.—On Christmas Day, an attempt for a quarter-peal at the Parish Church having failed, 816 Double Norwich Major was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. D. Farthing, a respected, and a performing member, at 71 years of age, of the Chesterfield company: G. Hollis 1, T. W. Gore 2, B. A. Knights 3, A. Knights (conductor) 4, F. Jacobs 5, W. Allwood 6, W. J. Thyng 7, G. A. Thompson 8.

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**Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.**

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of these occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

KING'S NORTON LOSSES.

WILLIAM PALMER AND FRANK WITHERS.

The peal at King's Norton, recorded in another column, was rung after the funeral of William Palmer, of King's Norton, who died on Christmas Day, aged 60, after some months of failing health. It was intended also as a token of mourning for the loss of Frank Withers, also a King's Norton ringer, who gave his life for his country in France on November 17th last.

William Palmer was the son of Francis Palmer, who died a year ago, aged 88, and a nephew of Frederick Palmer, also a ringer. For fifty-three years William Palmer was connected with the Parish Church of King's Norton, first of all as a choir boy at the age of seven, afterwards as a ringer, and later, when his father retired, as a towerkeeper. He was a most enthusiastic and accomplished ringer, having rung 88 peals in all the well-known methods, including Loud Surprise, of which he was very proud. He was a member of the Worcestershire Association, the St. Martin's Guild, the Midland Counties and the Warwickshire Associations, and always a most regular attendant. His first peal was in 1876, at Bishop Ryden's Church, Birmingham, and it was ten years before he rang his second; his fifth peal he conducted himself, and that was the only one, although he frequently called touches at the Sunday morning ringing. He was also devoted in composition, and claimed to have invented a new method which he called King's Norton Surprise. He was a clever handbell ringer, and took part in two handbell peals. He leaves a widow, four sons, three of whom are serving in the army, the fourth being an invalid, and four daughters, one of whom has given her husband to King and country. His funeral was largely attended, many ringers being present, and also representatives of the Birmingham Gas Department, where he had been employed for 37 years. A course of Grandsire Triples was struck over his grave, by: H. Withers 1-2, George P. Swann 3-4, James E. Groves 5-6, and Arthur Chambers 7-8. His last wish, as expressed to the writer was to be buried close to the belfry door and this was complied with, and his last prayer was for peace and harmony among all mankind.

Frank Withers was 31 years of age, and had taken part in the Sunday morning ringing at King's Norton for about ten years. He also was an enthusiastic and excellent ringer, having rung between 80 and 90 peals in all the methods in practice, including London Surprise. The writer has had the pleasure of ringing many peals with him, and never knew him to make a mistake. He was as usual with ringers of special merit, quiet and unassuming in his manner, and won the respect of all who met him. He left home after leave of absence, on November 14th, and was killed in action three days afterwards. He leaves a widow, whom he married since the outbreak of war. It was thought appropriate that his cousin, Harry Withers, so well known to all ringers throughout the country, should conduct the muffled peal, which he did with his usual ability. The beautiful bells of King's Norton Church rang out their solemn farewell in regular cadence for three hours and a quarter without the slightest trip, and eloquently expressed the grief we all feel at the loss of two of our familiar friends and brother ringers, both of whom will be long and affectionately remembered.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the North-Western Division was held at Bishop's Stortford on Boxing Day. The bells were available from one o'clock till 4 p.m., and touches were rung in the following methods: Stedman Triples, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Superlative Surprise Major, Cambridge Surprise Major, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major. A short service was held in the church, when an address was given by the Rev. E. R. Souper (curate).

Tea and the business meeting were held at the Chequers Hotel, the Rev. E. R. Souper presiding over an attendance of 22 members, from Staunsted, Saffron Walden, Braintree, Harlow St. Mary's, Harlow Common, Sawbridgeworth, Buxbourne, and the local company.

Mr. F. Pittsford was again re-elected Master for the ensuing year and Mr. W. Watts, district secretary.

Mr. H. J. Tucker proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Master and secretary for past services.—Mr. W. Watts replied on behalf of the Master and himself, remarking they would only be too pleased to do all they could for the Association for another year.

Master Albert Harney, of Stansted, was elected a probationer of the Association.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Sawbridgeworth. At the close, votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar (the Rev. H. T. Lane) for the use of the bells; the Rev. E. R. Souper for his address and presiding at the meeting; to Miss M. Pritchett (assistant organist) for presiding at the organ; and to Mr. P. Springham, church clerk, for his help in making the arrangements. The Master of the Association (Mr. C. H. Howard, J.P.), and Mr. Dent, of Harlow Common, were present during the day, but were unable to stay to the business meeting.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at St. Woolos, Newport, Mon., on Boxing Day. The bells of both St. Woolos and All Saints' Churches were available during the day, and full advantage was taken of them, the four standard method being rung. There was a good muster of ringers from all over the diocese, and there were also several visitors, amongst whom were Mr. Jesse Gillett, of Gloucester, and Mr. John Austin, the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association.

Service took place in the Parish Church, and was conducted by the Rev. A. H. Thomas (curate), in the unavoidable absence, through illness, of the Vicar. In the course of his address, he welcomed, on behalf of the Vicar, the members of the Association to St. Woolos, and was glad to see such a large number at the service. He said he was sure, speaking as a ringer himself, that the authorities throughout the country were indebted to the ringers for a great deal, not only for the ringing of the bells, but for bringing before their notice every little defect that occurred both inside the tower and out. Towers where the bells were rung were always in a better state of repair than those in which there were no bells. The address was an excellent and appropriate one, and was much appreciated.

The business meeting followed in Waters Lane Mission Room, and was presided over by the Rev. A. H. Thomas, who at the outset said he was sure they had all heard with the deepest regret that one of their hon. secretaries (the Rev. Connop L. Price) had had the misfortune to lose his wife. They all knew the good work that both Mr. and Mrs. Price has been engaged in during this terrible war, and the blow to him was a severe one.—The Chairman then moved a sincere vote of condolence with the Rev. Connop Price in his grief, and this was carried by the members standing in silence.

The election of Master for the ensuing year was proceeded with, and three names were before the meeting, viz., Mr. Slatter, of Merthyr; Mr. Cook, of Caerphilly; and Mr. Bolton of Cardiff. On being put to the vote, Mr. Bolton was elected by a large majority.

The hon. secretaries, the Rev. Connop L. Price and Mr. J. W. Jones, were re-elected, and Mr. Jones was chosen as the Association's representative at the Central Council.

A motion, proposed by Mr. Dawe, seconded by Mr. Bolton, that the rules be amended so that in future there be four quarterly meetings, exclusive of the annual meeting, met with general approval, and was carried unanimously.

The next annual meeting will be held at Llandaff; the next Glamorganshire quarterly meeting at Peterston-super-Ely; the next Monmouthshire quarterly meeting at St. Mellons.

New members were elected from Rumney, Llanhradach, Newport, Merthyr, Penarth, Llangonoyd, and Llanelli, Breconshire.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

Ten, kindly provided by the Vicar and churchwardens, was partaken of in the same room, and the bells were afterwards kept going until 9 o'clock.

PRESENTATIONS AT CHESTERFIELD. PENDING DEPARTURE OF ARCHDEACON CROSSE.

A pleasant ceremony took place in the belfry at Chesterfield on Sunday, December 23rd, when Archdeacon Crosse, who is shortly leaving Chesterfield, was presented with a silver bell-shaped inkstand, the gift of the ringers. In making the presentation, the speaker took the opportunity of expressing the ringers' regret at his departure, and of thanking him for all the kindness he had extended to them during his 13 years as Vicar of Chesterfield. When one considered the amount of ringing and the number of peals rung at Chesterfield, it would at once be seen that the bells had been ungrudgingly placed at the disposal of any ringers who cared to utilise them.

The Archdeacon, in reply, thanked the members of the company for their most useful and unique gift, which he considered a beautiful thing, and would in the days to come serve to remind him of the bells he had so much loved to hear. He expressed his thanks for the loyalty and devotion of the ringers, and went on to say he considered them the one band of churchworkers who caused him no trouble or worry, as he could always rely on them to be in their place both for service ringing and any special occasion.

The Archdeacon then presented Miss E. Wornham with a gold pendant, as a mark of appreciation for her voluntary assistance to the ringers during the past year. He complimented her on the splendid progress she had made, and said he trusted she would continue to make rapid strides in the art of campanology.—The lady, who evidently is not "uncertain, coy and hard to please," was completely taken by surprise, and certainly surprised her audience by her outburst of oratory. She thanked the Archdeacon and ringers for their very kind gift, remarking that it was solely for the love of the art that she had attended so regularly.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE BREED.

ONE OF THE GREATEST OF HEAVY BELL RINGERS.

Those of our readers who knew him, and he had a wide circle of friends, will much regret to hear of the death of Mr. George Breed, of York, who passed away on Tuesday, the 18th December, after a long illness.

The deceased, who was 68 years of age, was born at Braintree, Essex, and was a bricklayer by trade. He went to York 41 years ago, and was in the employ of the contractor engaged in the extensions to the present York Railway Station. Prior to going North, Mr. Breed became well known amongst the London ringers as a clever heavy bell ringer. As a cricketer, too, he had played for the Essex Colts, but had never been capped for the county.

On arriving in York he soon found his way to the Minster, where he received a very hearty welcome from the ringers, and a fifty-three cwt. tenor bell waiting for him. Being a good handbell ringer, too, he was especially welcomed by four of the younger members, who had just scored the first Yorkshire Association handbell peal, Grandsire Triples, which was rung on January 12th, 1876, in 2 hrs. 52 mins. On October 28th, in the same year, with Mr. Breed ringing 3-4, a peal of Treble Bob Royal was rung in 3 hrs. 17 mins., and on March 12th, 1877, the same band rang a peal of Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 5 mins. A close friendship was formed between the young band and the late Mr. Chas. Henry Hattersley and his colleagues at St. Andrew's, and ringing visits between the two companies were frequent—visits intended for one day sometimes extending to as long as a week—and on these occasions it was good to hear either of these now departed friends recounting the exploits of their younger days.

Mr. Breed was of a very genial disposition, and always ready to help the young ringer either in practice or theory, and when the writer of these notes, with five others, was struggling to master the intricacies of Plain Bob Minor, he would always turn into the belfry, on his way home after a hard day's work to give them the benefit of his advice and skill. He was a splendid striker himself, and nothing but the best would satisfy him.

His great ambition was to ring a company peal of Treble Bob Maximus at the Minster, but to his deep regret, and that of others of the band, this was never attained, although on two occasions at least, success nearly crowned their efforts. The last attempt was the most unfortunate of all, as the peal came to grief after the last bob had been called.

George Breed was a good all-round sportsman, an excellent billiard player, a good Rugby footballer, and while captain of the York Cricket Club headed the batting averages for several years in succession, as the display of presentation bats hanging on his walls testified. On several occasions he topped the century, and he was the first to score a century on the York Cricket Ground.

He gave up ringing at the Minster seven or eight years ago, owing to heart trouble, but the gap has never been filled.

THE PEAL AT NEWPORT, I. OF W.

The peal performance at Newport, recorded in another column, is unique in its local interest, inasmuch as it is the first peal for 108 years rung by a local band of ringers, and it was secured at the first attempt. Ringers of the treble, second, fourth and tenor had been "stony" ringers for periods varying from 20 to 30 years, until 1914, when they were taken in hand by Mr. H. Jennings, of Ryde, who quickly got them out of the old ruts, and has now attained what was their then ambition. The ringer to whose memory the muffled peal was rung, was one of the old "stony" band. He would never attempt change ringing, but in a broad-minded manner, stood by so as not to impede others when the improvement was first introduced. But his genial and unchanging character prompted his brother ringers to do what they could to do honour to him in the greatest of all sacrifices that man can be called upon to make. May he rest in peace.

SOLIHULL'S ROLL OF HONOUR.

Two more ringers from St. Alphege's Church, Solihull, have joined the Army, bringing the total number up to ten. The following is the full list:—

- Pte. T. Turner, Royal Warwicks (killed).
- Sapper K. Timms, Royal Engineers.
- Lieut. R. Bragg, Royal Marine Light Infantry.
- Lance-Corpl. H. Shepherd, Royal Warwicks (wounded).
- Pte. Archer Bragg, Royal Warwicks (wounded).
- Sapper Samuel Bragg, Royal Engineers.
- Pte. John Bragg, Royal Flying Corps.
- Lance-Corpl. E. Shepherd, Cheshire Regt. (wounded twice).
- A.-M. Stanley Bragg, Royal Naval Air Service.
- Pte. V. Rigg, Hampshire Yeomanry (Cyclists).

ACTON.—For the morning service, on Sunday, Dec. 23rd, the first part of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples: A. E. Smith 1, W. Phillips 2, J. H. Fruin 3, J. Hunnisett 4, W. Lawrence (conductor) 5, C. Edwards 6, R. Holloway 7, A. Grey 8.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 15th and 29th, and for handbell practice on the 10th and 24th, at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting of this society will be held at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, on Saturday, Jan. 5th, 1918. Bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. The business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall adjoining the Vicarage at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

THE CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Northampton District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kingsthorpe on Saturday, Jan. 5th.—Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service 5.30. Tea and meeting 6 p.m. (no sugar provided).—T. Low, District Secretary, Weston Favell, Northampton.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1775).—The annual meeting will be held at the Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, City, on Tuesday, Jan. 8th, 1918, at 7.30 p.m. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Fareham on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells available 2.30. Tea will be provided at Miss Foster's, West Street, free for those that acquaint me not later than Jan. 9th; business meeting after tea.—J. Harding, Dist. Sec., 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Established 1824).—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Giles, Camberwell, on Saturday, 12th January, 1918. Bells available from 2.45 to 5 p.m. A business meeting will follow at the Stirling Castle, Church Street. All ringers and friends invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 19th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bromley (SS. Peter & Paul) on Saturday, 19th January, 1918. Tower open at 3 p.m. Further particulars next week.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, January 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; meeting in the Church Room at 6.30. Owing to the difficulties of catering, no tea will be provided this year.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

HANDBELLS.—WANTED set of 8, secondhand. Address J. Puplett, Victoria Nurseries, Leighton Buzzard.

GREETINGS.

From German East Africa.—The Season's Greetings to all ringing friends from J. W. Unwin, R.E. Signals, German East Africa.

Pte. W. Keeble, A.V.C., B.E.F., France, wishes all brother ringers a Happy New Year and hopes shortly to meet some of them while on leave.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A RETURN VISIT TO WHITTON.

Members and friends of the Midland Counties Association paid a return visit on Boxing Day to the Vale of Belvoir country, in weather that was certainly conducive to putting muscle and brain to a good test. The arrangements were made by that fine all-round enthusiast, the Rev. C. J. Sturton, of Orston, whose enthusiasm and willingness to further the art of change ringing is so well known, and who once again prevailed upon the Vicar (Mr. C. Dawson) to grant the privilege of ringing on his beautiful peal of six bells. The Vicar, who is evidently a lay enthusiast, delighted the company with his presence during part of the afternoon's proceedings, and seriously interested himself in the diagrams of bell music, thus giving rise to a united hope that he may see his way to become initiated into the ranks of the Exercise.

Among the visitors who assembled from many parts were Messrs. Sydney Proctor, Harry Thorpe, W. G. Thorpe (Grantham), J. J. Jackson (Belton, Uppingham), Arthur Mackears (Long Bennington), Frank Spencer (Radcliffe), William E. White, Walter White, G. Footle (Colgrave), Tom Squires (Colgrave), and W. C. Hunt (Nottingham).

The "star turn" of the afternoon was Cambridge Surprise Minor in which the following took part: Messrs. W. E. White 1, J. J. Jackson 2, Sydney Proctor 3, Walter White 4, Arthur Mackears 5, W. C. Hunt 6; also with the Rev. C. J. Sturton on the 3rd.

Other methods rung were: Double Oxford, Double and Single Court, Kent Treble Bob, Bob Minor, etc., piloted by Walter White, Arthur Mackears, Sydney Proctor, W. C. Hunt, and W. E. White. Also 120 Bob Doubles by the local band.

When the visitors' efforts ended with the moon at its best, Mr. Sturton conducted them to "a place within the meaning of the Act," where he had made arrangements for tea. This was followed by talks about the exploits of the afternoon and possibilities of the future, until the advent of the handbells, upon which courses and touches were ticked off to the satisfaction of those present.

On the motion of Mr. Sydney Proctor, Mr. Sturton was asked to convey Mr. Dawson their best thanks for placing the bells at their disposal, and to Mr. Huckenby for having everything in readiness.

Another course of Grandsire Triples brought the proceedings to a conclusion all too soon and the shadows on the blinds were changed for the shadows of the highways and upways that led to home. H.

BOXING DAY TRIP TO MIDDLESEX TOWERS.

In obedience to the order, "Meet at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, at 10 o'clock," a goodly company assembled, including Mrs. Frank Bairs, Miss Edith Jones, and Messrs. Frank Bennett, Wm. Hewett, Wm. Henley, George M. Kilby, C. Horton, and W. Emmett, and others. Stedman Triples and Kent Major were rung, and a start then made for Uxbridge. The day's programme was strictly adhered to, and upon arrival at St. Margaret's—by the old Town Hall—the ringers were met by the Misses Freda and Phyllis Moss, and Messrs. Kedge, Bedford, Wright and Grange, of the local band. The Rev. R. F. Hanning, M.A., had to keep an appointment, so just missed the party. Several methods were rung, and some of the ladies rung in Stedman Triples, with Mr. Bennett at the helm.

After dinner, the tower of St. Andrew's was visited and Double Norwich Major was the highest method reached. An easy fifteen minutes' walk and then came the treat of the day: for Mr. Wm. Honor—the best thanks to him—had gained permission to have the use of the fine ring of ten at St. John's, Hillingdon, for two hours. The methods rung were: Grandsire Caters, with Miss Gladys Bateman; Bob Royal, in which Mr. T. Beadle took a rope; Treble Ten, and then a course of Superlative Surprise Major, by: J. Pratt 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, G. M. Kilby 3, W. Hewett 4, F. Bennett 5, J. Evans 6, W. Henley 7, W. H. Fussell 8. This was followed by a touch of 315

Stedman Caters: Miss E. Jones 1, G. M. Kilby 2, W. Henley 3, J. Pratt 4, W. H. Fussell 5, F. Bennett 6, W. Lawrence 7, A. Harding 8, C. Horton (conductor) 9, W. Honor 10.

Everyone agreed that this touch, and the course of Superlative were the cream of the outing. At half-past five the back eight were lowered in peal, and this made a good finish to the day's ringing.

Many now made their way homeward, but sixteen partook of tea together at the hostelry near the church. The Rev. J. Fraser Amies (Chalfont St. Peter) very kindly provided a large cake as an addition to the tea table, and Mrs. Hairs and Mr. Fussell gave valuable help. The donor of the cake suggested that the last slice should be drawn for by way of diversion, and it fell to the organiser to win, and this drew from "the man of Slough" the remark, "that of all the saints and sinners he took the cake." After tea, W. H. F. told us some good belfry yarns; and someone handed round a special brand of cigarette, but not for the world (even the "Ringing World") will the name be divulged. Suffice it to say, the result was, that more laughter was crowded into the space of five minutes than one usually experiences in a week.

In addition to those already mentioned, there were present, Miss F. Gudgin, and Messrs. A. Beckensale, J. Blackmore, H. E. Chandler, C. Edwards, A. Evans, and W. Horne. The best thanks are due to Mr. F. Kedge, of St. Margaret's, for arrangements made by him. Mr. G. H. Gutteridge, who had done much towards making the trip a success, was unavoidably absent.

A REUNION AT BROMLEY.

The meeting-place was at New Cross Gate, and the time 2 o'clock, on Saturday, December 29th. "Your humble" was there first, but had not long to wait before a voice from the crowd called "Bob." It was a voice that had called bobs many hundreds of times at St. John's, Waterloo, in pre-war days, the owner then being familiarly known as "Double Norwich Jim." Now, however, we call him Sergt. James E. Davis, of the Royal Engineers, and he was all fresh from the Somme on fourteen days' leave. We had not to wait long before another member of the old Waterloo Surprise band, viz. Air-Mechanic Frank I. Hairs, R.N.A.S. (also home on leave from France), accompanied by Mrs. F. I. Hairs, of handbell fame, put in an appearance, and soon after came Mr. G. M. Kilby, of Wilkesden; then all boarding a bus we were soon down at that old-fashioned Kentish town of Bromley. It was not the parish church we were bound for, but the new church on the common, dedicated to St. Luke, with its red brick and stone spire, and fine octave by Taylor, with a tenor of 15 cwt., all tuned on the Simpson principle. Here we were met by more "brother strings," including I. Emery, G. Durling, A. Newick, G. James, and G. Huxley, of the Parish Church; T. Grombridge, of Chislehurst; E. Barnett, junr., of Crayford; E. F. Pike, of Brockley; and F. Jones and W. Lyddiard, of the local band.

The bells were soon raised in peal, and a good touch of Stedman rung. Next, "Double Norwich Jim" was asked to show his abilities as conductor in that best of all Major methods, and I may say, that although it is fourteen months since his previous leave, he is still entitled to his name. The next tune was Superlative, and our handbell lady on the second showed us that it is not nearly so hard to ring as we men make out it is. More Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandsire followed, all being well struck, and this, after all, is the essence of good ringing. At 5 o'clock, the time limit, the bells were lowered in peal in very good style.

Tea was the next item, which Mr. I. Emery had thoughtfully arranged and provided, and, needless to say, we soon allayed any fears he may have had that we might have lost our appetites. Ringing is a fine cure for that. By the way, "We had some jam." Somebody is sure to ask me—so it's best to tell them now.

After tea, handbells—what could be nicer? A course of Grandsire Cinques, several touches of Stedman Caters and Triples, and Grandsire Caters and Triples, intermixed with the inevitable smoke and "jaw," soon passed the time away all too quickly.

Before we parted, however, best wishes for an early and safe return were expressed to our two soldier brother strings, and a sincere hope that before long we shall all be nailing up peace peal boards.

Our best thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. I. Emery for making all the arrangements, and for so generously providing the tea, which in these days is no easy matter. Thanks are also due to Mr. W. Lyddiard and Mr. Jones, of the local band, for their attention to the bells and welcome to St. Luke's, of Bromley Common.

W. H. H.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of the Bolton Branch was held at the Saviour's Church on Saturday week, ringers being present from Walkden, Pendlebury, Bury, Newchurch, Deane, Bolton Parish, St. George's and St. Bartholomew's, Chorley, St. Peter's, and the local tower. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were rung, and the business meeting was presided over by the Rev. H. J. Elson, President of the Association. The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish, on January 19th.

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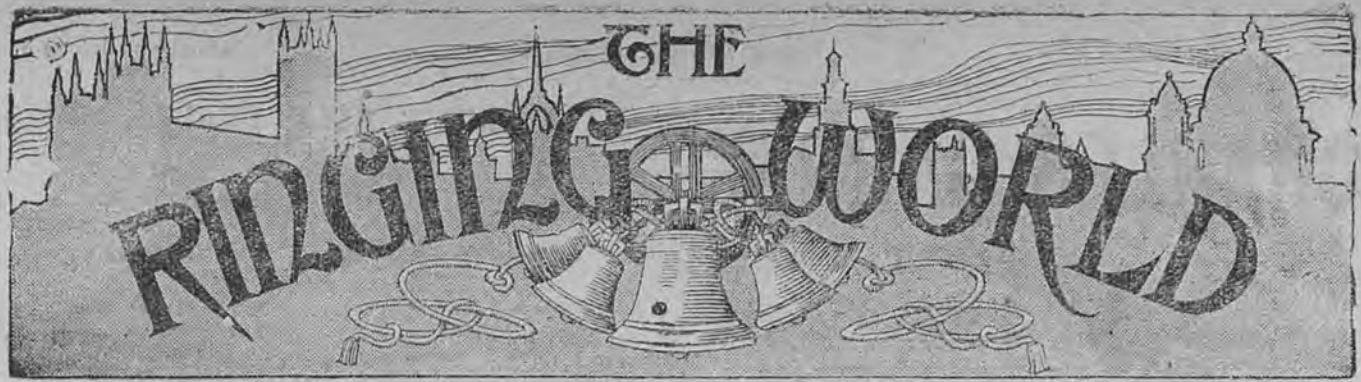
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 11th, 1918.

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MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

BIRMINGHAM'S RECORD.

Compared with the number of peals that were rung at any other time during the year 1917, there was quite a spurt at Christmas, when ringers seized the opportunity of the Festival and the holiday to set the bells ringing in a number of places. Altogether ten peals were rung on Boxing Day, the greatest number, we believe, rung on any single day in the year 1917. This figure is, of course, insignificant compared with the peals rung on similar occasions in the years immediately preceding the war, but it is an evidence that where opportunity offers and local circumstances admit, bands can still be got together and peal attempts are possible. Of the ten peals rung on Boxing Day the city of Birmingham claimed two. It was indeed quite refreshing to see St. Martin's again figuring in the peal list after the long silence, which has extended to practices as well as to peals. Until the war put an end to the Tuesday evening ringing at the Parish Church of the Midland city it was many score years since St. Martin's bells were silent on a Tuesday evening, unless they happened to be under repair, while a Bank Holiday attempt was a very customary proceeding.

The performance on Boxing Day shows that Birmingham at any rate has suffered little loss in personnel—the explanation being that most of the men there are at the benches helping to keep the men in the trenches supplied with munitions. Indeed the records for 1917 go to show Birmingham as a much favoured city in the retention of its band, for the number of performances recorded on handbells, or in which Birmingham men have taken part is larger than can be claimed by any other district. No one, we are sure, will begrudge Birmingham its good fortune in this respect. Its men have been doing their part in the nation's task as much as any others who have not left our shores, but the circumstances have been favourable to them in that they have been able at the same time to maintain their traditions as a centre of ringing; while others, by the drain upon man power, have had very largely to shut down their active operations.

Birmingham has an almost unbroken record as a home of ringing for the best part of two centuries, and it is not inappropriate, therefore, that it should be able to uphold the flag of the Exercise at a time when such a large majority of places have had, as it were, to strike their colours to the stern demands which war has imposed. Favourably placed as it is in regard to men, we may expect to see Birmingham still continuing to give a lead in keeping the Exercise alive until—and everyone will hope that it may be an early date—we reach the successful termination of the war.

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I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANCES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... Treble	ARTHUR KEEBLE ... 5
HARRY SMITH ... 2	ARTHUR SYMONDS ... 6
THOMAS FITZJOHN ... 3	LOUIS LEES ... 7
WALTER HEAD ... 4	THEODORE E. SLATER ... Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE, and
Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Mr. Fitzjohn hails from Thetford and this is his 40th peal, Messrs. Head, Keeble and Slater belong to Little Walsingham, Monks Eleigh and Glemsford respectively.

STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART No. 1. Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs.

GEORGE ORCHARD ... Treble	HENRY NEWMAN ... 5
WILLIAM HASTINGS ... 2	ALBERT WRIGHT ... 6
ARTHUR TATNELL ... 3	FRANK COLE ... 7
HOBERT SCRIVENS ... 4	HENRY PALMER ... Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

EARLSHEATON, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Thursday, December 27, 1917, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6088 CHANCES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM CLARK ... Treble	*SAM GIPSON ... 5
JOHN WM. DEWS ... 2	JOE HEWITT ... 6
CPL. W. H. SENIOR ... 3	WM. ARTHUR HUDSON ... 7
JOE GARNETT ... 4	†HERBERT DRANSFIELD ... Tenor

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY, and
Conducted by WILLIAM A. HUDSON.

* First peal. † First peal as conductor. Rung as a compliment to Cpl. W. H. Senior, who was on leave from France after serving three years with the colours in the R.F.A.

PENDLEBURY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On New Year's Day, January 1st, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

DAVIES' TEN-PART.

ASTLEY JOHNSON ... Treble	SAMUEL WOOD ... 5
THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... 2	TITUS BARLOW ... 6
THOMAS LINGARD ... 3	WILLIAM PENNINGTON ... 7
GEORGE PINCOIT ... 4	JOHN EDGE ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS LINGARD.

The peal was rung as a birthday compliment to two members of the above tower, Messrs. Thomas Lingard (the conductor) and John Edge

THE PEAL AT PENDLEBURY.

After the peal rung on New Year's Day, at Pendlebury, as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Lingard and Edge, tea was kindly provided by Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Lingard.—Mr. Samuel Wood, on behalf of the ringers, heartily thanked the host and hostess for their kindness and generosity, which was highly appreciated, and wished Mr. Lingard and Mr. Edge "many happy returns."

The ringers of the 2nd, 4th and 7th belong to Bolton; 3rd and 6th to Pendlebury; 1st to Flixton; 5th to Ashton-under-Lyne; and 8th to Deane.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET. THE LADIES' GUILD.

On Saturday, January 5, 1918, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

*MRS. J. E. STALEY Treble	MRS. H. S. BRIGGS 5
MISS DOROTHY SAGE 2	MISS NELLIE GILLINGHAM ... 6
MISS ADELAIDE STOKES 3	MISS EDITH M. HOLE 7
†MISS MABEL C. N. JUKES ... 4	MISS EDITH K. PARKER Tenor

Conducted by Miss NELLIE GILLINGHAM.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of the late Miss Maud Pigott, of Smethwick, a highly esteemed member of the Ladies' Guild. All the ladies with the exception of Miss Parker are members of the Portishead band.

SIX BELL PEAL.

STANTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Boxing Day, December 26, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 42 Six-Scores with ten different callings.

*GEOFFREY J. HEMMING ... Treble	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... 4
JAMES HEMMING 2	GEORGE ASHLEY 5
†LEONARD HARRISON 3	*JOHN WIGGINS Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. JOHNSON.

* First peal. † First peal away from the tenor. After the peal tea was provided by the Rector (the Rev. T. W. Reynolds), and was partaken of at the residence of Mr. J. Wiggins.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 30, 1917, in One Hour and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT NO. 31, CHURCH STREET,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Seven 720's each called differently.

ARTHUR SYMONDS 1-2	STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 4-5
STANLEY SMITH 3	*FREDERICK PRYKE 6

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

* First peal on handbells. This was rung at the residence of F. Pryke to celebrate his 30th birthday.

The handbell peal reported in our issue of Dec. 21st, was rung at Lavenham, not Savenham.

SILVER WEDDING CELEBRATION AT TIPTON

On Saturday, December 29th, 1917, a peal of Kent Treble Bob was attempted at St. Martin's Parish Church, Tipton, as a mark of respect to Mr. Alfred Rowley, a member of the local band, on the occasion of his silver wedding. Unfortunately the peal was not completed, but a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was afterwards brought round, the ringers being: Messrs. A. Rowley, James George, E. Marlow, B. Horton, C. Wallater, T. Cattell, B. Gough, and A. Greenfield.

After the ringing, the band (with a number of friends) adjourned to the house of Mr. John Smith (parish clerk and towerkeeper), where a nice repast was provided at the expense of Mr. Rowley. Ample justice was done to this, and then several of the "Old School" related many humorous and interesting incidents of their careers as ringers. Messrs. Smith and Small made a few remarks, in which they said, that during the number of years they had had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Rowley, they had always found him a very enthusiastic ringer, and a staunch Churchman. They hoped they would all be spared to meet Mr. Rowley on the occasion of his "golden wedding," and that both he and Mrs. Rowley would enjoy health and happiness for many years.

Mr. James George said he could not enlarge on what had been said, but he felt he must also say that he had always found Mr. Rowley a very obliging and enthusiastic ringer.

In response, Mr. Rowley thanked all present for the honour they had conferred upon him by their presence, and said he felt he was not worthy of all the flattering remarks that had been made, as he had only done his duty, and hoped he would always be able to do so, as far as possible.

A hearty vote of thanks was then given to the Misses Smith for their kindly work, which helped to make the evening a success.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT ORDSALL.

A district meeting of the North Notts Association was held at Ordsall on Boxing Day. The tower was open for ringing from 10 a.m. to sunset, by the kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. R. D. Foster). The Church of All Hallow's, Ordsall (the birthplace of the writer), possesses a sweet and melodious ring, rehung and augmented from three to six in 1892 by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. They are in good going order, and, with a nice cosy and well-kept bellry, are an attraction to visitors.

Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a goodly number of ringers turned up, although, with the exception of three from Work-leop and five from Ordsall, the North Notts ringers were conspicuous by their absence. However, a hearty welcome was given to members of kindred associations, including ten loyal and true brother strings from Gainsborough and Bigby, Lincolnshire. The latter team of ringers had to rise at 6 a.m., and after breakfast brave the wintry elements in a two-miles walk from Bigby to Barnelly Station. They travelled a distance of 30½ miles in each direction, with a 50 per cent. increase in the railway fare, and made an excursion of 13 hours' duration. They were also joined at a later hour by their esteemed Rector (the Rev. H. T. Parry), who takes the keenest interest in bells and ringers. As no tea or dinner was obtainable (D.O.R.A. being very much in evidence), a snack of bread and cheese, and a pot or two of good old "nut brown," had to suffice to replenish the inner man until their arrival home. Their day's outing revealed the fine grit that these Lincolnshire ringers are made of.

Some excellent ringing was executed in the methods of Stedman Doubles, Bob and Treble Bob Minor. 720's of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob being rung, as well as shorter touches.

Mr. W. G. Lancaster, of Swindon, Wilts, was elected a non-resident life member, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Ordsall for the use of the bells, and also for the hearty reception he had given the ringers on their arrival.

The ringing included: 720 Kent Treble Bob: F. S. W. Butler 1, J. C. Tinker 2, G. Blanchard 3, Rev. H. T. Parry 4, J. T. Ladd (conductor) 5, F. Bartholomew 6. 720 Oxford Treble Bob: H. Haigh 1, J. C. Tinker 2, F. S. W. Butler (conductor) 3, G. Blanchard 4, J. T. Ladd 5, S. Bartholomew 6. 360 Kent: F. S. W. Butler 1, J. C. Tinker 2, A. Peart 3, H. Russling 4, G. Blanchard (conductor) 5, J. T. Ladd 6. 120 Stedman Doubles, 180 Bob Minor, and 360 Bob Minor the last by: T. Bartholomew 1, E. Russling 2, E. Leedham 3, A. Peart 4, H. Russling 5, G. Blanchard (conductor) 6.

DEATH OF OLD LAVENHAM RINGER.

On Sunday morning, December 23rd a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung before morning service, at Lavenham, with clappers half-muffled as a tribute of respect to an old departed ringer, Mr. William Snell, who was born at Preston St. Mary, Suffolk, on February 15th, 1839, and died at Cosford Union, near Hadleigh, Suffolk, on December 20th. Deceased was a ringer at Lavenham Church for upwards of 40 years and was an excellent striker. His peals were four in all, the first, 5024 of Bob Major, composed and conducted by the late Mr. N. J. Plistow, on September 25th, 1889; the second, 5040 of Grandsire Triples on April 10th, 1890, the late John Holt's 10-part, conducted by G. C. Hammond, of Long Melford; the third, 5040 Grandsire, Taylor's Bob and Single, November 3rd, 1894, conducted by Thomas King, of Lavenham, now of Shipley, Yorks; and the fourth, 5040 of Grandsire Triples, May 25th, 1896, composed by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and conducted by Thomas King, the muffled touch was rung by S. H. Symonds (conductor) 1, H. Smith 2, S. Smith 3, W. W. J. Roper 4, F. Parker 5, A. Symonds 6, L. Leeks 7, F. Pryke 8. Deceased's first steps to ringing came under the tuition of the late Jesse Symonds of Preston, grandfather of the 6th ringer of the above touch, who is a nephew of the deceased, and on this bell deceased rang all his peals.

HELPING HAND REQUIRED.

A grand archery tournament is to take place at Irthlingborough on April 1st for the benefit of Mrs. Palmer (widow of the late Mr. F. Palmer), who has been a great sufferer from chronic muscular rheumatism for several years, and is now absolutely helpless. The late Mr. F. Palmer was a regular ringer at St. Peter's, Irthlingborough, and he was well known by the members of the Essex Association, especially at Harlow Common, where he was employed by Mr. George Dent.

There will be 45 prizes ranging in value from two guineas to one shilling, and particulars and tickets (one penny each) can be had from the Secretary, Mr. J. Cowper, 1, College Street, Irthlingborough.

NEWPORT, MON.—At All Saints' Church, on Christmas morning, for service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: H. Morgan 1, T. Ford 2, J. Bullen 3, C. Q.-M. Sergt. A. Morgan 4, Sergt. F. Morgan 5, C. Greedy 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, N. Ridout 8. The Brothers Morgan were home on special Christmas leave, and this was arranged as a special welcome to them.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
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ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehauging, Retuning and Recasting.

Mustal Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

WHAT WOKINGHAM LADIES HAVE DONE.

The following letter, from the pen of a lady ringer, appeared recently in a Wokingham paper:—

"Sir,—For many years we have awakened on Christmas Day to the sound of Christmas bells. Early in the morning they have spoken, saying, 'Christ is born,' and over all the land have sent the messages singing, 'Peace on earth, goodwill toward men.'

"This year there were no Christmas bells, because there is no peace on earth, goodwill toward men. We missed the Christmas bells, but their silence brings home to us the value of the bells. They have become a part of life, sharing in the joys and in our sorrows. How often our hearts have thrilled at the merry sound of wedding bells! How often they have filled with awe at the solemn tolling of the passing bell, and our hopes rose high, when recently they rang for victory! Week by week we hear them as they call the world to worship and we thank God for the bells.

Ring out sweet chimes to Him above
The message of goodwill and love,
And in thy music heavenward bear
Our thanks and praise for all His Care."

"But as we listen to the bells, how seldom our thoughts turn to those who ring them! How many people realise the difficulty (even may be the danger) that lies in ringing! Weeks of patient practice go to make a ringer, with patience on his part and patience on the part of those who teach him. Ringing is an art not easily acquired, and as we listen to the bells, let us think of those who hold the ropes and let us say:—

+ God speed them well."

W. N. A.

In forwarding this cutting, Mr. S. Paice, the foreman of the Wokingham tower, writes:—"I am pleased that in your columns recently you have been advocating the idea that the public should be better informed of what church bell ringing, and especially scientific change ringing, really is, and I am heartily in accord with that view, especially as the late opportunities of ringing for what victories have been achieved has awakened public opinion generally to the important part that the church bells of Old England have played in the history of our country for centuries past. The right good fellowship that exists amongst real ringers, their great readiness to share in the joys and sorrows of each other, their willingness to help necessitous brother ringers in times of affliction or distress, and the energy they display oftentimes to meet for friendly ringing, or to enjoy a meeting which offers a chance of sociability or the making of new friends and acquaintances, to exchange opinions, and to further the art of change ringing, are things still little known to the public. We hear much in these days of the want of unity in the church. I always maintain that in the ringers we have in the Church of England a body of men united by the strongest ties of friendship and brotherhood, with love for their art and for the Church of which they are real working members, and I doubt not if the clergy generally gave them more consideration and understood better the men and their science, they would find at their hand a band ready to be their helpers and supporters in many ways. This would be still more the case now we are welcoming in our ranks the ladies, who are so nobly coming forward to assist and help in this all-important work of the church and nation. At Wokingham, we are instructing four ladies of the parish in the art of change ringing, and very apt and persevering pupils we find them. One is Miss Vera Robinson, a daughter of the late lamented Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and I should like to assure you, sir, of the great honour I feel (an honour of which for certain many ringers would envy me) in being the humble instrument to teach the first rudiments of bell ringing to the daughter of so illustrious a ringer. One of our lady learners is the author of the article submitted to you, and before I close I may mention other good works of theirs in connection with our ringing chamber, including the presentation of eight mats for the floor to preserve the ropes, the refilling and recovering of the window seat, the washing of the marble monuments, with the assistance of our soldier ringer (home on leave) thoroughly scrubbing the floor, and thus improving the appearance of our tower, and making it more worthy as a part of God's house."

GONE OVERSEAS.

On the eve of going on active service in France, Pte. J. A. Trollope, so well known to our readers, wishes to be remembered to his many ringing friends. For some time Pte. Trollope was stationed at Chelmsford, and a farewell meeting was arranged at the Cathedral on Saturday, December 29th. A quarter-peal was to have been rung, but owing to a late start the bells had to be called home at about 8 changes. The band was: H. Richell (Chelmsford) 1, F. Edwards (Writtle) 2, H. Allen (Chelmsford) 3, A. Tarbin (Widford) 4, A. Edwards (Boreham) 5, W. Lincoln (Writtle) 6, J. A. Trollope (5th Territorial Battalion Yorkshire Regt.), conductor, 7, J. Wood (Chelmsford) 8. Tenor 35 cwt. Afterwards some Caters and Stedman Triples were rung, and on Sunday, December 30th, at Boreham, 720 Plain Bell Minor, conducted by J. A. Trollope, was rung.

IRISH BELLS AND RINGERS.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL.

Two Dublin churches possess rings of ten bells—the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, commonly called Christ Church, and the Roman Catholic Church of St. Augustine and St. John.

Christ Church Cathedral had originally a ring of three bells known as the Great Bells, cast by John Kyrcham, circ. 1420. The Book of Obits of the Cathedral contains the entry, "O Johannes Kyrcham frater nostre congregationis artifex companarum nostrarum." (John Kyrcham, a brother of our congregation, and founder of our bells, died.) These bells were cracked and broken in 1597, and were recast in 1610.

Through the zeal of the Dean of Christ Church, the Very Rev. John Parry, D.D., the Purdues were induced to visit Dublin. They cast six bells for Christ Church and eight for St. Patrick's Cathedral, of which Dean Parry was Precentor. These bells were made and hung in 1670. The Purdue bells of Christ Church are not in evidence now, but, as stated in the article on St. Patrick's, some Purdue bells are preserved there, one of them bearing an inscription in which Dean Parry's name is seen.

The following are the inscriptions on the present bells:—

Treble. J. MURPHY FOUNDER DUBLIN 1877.

II. CAROLO COBBE S.T.P. EPISCOPO DARENSI DECANO ANNO DOM 1738.

III. J. MURPHY FOUNDER DUBLIN 1877.

IV. J. MURPHY MAKER DUBLIN CHRIST CHURCH 1844.

V. CAROLO COBBE S.T.P. EPISCOPO DARENSI DECANO ANNO : DOM : 1738.

VI. THE GIFT OF CHARLES L. B. OF KILDARE DEAN. RECAST BY J. MURPHY DUBLIN 1845.

VII. J. MURPHY FOUNDER DUBLIN 1877

VIII. CAROLO COBBE S.T.P. EPISCOPO DARENSI DECANO ANNO : DOM : 1738.

IX. CAROLO COBBE S.T.P. EPISCOPO DARENSI DECANO ANNO DOM 1738.

X. THIS BELL PRESENTED TO THE CATHEDRAL BY HENRY ROE THE RESTORER 1877.
J. MURPHY FOUNDER DUBLIN.

This tenor weighs about 39 cwt., and its note is C. The 9th is the tenor of a ring of eight in D; the 2nd in the ring of ten being the treble to this eight. The second bell in the ring of eight has the inscription:—

CAROLO COBBE S.T.P. EPISCOPO DARENSI DECANO ANNO DOM 1738.

And the sixth has:—

CAROLO COBBE S.T.P. EPISCOPO DARENSI DECANO ANNO DOM 1738.

A.R.

RECAST BY JOHN TAYLOR AND CO. LOUGHBOROUGH 1881.

There is also an extra bell for the carillon, which is not hung for ringing, and which has merely the words—

J. MURPHY.

The name of Charles Cobbe, Bishop of Kildare, appears on the older bells. In those days the revenues of the bishopric of Kildare were very small, and the holder was also made Dean of Christ Church, whose revenues were considerable.

One of these bells has the initials A.R., those of the well-known founder, Rudhall, of Gloucester.

Little change ringing is done at Christ Church. Three peals of Stedman Caters have been rung on the bells by visitors.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S AND ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

Here, as in Christ Church Cathedral, the ring is a composite one. The original eight were cast by John Murphy, Thomas Street, Dublin, and the ring was opened on the 17th March, 1873. The old eight were rehung, and two trebles were added by Charles Carr, Ltd., Birmingham, and the ring of ten was opened on the 24th December, 1898. These are the inscriptions and notes:—

Treble	F	St. Catherine.
II.	E	St. William.
III.	D	St. Bridget.
IV.	C sharp	St. Patrick.
V.	B	St. Nicholas of Tolentine.
VI.	A	St. Thomas of Vinculia.
VII.	G	St. Joseph.
8	F sharp	St. John the Baptist.
9	E	St. Monica.
Tenor	D	St. Augustine.

The tenor weighs 25 cwt.

Change ringing is not much practised. The ringers of this tower were noted in days not long gone by for their accurate striking. But through death and the removal of members to other districts the band has suffered greatly. This has also been the case with the neighbouring tower of Christ Church. One peal of Rob Royal and two of Stedman Caters have been rung by visitors.

Photographs of these churches will appear in a later issue.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT MEETING.

A very successful meeting was held at Kingsthorpe, on Saturday, January 5th, the following towers being represented: St. Peter's, St. Edmund's and St. Giles' Northampton; Cogenhoe, Ecton, Brafield, Woolton, Hardingstone, Harlestone, Boughton, Moulton, Weston Favell, and the local ringers. Visitors were also present from Irthlingborough, Finedon, Flore, and Easton Mauduit. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. L. Tuson), and the collection for the Belfry Fund amounted to 9s.

Tea was served in the schools, 36 sitting down. The business meeting followed, Mr. F. Hopper (vice-president) being in the chair. He expressed his pleasure at having such a splendid gathering, and wished all "a happy New Year."

The financial report of the past year was read, showing a balance of £5 Os. 3d. to the general fund, and £1 4s. 3d. to the belfry fund.

Great Brington was chosen for the summer meeting and Whiston and Long Buckby for special meetings.—One new member was elected.

A letter was read from Lance-Corpl. J. C. Dean, thanking the members for their kind thoughts and congratulations to him on being awarded the Military Medal.

The Secretary reported that another member—Lance-Corpl. C. Haines, of Weston Favell, had been awarded the Military Medal for courage and devotion to duty. A letter had been sent on behalf of the Association, congratulating him.

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for conducting the service, also for the use of the bells, and said how sorry all were to hear that he was so soon leaving Kingsthorpe. He was a very valued and energetic member, being the first to join the Association from Kingsthorpe, thus setting his ringers a good example, which they soon followed.—Mr. F. Wilford (general secretary), in seconding, also testified to the sterling qualities of the Vicar as an hon. member, who not only attended the meetings in his own parish, but took a real interest in the Association, and attended the other meetings in the district. He expressed the sincere wishes of the meeting that he would be spared to enjoy his well-earned retirement.

The Vicar, replying, said how pleased he was to welcome them to Kingsthorpe once more. On looking back over the past 20 years, great progress had been made in the belfry. It was now looked on as part of the church, not a place where all the rubbish could be put as in the old days. The ringers were now also recognised as officers of the church. He hoped they would still go on with their good work, and have meetings at Kingsthorpe from time to time after he had gone. He thanked them one and all for their kindness.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the ringers and their wives for the splendid tea which they provided under great difficulties.

BELTON RINGER KILLED.

The sad news has reached the village of Belton, Uppingham, that Corpl. Alban Jarman, aged 27, West Yorks Regt., was killed in action on November 14th. Corpl. Jarman was a native of Alexton, and joined the colours soon after the outbreak of war. He was a keen and accomplished change ringer, and was one of the first to join the Belton Guild on its formation at the time of the restoration of the bells, in August, 1911. He took part in six peals of 5040 changes, three of which were rung in seven different methods, and in all rang one hundred and fifty-three 720's.

A memorial service was held at Alexton, when the curate-in-charge, the Rev. H. K. Moses, gave a most appropriate address. While the service was being held at Alexton, the Belton bells, half-muffled, pealed out their mournful music in remembrance of one who had rung and loved them so well. The ringers assembled were Messrs. R. H. Bartman, Melton Mowbray; R. W. Baker, Langham; F. Towell and Sergt. H. Burbeck (wounded), Oakham; and J. J. Jackson and I. Grecock, Belton—all members of the Midland Counties Association, of which Corpl. Jarman was also a member. It says much for the brotherhood of change ringers when the first four mentioned cycled a distance varying from nine to twenty miles in such dismal weather to pay their last token of respect to a fallen colleague. Two 720's were rung, previous to which the last 720 rung on these bells was Jan. 3rd, 1915, when Corpl. Jarman was home on short leave, and rang the tenor. The Rev. G. J. Pattison, Vicar of Belton also made a suitable allusion to the loss of one of his church workers at the evening service, and the deepest sympathy is felt in both parishes for Mrs. Jarman, his widowed mother.

WHAT PERSEVERANCE WILL ATTAIN.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Doubtless, like many other of your readers, I read with interest and pleasure the note to the peal on the "Isle of Wight," which performance, I think, reflects the greatest credit on Mr. Jennings, and the band who took part in it; more especially when we think of the many difficulties ringers have to contend with during these trying times. I think it serves well to back up your leader this week, that much may be attained by us, even under great difficulties, if we will only persevere.—Yours, etc.,

G. H. GUTTERIDGE.

Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BARKING, ESSEX.—On Sunday, Dec. 16th, on the back six, for morning service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins.: W. Beard 1, A. Neale 2, A. Worboys 3, F. C. Newman 4, T. Faulkner 5, C. Fenn (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, Dec. 23rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Siedman Triples (1260 changes), composed by J. George, in 47 mins.: T. Faulkner 1, T. Cranfield 2, A. Worboys 3, J. Waghorn, senr. 4, A. J. Neale 5, F. C. Newman 6, C. Fenn (conductor) 7, R. Fenn 8. Rung on the 67th birthday of Mr. T. Cranfield.—On Sunday, January 6th, the day of prayer and thanksgiving, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: R. Fenn 1, F. C. Newman 2, A. J. Neale 3, E. Andrews 4, W. Aldridge (Woolwich) 5, J. Corpl. G. W. Faulkner, R.A.M.C., 6, C. Fenn 7, Lance-Corporal H. Wagstaff (Royal Berks) 8. Rung on the 54th birthday of Mr. A. J. Neale.

STONEV STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, Dec. 23rd, as a token of respect to H. Burman, who died of wounds in France, 672 Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled: J. Pickering 1, Geo. Wood 2, N. Walker 3, H. Webb 4, C. Briggs 5, J. Garratt 6, H. Briggs (conductor) 7, W. Jones 8.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—On Christmas Day, for morning service, at St. Edward's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: G. R. Pye 1, F. Rainbird 2, Sergt.-Major A. Pye 3, Gunner Leonard Pye 4, G. Jaxo 5, H. F. Dawkins (conductor) 6, W. Watson 7, J. Harwood 8.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At St. John's Church, on Christmas Day, for early service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: E. B. Crowder 1, F. W. Richardson (conductor) 2, A. G. Bennington 3, J. Law 4, E. J. Pannett 5, T. Easterby 6, W. J. Jeffries 7, Arch. Bennington 8. For Matins, another quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 39 mins.: T. Easterby 1, E. J. Pannett 2, A. G. Bennington 3, E. B. Crowder 4, F. W. Richardson 5, J. Law 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, Arch. Bennington 8.

CHESHUNT, HERTS.—Hertfordshire Association.—On Christmas Day, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: W. Darlington 1, G. Andrews 2, G. Thurgood 3, G. Maxim 4, C. Dilley 5, F. Jelf (conductor) 6, G. Radley 7, R. Smith 8.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Christmas morning, at six o'clock, 448 Bob Major's Pie: G. Jackson, R.F.A., 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, W. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. R. Jackson 6, T. Stuart 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. Pie: G. Jackson has been wounded at the front, and his brother strings were very pleased to see him safe home again.—On Sunday, Dec. 30th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. Stuart 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Dec. 26th, a peal of Grandsire Triples (as a wedding peal for Mr. W. H. Hoad and Miss Taylor, of Loughborough, Gloucestershire) was attempted, and came to grief after 1½ hours' ringing, much to the disappointment of all concerned: F. Morgan 1, W. H. Lambert 2, W. H. Perry 3, W. H. Hoad 4, E. J. Pannett 5, T. Booth 6, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 7, C. Tribe 8. Afterwards a quarter-peal in the same method was brought round in good style, in 48 mins.: F. Morgan 1, C. Tribe 2, E. J. Pannett 3, W. H. Perry 5, W. H. Hoad 6, W. H. Lambert 7, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 7, L. French 8. C. Tribe hails from Tenterden, and E. J. Pannett from Lewisham.

5164 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

BY W. HYDE INGLESANT.

23456	1	5	6
34526	—	—	8
45236	—	—	8
32546	S	—	S
25348	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—
52346	—	—	—
23546	—	—	—
35246	—	—	—
25643*	—	—	—
56243	—	—	—
26345	—	—	—
63245	—	—	—
32645	—	—	—
36245	—	—	8
62345	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—

Twice repeated. Contains all the 6-4's, the 6-5's, the 4-6's and the 5-6's. The 2nd never above 4th's at course-ends, except in the 1st course of each part. * Reduced to 5072, by adding a "Bob" at 1 in one part, and omitting "Bob" at 6 in following course.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Fareham on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells available 2.30. Tea will be provided at Miss Foster's, West Street, free for those that acquaint me not later than Jan. 9th; business meeting after tea.—J. Harding, Dist. Sec., 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Established 1824).—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Giles, Camberwell, on Saturday, 12th January, 1918. Bells available from 2.45 to 5 p.m. A business meeting will follow at the Stirling Castle, Church Street. All ringers and friends invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—Ringing practice will be held at Bocking January 12th, Earls Colne January 26th, Braintree February 9th. Bells, 3 p.m. until 4.30 p.m.—H. F. Cooper, District Master. B. Redgwell, District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, January 12th. Tower open for ringing at 5 p.m.; meeting at 7.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

BECKENHAM.—A practice will be held at St. George's, Beckenham, on Saturday, January 12th, 1918, from 3 to 5 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—W. Smith.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 15th and 29th, and for handbell practice on the 24th, at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual committee meeting of the branch will be held at All Saints' Vestry, Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, on Saturday, January 19th, 1918, at 5 p.m. The Vicar, the Rev. W. H. Thackeray, M.A., has kindly promised to preside. Business: Minutes of the last two meetings; audit the accounts for 1917; officers and committee for 1918; annual branch meeting and Service; new members; and war-time suggestions.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec and Treas., Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.—Memo.: All subscriptions and names for 1917 should be sent in at once for inclusion in the Annual Report. The Guild's "Roll of Honour and War Workers" is now in the hands of the Branch Secretaries, and all members are asked to take pains to see that full particulars of those ringers, whose names are to be included or amended, are sent in to their District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 19th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

—The annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, January 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; meeting in the Church Room at 6.30. Owing to the difficulties of catering, no tea will be provided this year.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

Northampton District.—A special ringing meeting will be held at S. Giles', Northampton, on Saturday, January 19th. Bells ready 4 p.m. No tea.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bromley (SS. Peter and Paul) on Saturday, 19th January, 1918. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service (Association Form) and address by the Rev. J. K. Wilson (Vicar) at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow in the Parish Hall, West Street. Subscriptions are due and should be paid at this meeting.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Halesowen on Saturday, January 26th. Bells available for ringing at 3 p.m. Service in the Church at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the Schools after the service.—E. J. Dowler, 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Ringing from 2 o'clock until 6. Committee meeting at 5.30. Tea (1/3 each), followed by general meeting at 6 o'clock, all at the Dining Rooms, Market Place. Arrangements for tea will only be made for those who notify Mr. F. Cotton, 4, Gladstone Terrace, London Road, Hinckley, by the previous Saturday of their intention to be present.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

—The annual meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, January 26th. Bells available 3 till 9 p.m. Divine service at 4 o'clock. Tea at the Church House at 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow. Those who require tea must let me know not later than January 22nd.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Established 1878).

—The annual meeting will be held at Headingley, Leeds, on Saturday, January 26th. Service in St. Michael's Church at 4.45 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow in the Parochial Institute, Bennett Road. Further particulars by circular.—H. Williams, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, New Wortley Cemetery, Leeds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, February 2nd, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting following the ringing.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

—Mr. A. Mason has removed from Erith to 120, Llanover Road, North Wembly, N.W. 5.

PEAL BOOKS.

—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

FULMER, BUCKS.

—Oxford Guild.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—On Sunday evening, Dec. 23rd, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: Miss E. Fuller 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, Miss G. Bateman 3, E. Harding 4, W. Henley (conductor) 5, W. J. Bateman 6.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 357. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1913
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two
new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton,
recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given
complete satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased
they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to
judge we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

DEPARTED VETERANS.

The sacrifices of the war have claimed many ringers whom the Exercise must mourn, but no section of the community, such as ringers, with a large proportion of young and able-bodied men among them, could expect to escape a share of the losses which the nation is called upon to sustain, and thus, much as we deplore the deaths of so many young and gallant members of the Exercise, they are accepted as a part of the price the nation is having to pay to uphold its righteous cause. It has, however, been a noticeable fact that during the present period of restricted operations in the belfry, a considerable number of veterans from the foremost ranks of ringers have also been taken from among us, and, as one by one they have dropped from the ranks, the Exercise has felt a heavy sense of loss. Those who knew these men in their earlier days and claimed them as friends have specially felt the wrench, and must have turned over in their minds many reminiscences of the past. These reflections, however, rarely come to light, and thus the Exercise is deprived of what would otherwise be interesting sketches of worthy men and valuable records of the lives of those whose names may survive, but of whose personalities future generations will know nothing. George Breed, of York, is the most recent of great ringers of a past generation to cross the bourn, but our readers are indebted to Mr. F. E. Dawe for a sketch of this man who, in his prime, was one of the finest of heavy bell ringers. Our correspondent's recollections will be read with interest and will doubtless lead to many a discussion as to who has been our greatest of big bell ringers. Really great men in this capacity have been few and far between in the past, just as they are in the present. It is one thing to be able to "pull" a heavy bell and another to "ring" it, in the sense that the word is generally used to-day. Many men of great strength can keep a big bell turning, but few can strike with the accuracy that is demanded before it can be said that the bell is properly rung. But of the ringers of thirty years ago, George Breed was one of whom it could be said that as long as a bell would turn on its gudgeons he could turn it and strike it. At that time very few of the really heavy bells were in the condition for ringing that they are usually found to-day, and the performances by which George Breed made his name as a tenor man were really herculean tasks. He was not a big man, but he was an extremely powerful man, and he combined his strength with a gift for using it to the best advantage, that made him an outstanding figure three or four decades ago. Of late years ill-health had kept him out of the belfry, so that his name is not so well known now as formerly, but there are ringers in London as well as in the northern counties who will be reminded of numerous giant tasks performed when they read of George Breed, and they will deeply lament his death.

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Broomfield Vicarage,
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Dear Sir,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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Kindly ask us to inspect, report and tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BROMLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 8, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVE'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

GEORGE DURLING Treble	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. ... 5
PERCY J. SPICE 2	GEORGE HUXLEY 6
ALBERT E. NEWICK 3	ISAAC EMERY 7
WILLIAM A. MARTIN 4	*GEORGE F. JAMES Tenor

Conducted by ISAAC EMERY.

* First peal. This peal was rung in honour of and immediately following the wedding of Q.-M.-Sergt. F. H. Herbert, R.A.M.C., and Miss E. F. Burch, both of whom are ringers and members of the above Association.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 12, 1918, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WALTER IDLE Treble	JOHN GARFORTH 5
JOHN W. DEWS 2	GEORGE H. HARDY 6
JOSEPH HEWITT 3	HERBERT DRANSFIELD 7
HEMINGWAY DRANSFIELD 4	GARFORTH TAYLOR Tenor

Composed and Conducted by G. H. HARDY.

Rung in honour of the 70th birthday of Mr. John Garforth.

GATHERING AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Saturday last, a merry party, composed of ringers of St. Peter's company, Ashton-under-Lyne, and friends, to the number of 32, met at the Stamford Cafe, where provision had been made to supply the needs of the inner man, and full justice was done to the things provided.

After the tables had been cleared, Mr. Ward Holme occupied the chair, supported by Mr. W. Wolstencroft, the energetic captain and towerkeeper. The Chairman and Mr. W. Wolstencroft, in a few well-chosen remarks, reminded the gathering of the object of their meeting together. During the past year practical tokens had been sent to the lads from the tower serving in His Majesty's forces on land and sea, and that gathering was arranged to show their appreciation of the way in which the ladies had helped in keeping the bells ringing, and also to give a kindly cheer to the wives of the lads from whom they were separated at that festive season. Incidentally it also afforded an opportunity to wish the respected captain and his wife continued happiness, that date being the 20th anniversary of their wedding. Mr. John Harrison, Mr. Joe Collins (verger), and Mr. Henry Wood (organist) each spoke in terms of goodwill and fellowship, and Mr. Bob Wimpenny replied.

A very enjoyable programme was gone through, consisting of a pianoforte duet (Romeo and Juliet) by Master Cyril Wood and Mr. Wood; song, "My Friend," by Mr. Wilfred Norris; recitation, "Somebody's Darling," by S. Holt; song, "Dear England," Mrs. Wolstencroft; recitation, "Mickey Thumb," Master Bertie Palmer; song, "The Trumpeter," Mr. W. Norris; songs, "The Miller and the Baker," "Hark! the merry bells are ringing," Miss Hilda Burton; recitation, "Big Steamers," song, "Hyacinths," by Miss Dorothy Wimpenny; recitation, "Excelsior," Miss Ida Wolstencroft; duologue, "The letter V," Misses Doris Ogden and Ethel Grimshaw; song, "A long, long Trail," Miss E. Grimshaw; recitation, "Ringers and Singers," Master Bertie Palmer. Mr. Hervy Wood accompanied at the piano. Previous to the gathering, as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Wolstencroft 1,200 Grandsire Triples was rung by: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, J. W. Holme 2, Miss E. Williams 3, Miss A. Wolstencroft 4, Miss S. Holt 5, R. Wimpenny 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, John Harrison 8.

HELP WILL BE APPRECIATED.

Mr. H. Bragg, of Solihull, writes: "We are making an effort in this parish to teach a band of lady ringers, and practices are held on Saturday afternoons. Any ringers from neighbouring churches will be very welcome and, as all the ladies are learners, any aid we can obtain will assist us greatly."

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very successful meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at Fareham, on Saturday, by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. F. Tarbutt). During the afternoon touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were rung by ringers from Portsmouth, Gosport, Curdridge, Swanmore, Wickham, Fareham, and visitors from Bristol, Leeds, North Stoneham and Leicester. Tea was served at the Temperance Hotel, when 28 members partook of the good things provided.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. G. Williams (hon. secretary of the Guild). Sympathetic reference was made to the late district secretary, and Mr. J. Whiting, and a vote of condolence passed to the widow and family.

The officers were re-elected en bloc for the ensuing year.—It was decided to hold the annual meeting again at Fareham, in January, 1919.

The balance sheet, as passed, showed a balance of £7 13s. 1d. for the general fund. Three full members, ten probationers and four compounding members were elected.—It was also decided to hold a quarterly meeting at West Meon on Easter Monday next.—A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells concluded the business.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Kettering District was held at Isham on Saturday, December 29th. The attendance numbered about 35, including the vice-president (the Rev. R. F. Copeman), the general secretary (Mr. F. Wilford), and members from Kettering, Desborough, Rothwell, Orlingbury, Barton Seagrave, Burton Latimer, Finedon, Ramda, Irthlingborough and Isham. Ringing commenced at 2.30, and a variety of methods, ranging from Cambridge Surprise to Bob Doubles, and rounds, was rung, and considerable interest was displayed in a number of lady ringers who have volunteered to help to keep the bells going.

A short service was conducted at four o'clock by the Rector (the Rev. E. J. Atkins), who also gave an excellent address. Tea followed in the Village Schoolroom, and some difficulty was experienced, owing to at least 20 expecting tea without having previously informed the secretary.

At the meeting, held after tea, it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Desborough shortly after Easter.—A return was then made to the tower, and the bells were kept going till seven o'clock.

RINGING IN THE WEALD OF KENT.

This tower, like so many of the other towers in the Weald of Kent, has been sadly reduced in its numbers of ringers by the exigencies of war (only two ringers are left, and one of them is ill). There was thus no one to ring the bells for the special service on Sunday, Jan. 6th. An offer was, however, made to the Vicar (Rev. Canon Bell) by Mr. C. Tribe to get a band together, which was very gratefully accepted. The party arrived at 1.30, and the bells, having been all ready muffled, were raised, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples rung in 48 mins., by the following: J. Goodsell (Salehurst) 1, W. Hoad (Salehurst) 2, W. H. Lambert (Benenden) 3, W. Perry (Salehurst) 4, T. Booth (Salehurst) 5, C. Tribe (Tenterden) 6, J. Arthurs (Sutton Vallance), conductor, 7, A. E. Edwards (Salehurst) 8. Another short touch was rung, in which J. Blake, of Hawkhurst, and J. Boness, of Biddenden, took part.

All the ringers then attended the service, after which the bells were lowered in peal. The ringers were then invited to the Parish Room adjoining the churchyard, where tea was provided for them by the Vicar, who personally thanked the visitors for their services, which had been very greatly appreciated.

The Salehurst ringers rang at Hawkhurst, for the morning service and started for a quarter-peal, assisted by three of the local band but owing to the late arrival of one of the latter, time did not allow them to complete the touch. Some of the others went to Biddenden, and assisted the locals there to ring for the morning service. Thus three of the churches in the Weald had their full octaves going for their services on that day. The tenor at each church is about 24 cwt.

GRIMSBY.—On Christmas Day, December 25th, for carol service, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins.: F. Overton 1, H. Rushly 2, St. Bromfield 3, C. Taylor 4, A. S. Hill 5, A. W. Long 6, J. W. Seaver (conductor) 7, P. Pigg 8. Also 308: F. Overton 1, A. B. Shepherd 2, P. Pigg 3, A. W. Long 4, S. Bromfield 5, A. S. Hill 6, C. Taylor (conductor) 7, J. W. Seaver 8. First quarter by ringers of the treble and 5th.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

PAINSWICK.—On January 3rd, the Stroud and Painswick Societies of Ringers rung at the Parish Church, Stroud, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins., by: G. Orchard 1, A. Tatnell 2, W. Hastings 3, W. Hale 4, H. Scrivens 5, A. Wright 6, F. Cole 7, W. White 8.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On Saturday, January 5th, a peal of Grandsire Triples was unfortunately lost, owing to a change course, after an hour and a half's good ringing: P. Evans (Hughenden) 1, W. Henley (Farnham Royal) 2, T. S. Smith (Slough) 3, W. H. Fussell (Slough) 4, J. Evans (Hughenden) 5, G. Gutteridge (conductor), Fulmer, 6, J. Blackmore (Beaconsfield) 7, W. Horne (High Wycombe) 8.

LEWISHAM, KENT.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, January 6th, 1918, with half-muffled bells, as a tribute to the memory of those of His Majesty's Forces who have given their lives to the cause of King and country, the first half of Holt's Original Grandsire Triples: G. R. Simmonds 1, C. H. Walker 2, E. J. Pannett 3, H. Warnett, senr. (conductor), 4, H. Warnett, junr., 5, H. Walker 6, W. W. Fox 7, H. G. Goodwin 8.

WORSLEY.—At St. Mark's Church, on Sunday afternoon, January 6th, at the Freemasons' service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was attempted, but unfortunately came to grief in the 14th course: H. Chapman 1, S. Greenhalgh 2, J. Lowe 3, John Leigh 4, H. Shuker 5, J. Mellor 6, J. Ridyard (conductor) 7, A. Trippier 8. After service, a 504 Stedman Triples, by: J. Mellor 1, J. Lowe 2, W. Grundy 3, J. Leigh 4, H. Shuker 5, S. Greenhalgh 6, H. Chapman (conductor) 7, A. Trippier 8.

PENDLETON.—At St. Thomas' Church, for evening service, on January 6th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): J. Mellor 1, S. Greenhalgh 2, J. Lowe 3, J. Leigh 4, H. Shuker 5, H. Chapman 6, J. Ridyard (conductor), 7, A. Trippier 8.

WALKDEN.—Lancashire Association.—At St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, January 6th, for the Intercession service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: Ino. Denner 1, J. Welsby 2, A. Potter 3, J. Denner 4, M. Berry 5, R. Welsby 6, John Potter (conductor) 7, U. Denner 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples for the morning service, with J. Worthington in place of M. Berry, conducted by John Denner.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church, for evening service, 1260 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 50 mins.: G. Newson 1, F. Hunt 2, B. Wilson 3, L. A. Goodenough 4, T. Blackburne 5, J. Rookwood 6, A. King (conductor) 7, T. Kendall 8. Composed by A. J. Perkins, Reddington.

SOLIHULL.—On Sunday, January 6th, on handbells, 720 Grandsire Doubles: Lce.-Corpl. E. C. Shepherd, 9th Cheshires (conductor) 1—2, G. A. Martineau 3—4, H. Bragg 5—6. The ringer of 1—2 was home on hospital leave.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—Lancashire Association.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, January 6th, for morning service, 672 Bob Major: T. Watson 1, J. Huddleston 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For evening service, 784 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, T. Watson 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Stuart 6, W. H. Dennison 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

SHARNFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, January 6th, 1918, to mark the 24th anniversary of the reopening of the bells, 720 Plain Bob Minor: H. Briggs 1, George Wood 2, E. Chamberlain 3, H. Webb 4, J. Garratt 5, J. Clarke 6, conducted by H. Briggs, who was present at the reopening 24 years ago.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Sunday, January 6th, for the special services, 504 Grandsire Triples: H. Holderness (first 504) 1, H. Sear 2, F. Hedges 3, A. Crane 4, W. Sear (conductor) 5, E. Marks 6, F. Stanton 7, V. Sear 8. 336 Grandsire Triples: C. Garner (first touch) 1, H. Sear 2, F. Stanton 3, A. Crane 4, W. Sear (conductor) 5, E. Marks 6, F. Whitehead 7, V. Sear 8.

MARESFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, January 6th, 720 Bob Minor: E. Baker 1, Pte. R. Clifford, R.G.A., Notts (conductor) 2, A. Brown 3, W. Burrell 4, Pte. A. H. Porter (Cambridge) 5, J. A. Hart 6.

PUTNEY.—At St. Mary's Church, on January 6th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: H. Whanlow 1, A. W. Darlington 2, E. Cassel 3, A. Outmore 4, C. C. Collis 5, J. Kent 6, W. S. Smith (conductor) 7, C. Collis, senr., 8.

CHELMSEFORD CATHEDRAL.—Recently, 670 Kent Treble Bob Major: A. E. Adfield 1, H. P. Cooper 2, Marshall 3, H. Richell 4, P. White 5, H. Allen 6, J. A. Trottop 7, B. Thorpe (conductor) 8.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

WEDDING BELLS AT BROMLEY.

A REAL RINGERS' WEDDING.

The old Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Bromley, Kent, was on Tuesday, January 8th, the scene of an interesting and unique event, on the occasion of the marriage of two local ringers, Q.-M.-S. F. H. Herbert, R.A.M.C., who, prior to "joining up," was for some years secretary of St. Luke's band, and had rung several peals, and Miss E. F. Burch, who for the past year has been a ringer at SS. Peter and Paul Church. Miss Burch did not start seriously learning to ring till about a year ago, since when she has rung three quarter-peals of Grandsire on the treble, and so may be considered to have made very good progress.

The wedding being by special licence, the preparations were, of course, somewhat hurried, but everything went as merrily as the proverbial marriage bell. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar of Bromley (the Rev. J. K. Wilson), who, in his address to the newly-wedded pair, made marked and kindly reference to their connection with local ringing. Both bride and bridegroom being members of the Kent County Association, eight members of that organisation assembled in the belfry, seven being members of the local society, the Bromley Youths, the eighth being Mr. T. Groombridge, of Chislehurst, the hon. district secretary of the K.C.A. Special permission having been given to attempt a peal, and, the bells having been previously raised, as the happy couple left the church, the old bells were sent racing off to the well-known tune of Grandsire Triples, and Groves' Variation. Two hours and fifty-one minutes saw the completion of a capital peal, the particulars of which appear in the usual place.

It is worthy of note that the bells were going right merrily as Sergt. and Mrs. Herbert left Bromley South Station en route for Eastbourne to spend their honeymoon.

After the peal the ringers were invited to accept the hospitality of the bride's parents, which, needless to say, was accepted by all who were able to do so. First, of course, the bride and bridegroom's health, was drunk with many good wishes for their future happiness and prosperity, and also, it being the bridegroom's birthday, wishes for "many happy returns of the day." Full justice was done to all the good things provided, and the rest of the evening was spent in music, songs, and handbell ringing, which altogether made up a very happy time.

In connection with the wedding, an interesting little event took place on the previous Sunday morning in the belfry, for, acting on the old maxim of "The better the day the better the deed," Miss Burch was presented by her fellow members of the Bromley Youths, and a few ringing friends with a handsome inlaid mahogany timepiece in appreciation of her efforts in the art, and as a token of their goodwill on her forthcoming marriage.—Mr. I. Emery made the presentation, and, in a few well-chosen words, expressed the feelings of all concerned, in their good wishes for her future happiness, especially for the safe and speedy return of Sergt. Herbert from his military duties.—Miss Burch very nicely thanked the company present for their kindness and good wishes, and Sergt. Herbert, who was also present, did likewise.

5006 STEDMAN CINQUES.

BY JAMES E. GROVES.

123456 start	slow six	
513462 8709x	1s 7 8 10s 13s 16 17 18	19
512364		19
215463 78x90	2 6 13s 15s	19
213564		19
312465	6	19
315264		19
314562		18
314265	6s	19
315462 8709x	2 13s 15s	19
312564		19
213465	6	19
215364		19
214563		19
412365	6	19
415263 78x90	2 13s 15s	19
413562		19
413265	6s	19
415362		19
412563		19
214365	6	19

The last 18 courses repeated, omitting the bob at 6 in the first course. Rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham, December 26th, 1917. Conducted by the author.

GEORGE BREED, OF YORK.

RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD FRIEND.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—On opening the first number of the "Ringing World" for 1918, I was much grieved to read of the death of my dear old friend, usually referred to by all who knew him as George Breed of York. As you are aware, I love to speak of all the dear old and truly wonderful men who have gone over to the great majority, and am always most keen in giving honour and credit where it is due. Therefore, I hope you will give me a little space in your much esteemed journal to add my humble testimony to the excellently written memoir in your issue of the 4th inst.

George Breed originally hailed from Braintree, in Essex, and by a curious coincidence this is the next village to Bocking—the native place of that other wonderful heavy bell ringer, the late John Murray Hayes, so well known and appreciated in London for many years. These two renowned and able ringers were great friends. George Breed and myself have been the greatest of chums for nearly 40 years, and during my peregrinations all over the country in years gone by it is interesting to recall the frequent discussions and opinions expressed from all points of the compass as to "who was the finest heavy bell ringer in England." It is, of course, somewhat difficult to determine this matter, but his name always found a place well to the front, and in this respect I fully concur, for in his prime he certainly was my ideal for that position. The weight of a bell was of no consideration whatever to him, and he was quite indifferent to the fact as to whether it "went well" or not, and a false striking bell never troubled him at all! Rather below the medium height, he was a very thick-set man, and immensely strong, with curly auburn hair, and a ruddy fresh complexion, and it was not only a pleasure, but quite a treat to see him handling a big bell. The graceful action and very easy elasticity of movement, which characterised him in every way, at once showed him to be the "right man in the right place." In appearance he bore a very striking and marked resemblance to the late Captain Webb—the first man to swim the English Channel. I have seen, both, and he sometimes answered to this name! He never appeared to work hard at a badly going bell, and his striking was of the truest description.

In March, 1883, he kindly journeyed to London for the express purpose of ringing the tenor at St. Saviour's, Southwark, for the peal of 5134 Stedman Cinques in honour of my 21st birthday. I rang the 11th on that occasion, and Mr. J. Martin Routh (who was Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths at the time) asked permission to sit in the belfry between the 5th and 6th in order to watch the tenor man he had heard so much about. St. Saviour's tenor went very badly at the time, and at the conclusion of the peal in 4 hrs. 3 mins. Mr. Routh expressed himself in words of unmeasured admiration, and declared that "Breed rang the bell like a bit of easy-going, well-oiled machinery!"

I remember going to York Minster the following year to call the first peal of Grandsire Cinques on the bells, when we again rang the 11, 12 together, and on this occasion quite a host of visitors occupied all the available space in the ringing chamber for the same reason. After making a good show it was found that some of the front bells had to be considered as "unpealable"—but it made no difference whatever to the tenor man!

On Easter Monday, 1882, we rang together in the first peal of Stedman Cinques in the North of England. This was at St. Peter's, Sheffield, composed and conducted by the late Charles Henry Hattersley. It was an exceptionally fine peal, and a local poet extolled the virtues of all the performers in clever verses—one of which ran thus:—

The tenth was George Breed from the City of York,
He can swing the big bells just as if they were cork,
No matter to him how heavy the metal,
It's woe be to them when this Breed cries "settle!"

George Breed was of a very kindly and genial disposition, good-natured to a degree, obliging in every way to all, and a man that anyone could at once take a liking to and be quite at home with. He also possessed the rare qualification of being a most reliable double-handed ringer in all standard methods, and was rarely known to make a mistake, either on handbells or in the tower—for he did it all by ear!

The late James Pettit, Matt Wood, and others, used to joke him by saying they would have some pictures pasted on the ceilings of the ringing rooms so as to amuse him when ringing! The fascinating science of change ringing has now lost one of its best men of three or four decades ago, and none of your readers among his wide circle of friends regrets the sad loss more than yours faithfully,

FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

VETERANS HONOURED AT LIVERSEDEGE.

DOUBLE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

At the Parish Church, Liversedge, Yorks, on Saturday last, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1918 changes) was rung in 1 hr. 21 mins. to celebrate the birthday of Mr. John Wilson Lang (aged 77) and William Collins (aged 73), who have been for a long period, and still are, regular service ringers at Liversedge Church. The ringers were: Walter Knott (Liversedge) 1, Herbert Scott (Birstall) 2, William Clark (Birstall) 3, Albert North (Mirfield) 4, Willie Thomas (Liversedge) 5, Edward Crowther (Birstall) 6, Arthur Hudson (Birstall) 7, Herbert Peel (Birstall) 8. The date touch was composed and conducted by A. Hudson, and is made up by omitting the first two changes in going off (in other words, have two Plain Bob rows at the start), and then calling 1 M. 2 W. 2 H. four times repeated.

After the ringing, an adjournment was made to the bell room at the Albion Arms, where refreshments were provided, and ringers were present from Liversedge, Birstall, and Mirfield. An enjoyable evening was spent with the handbells, the methods rung being Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob and Grandfire on six, eight and ten bells, and on which the two veterans took part.

During the evening, Mr. A. Hudson, on behalf of the Liversedge band, had the pleasure of presenting to Messrs. Lang and Collins a briar pipe and tobacco each, as a token of the respect in which they are held by their friends, and with good wishes for their future good health. Both Messrs. Lang and Collins feelingly responded, and the evening was brought to a close in the old ringers' form.

Mr. John W. Lang rang his first peal in 1862, and has since rung the bells round in four different methods in a peal of 5000. In the days of ringing for money prizes he shared in the winning of four first prizes at the following towers: Rawmarsh, Almondbury, Huddersfield, and Brighouse. He has been a ringer at Liversedge tower for 58 years, and has rung peals on 6, 8, 10 and 12 bells, including a 10,000 of Kent Royal at Bradford, two peals of Cumberland Exercise, of 6,720 changes, and one of 8,000 of Kent Major.

Mr. William Collins rang his first peal in 1861, at Huddersfield, being then only 17 years of age. For 40 years he rang the tenor at Liversedge Parish Church, and has now rung the 7th bell for 15 years. He won two first prizes in the old days at Almondbury and Brighouse. His peals on 6, 8, 10 and 12 bells include one of 10,000 Kent Royal at Bradford, one of 10,000 Kent Major at Liversedge, and one of Cumberland Exercise, of 6,720 changes.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING AT BIRMINGHAM

The annual meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held on Tuesday evening of last week. This meeting is not of the usual "joy" type, but is purely for the transaction of formal business, and the receipt of subscriptions.

Immediately after the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the Chairman (Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A.) referred to the loss, by death, of two well-known members, Mr. Wm. Palmer and Mr. Frank Withers, both of King's Norton, the latter having been killed in action in France, and the secretary was instructed to write letters of condolence to their respective widows.

Apologies were received from Vice-Presidents Faux and Shepherd, and Messrs. Buffery, Rock Small and B. Gough.

All the Guild's officers were re-elected for the ensuing twelve months, and the balance sheet for the past year was adopted.

Two new honorary members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting, with the Vicar's consent, at Aston.

The "Henry Johnson" Commemoration Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 16th, in the Connaught Room, at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street.

A DATE TOUCH.

At Aberavon, by the West Wales Association, on Saturday, January 5th, at St. Mary's Church, in connection with the special services held on January 6th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes) was rung with the bells deeply muffled in 75 mins. (after meeting too late to attempt a peal), by: E. Stutch 1, J. Hoare 2, W. Nulton 3, D. Frankcom 4, F. Stedman 5, H. Perry 6, A. Pitman (conductor) 7, J. Welhershby 8.

This composition is a musical touch, composed by the conductor, and is in three parts, as follows: Bobs at 1, 2, 5, 4, 2, 1, 4, 4, 2, 1, 4, 2, 1, 4, 1, 3, 4, 2, 1, 3, 1, 5, 4; repeat the first fourteen calls twice, substituting one plain lead for last nine calls in last two parts.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at St. Philip's, Bristol, on January 19th. Bells (8) open 3 o'clock, service at 5. Tea and meeting to follow. All visitors welcome.—G. Wiltshire, Hon. Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Nuneaton to-morrow (Saturday), Jan. 19th. Bells available from 3 o'clock.—Joseph H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual committee meeting of the branch will be held at All Saints' Vestry, Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, on Saturday, January 19th, 1918, at 5 p.m. The Vicar, the Rev. W. H. Thackeray, M.A., has kindly promised to preside. Business: Minutes of the last two meetings; audit the accounts for 1917; officers and committee for 1918; annual branch meeting and Service; new members; and war-time suggestions.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec and Treas., Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.—*Memo.*: All subscriptions and names for 1917 should be sent in at once for inclusion in the Annual Report. The Guild's "Roll of Honour and War Workers" is now in the hands of the Branch Secretaries, and all members are asked to take pains to see that full particulars of those ringers, whose names are to be included or amended, are sent in to their District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 19th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, January 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; meeting in the Church Room at 6.30. Owing to the difficulties of catering, no tea will be provided this year.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Northampton District.—A special ringing meeting will be held at S. Giles', Northampton, on Saturday, January 19th. Bells ready 4 p.m. No tea.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bromley (SS Peter and Paul) on Saturday, 19th January, 1918. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service (Association Form) and address by the Rev. J. K. Wilson (Vicar) at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow in the Parish Hall, West Street. Subscriptions are due and should be paid at this meeting.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Halesowen on Saturday, January 26th. Bells available for ringing at 3 p.m. Service in the Church at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the Schools after the service.—E. J. Dowler, 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Ringing from 2 o'clock until 6. Committee meeting at 5.30. Tea (1/3 each), followed by general meeting at 6 o'clock, all at the Dining Rooms, Market Place. Arrangements for tea will only be made for those who notify Mr. F. Cotton, 4, Gladstone Terrace, London Road, Hinckley, by the previous Saturday of their intention to be present.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, January 26th. Bells available 3 till 9 p.m. Divine service at 4 o'clock. Tea at the Church House at 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow. Those who require tea must let me know not later than January 22nd.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Established 1878).—The annual meeting will be held at Headingley, Leeds, on Saturday, January 26th. Service in St. Michael's Church at 4.45 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow in the Parochial Institute, Bennett Road. Further particulars by circular.—H. Williams, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, New Wortley Cemetery, Leeds.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—Ringing practice will be held at Earls Colne January 26th, Braintree February 9th. Bells, 3 p.m. until 4.30 p.m.—H. F. Cooper, District Master. B. Redgwell, District Secretary.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual general meeting of the above will be held at Appledore, Kent, on Saturday, January 26th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock until 4.30. Tea, by the Guild, at 5 p.m. for all members.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 29th, and for handbell practice on the 24th, at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, February 2nd, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting following the ringing.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, February 2nd. Full particulars next week.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—I beg to remind members that the subscription for 1918 is now due.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 29, Leigh Road South, Clifton, Bristol.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s, post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—I. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

DEATHS.

PRICE.—On January 9th, at Southwick (Brighton), Hannah, widow of Rev. Newton Price, Vicar of Oxhey, and mother of George N. Price, in her 84th year.

NUNN.—At 9, Sir George Monoux Alms Houses, Parish Churchyard, Walthamstow, on January 10th, John Nunn, aged 85.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

DARLINGTON, DURHAM.—On Saturday, December 22nd, on the bells of Holy Trinity Church, touches of London Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Stedman Doubles and Double Court Bob Minor, were rung by Pte. Hibbert, W. D. Liston, W. H. Porter (Redfearn), F. Cooke, F. Atkinson, G. J. Lungley, G. W. Park.—On Christmas Day, for Divine service, 720 of London Surprise Minor: G. J. Lungley 1, H. Atkinson 2, W. Wookey 3, G. W. Park 4, Pte. M. Hibbert 5, C. Todd (conductor) 6. This is the first 720 Surprise Minor in any method rung by Mr. Hibbert, who belongs to Bushey, Herts.

NORTON, STAFFS.—On Sunday, December 30th, for evensong, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: F. T. Dawson (conductor) 1, Sapper J. W. Walker 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, G. E. Lawrence 4, W. C. Lawrence 5, W. P. Deane 6.—On Sunday, January 6th, 720 Violet: G. E. Lawrence 1, Sapper J. W. Walker 2, J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 3, E. E. Johnson 4, F. T. Dawson 5, W. P. Deane 6. Also for evensong, 720 Killamarch Surprise: E. E. Johnson 1, Sapper J. W. Walker 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, W. C. Lawrence (conductor) 4, W. P. Deane 5, F. T. Dawson 6. All the above were rung in honour of Sapper J. W. Walker's visit to his native tower while on leave from service in France.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Sunday, December 30th, for morning service, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: H. G. Naish 1, F. G. Goddard 2, F. Davis 3, C. Slade 4, E. F. Cole 5, Major J. H. B. Hesse 6, J. Howes (conductor) 7, J. N. Frossell 8. Arranged for Major J. H. B. Hesse, who was home on leave from France.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Winchester Diocesan Guild. — At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, December 30th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, as a compliment to Lance-Corpl. D. Williams, who was visiting Bournemouth on leave: Coy. Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cave 1, T. Green 2, C. Forfeit 3, Lance-Corpl. D. Williams (conductor) 4, E. Waters 5, G. Preston 6, G. Goodenough 7, Sapper Capewell 8. Lance-Corpl. Williams takes the opportunity of thanking the ringers of No 1, 6 and 8, who journeyed from Christchurch for the occasion; and also Mr. Goodenough (his teacher) for making the necessary arrangements.

CRANLEIGH, SURREY. — On Sunday, December 30th, 1917, for the evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. Charman 1, W. Streeter 2, Mrs. R. Whittington 3, R. Whittington 4, Alwyn Charman 5, J. Knight 6, W. Charman (conductor) 7, T. Worsfold 8. Rung as a farewell to Gilbert Charman (son of the conductor), who is called up for service with the colours, he being Mr. W. Charman's third son to join His Majesty's forces. All three are also ringers belonging to the Cranleigh band.

BOLTON, BRADFORD.—On Sunday, December 30th for morning service, at the Church of St. James, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins.: Miss Pollie Gill (first 720) 1, B. E. Howe 2, F. Hopwood 3, W. Waland 4, S. Palfreman 5, A. Gill (conductor) 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 2nd.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET.—At St. Peter's Church, on Monday, December 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: Mrs. J. E. Staley 1, Miss D. Sage 2, Miss A. Stokes 3, Miss M. Jukes 4, Mrs. H. S. Briggs 5, Miss N. Gillingham (conductor) 6, Mr. J. Nisbet 7, Mr. W. Watts 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled for the memorial service held at 8 p.m. for those fallen in the war from the parish.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At St. John's Church, New Year's Day, 1918, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Law 1, F. W. Richardson 2, E. J. Pannett 3, H. E. White 4, E. B. Crowder 5, J. Crowder 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, Arch. Bennington 8.

GARSTON.—Lancashire Association and Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—On Tuesday, January 1st, an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples was made at Garston, but came to grief after ringing two hours: G. Woodhall 1, H. Ludkin 2, T. Gilmour 3, Rev. C. A. Clements 4, Pte. F. S. Macey 5, J. Martin 6, W. Hughes (conductor) 7, S. Barnes 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of our fallen soldiers.

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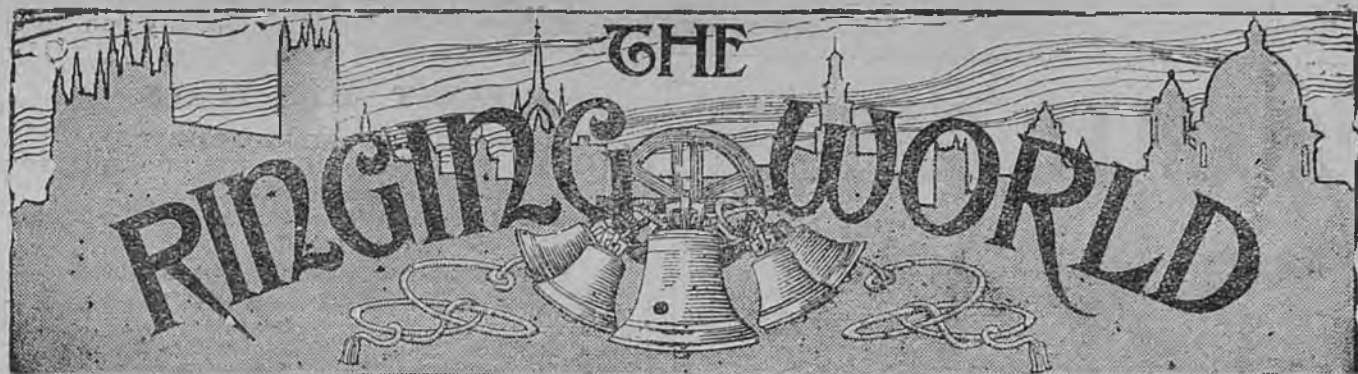


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[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRON CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1913
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK.

AFTER THE WAR.

In another column a correspondent asks what has become of our leaders. He means, we presume, the men who, before the war, were placed by circumstances in the limelight of ringing affairs or who got there by their own initiative. It is only too true, as he asserts, that the Exercise has seen or heard nothing of the majority of them for a long time past; and we agree with the writer of the letter that, even though the exigencies of the times make it difficult for anyone to devote much attention to anything but the great task on hand, it would be better for the Art we cherish if we could hear more of them than we do. We do not think it is exaggerating the position when we say that to-day the ringing fraternity is leaderless. There is no individual—no, not even a group of individuals to whom one can point and say they are the leaders of the Exercise. Again, we think our readers will agree with "Campano" when he says that now, more than ever, the Art needs all the encouragement that can be given it by those to whom in the past we have looked to to guide our counsels and voice our opinions. Truly they seem to have deserted the stage, and we doubt if our correspondent's appeal to them to return at this juncture will have much effect.

But there is one subject in "Campano's" letter which we sincerely hope will not be read and ignored; and that is the serious consideration of what should be done as soon as the war is over to re-establish ringing in something of its old position. At the outbreak of war ringing had reached a level of which it had every reason to be gratified. As the result of years of endeavour, ringers had raised their status in the church to one of which they could justly be proud—and from which, of course, the events of the last three years will not remove them—the practice of the Art had been extended to an extraordinary degree, and the advances made in method ringing were beyond the dreams of ringers even three or four decades ago. It is in the actual practice of the Art that the war has given the Exercise a serious set-back, and it should be the determination of all the organised bodies of ringers in the country to consider without further loss of time how the leeway may best be recovered when peace is once more established. Some may say, "Let us wait till peace comes," but procrastination will only add to the difficulties. In many branches of life steps are being taken to prepare for an after-war revival at the earliest possible moment, and the ringing Exercise should not be behindhand in giving consideration to this subject. It is a matter which might well be discussed at district and association meetings, for there is everything to gain and nothing to lose by having plans matured.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 19, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE OLD CHURCH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

*MISS RHODA M. HOWAT ... Treble	MISS KATE PIGOTT ... 5
JOHN EATON ... 2	JOSEPH PIGOTT ... 6
MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 3	GEORGE PIGOTT ... 7
MISS SARAH PIGOTT ... 4	*ARTHUR PIGOTT ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOSEPH PIGOTT.

* First peal.

SHIPLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 19, 1918, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH BROADLEY ... Treble	HERBERT HAIGH ... 5
THOMAS B. KENDALL ... 2	HERBERT DRANSFIELD ... 6
JOSEPH GARNETT ... 3	BENJAMIN THORP ... 7
WILLIAM JOYCE ... 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES ... Tenor

Composed by the late JOHN REEVES, and
Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. G. Nettleton, of the Shipley band. It was the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob by the ringers of the 5th, 6th and 7th.

HANDBELL PEAL.

CHEVINGTON, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, January 12th, 1918,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. ROLFE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

*A. NEWMAN ... 1	†A. ROLFE ... 3-4
*J. ROLFE ... 2	†E. CLARKE ... 5-6

Conducted by E. CLARKE.

* First peal. † First peal on a pair of handbells. First peal as conductor.

A FOUR-PART PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

BY A. J. PITMAN, PORT TALBOT.

First Two Parts.	Last Two Parts.	Continued.
234567	235476	753264 5
672453 2	352476 4	257436 5
476325 5	453827 5	732584 3
254637 2	274365 2	537426 5
372465 2	372546 5	435872 5
263754 3	573824 5	634257 5
762435 5	675432 5	726534 1
467523 5	476253 5	527463 5
234756 2	654732 3	425376 5
452367 3	276354 1	574263 3
264573 3	652743 3	275346 5
582347 5	756324 5	462537 2
365724 5	357462 5	564724 5
P.L. 324576 3	623745 2	765342 5
Repeat, ending with H. P. S.	236745 4	657342 4
	452673 2	356274 5
	654327 5	P.L. 325467 1
	356742 5	Repeat, ending with H. P. S.

The peal may also be obtained in the following ways:—
2 3 5 5 3 1 5 1 2 4 3 5 2 4 2 5 5 5 3 5 5 5 1
5 5 3 5 2 5 5 4 5 5 5 2 5 5 4 1 2 3 5 5 2 P.L. 1
Repeat, ending with H.P.S.: 3 2 2 1 3 2 2 H.B.S. 1

Or as follows:—

1 2 4 5 2 3 3 5 5 5 5 2 1 3 5 5 3 5 2 1 3 1 2 1 5 5
3 5 2 5 5 4 5 5 5 2 5 5 5 3 1 3 5 5 2 4 2 P.L. 4
Repeat, ending with H.P.S. 3 3 3 3 H.B.S.

CRAWLEY BAND'S DOUBLE LOSS.**OLDEST RINGER'S DEATH.**

On Saturday, January 7th, there passed to his rest, at the ripe old age of 89 years, Mr. Joseph Newnham, Crawley's oldest bell ringer. "Old Joe" (as he was familiarly known) had been in failing health for some time, and although unable to get up to the belfry he was always pleased to hear the bells.

He had been a ringer at Crawley Church ever since the bells were first placed in the tower in 1880. He had rung a good number of peals, which included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob and Superlative Surprise Major, but unfortunately he kept no record of these performances.

The funeral took place on Saturday, January 12th, at Crawley Church, several ringers attending. After the service three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells deeply muffled, were rung by the following: A. Thornton 1, P. Tyler 2, A. Mills 3, A. E. Mitchell 4, J. Rice (conductor) 5, A. Brackpool 6, W. Vincent 7, E. Pearce 8.

On the Sunday following, for morning service, three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by the same band, with the exception of F. W. Edwards, in place of E. Pearce.—The Rector (the Rev. H. L. Barratt-Lennox) made a sympathetic reference to deceased in the course of the sermon.

DEATH FROM WOUNDS.

News has been received that Corpl. George Kenward Hawkins, 2nd Life Guards, one of the Crawley band, died of wounds on the 10th Jan. Joining up soon after the war broke out, he had seen between two and three years' active service in France, and much sympathy will go out to Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins at the loss of their only son.

On Sunday, January 20th, for morning service, three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung at Crawley Parish Church, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the deceased by the following: A. Thornton 1, P. Tyler 2, A. E. Mitchell 3, A. D. Mills 4, J. Rice (conductor) 5, F. W. Edwards 6, E. Pearce 7, A. Brackpool 8; and in the course of his sermon the curate (the Rev. E. J. Fenn) made a very sympathetic allusion to Corpl. Hawkins' death.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
TAUNTON BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.**

The annual meeting of the Taunton Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held in St. Mary's Church Room, Taunton, on Saturday last, when the following towers were represented: Milverton, North Curry, Wilton, St. James' and St. Mary's, Taunton; and Trull. The chair was taken by the President (Canon C. E. L. Corfield, Vicar of St. Mary's), the Rev. P. J. J. Fear (Vicar of St. James') being also present. The balance sheet, which showed a balance of £1 8s. 7d. in hand, was passed.

The President was thanked for his services during the past year, and unanimously re-elected.

Mr. E. E. Burgess was re-elected secretary until the return from the war of Mr. Merson.

One new member was elected, and the next place of meeting was fixed for Kingston, soon after Easter.

Mr. Maddock was elected to represent the branch on the General Committee.

The President made feeling reference to the death in action, of Pte. W. Fudge, who was a member of St. Mary's Guild, and of W. Evans, a member of St. James' Guild, who had just passed away.

A vote of thanks to the President for the use of the room and arranging the service concluded the business. The members then attended St. Mary's Church, where a short service was held, at which Canon Corfield gave a very suitable address from Psalm viii. 26.

"Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thy house and the place where Thine honour dwelleth."

During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Caters were rung on St. Mary's bells.

DEATH OF A TAUNTON RINGER.

On Sunday, January 6th, there passed away at his home in Eastbourne Road, Taunton, Mr. W. Evans, who for twelve years had been a valuable member of St. James' Guild.

The funeral took place at Bridgwater, on Saturday, January 12th, when the body was conveyed to its last resting-place by the deceased's brother ringers. Mr. A. E. Coles was also present representing the Bridgwater ringers. In the evening the members of the Guild met at St. James' Church, and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the deceased.

RINGING AT CURDRIDGE.

In 1917, the remnant of the band at Curdridge, Hants, did their best to "keep the flag flying." Several combined practices were held, with ringers from North Stoneham, Titchfield, Swanmore and Portsea, the methods rung being Superlative and Double Norwich Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Bob Minor. In addition, during the year, one quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, eight 504's, and one 630 of Grandsire, three 380's of Bob Minor, and 65 six-scores of Stedman Doubles were rung.

BIRTHDAY PEAL AND PRESENTATION.**YORKSHIRE VETERAN CAMPANOLOGIST HONOURED.**

On Saturday week the Earlsheaton Society honoured the 70th birthday of their esteemed friend and comrade, Mr. John Garforth, by ringing a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 18 mins., and by making a presentation to him of a silver snuff-box, a pipe in case, and a tobacco pouch filled with tobacco. The peal was rung at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton, on the bells which were recently returned and rehung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough. This was the first peal rung on the bell by the whole of the local company since the restoration, and was performed in the style for which the band are justly noted.

After the peal, lunch was provided for the ringers and visitors, and was followed by a social evening at the Commercial Hotel, the programme consisting of songs, piano and violin solos, and handbell ringing, and a recitation, composed by Mr. Sheard Goodall, the village poet, on the career and ringing abilities of Mr. Garforth. This last item was very much appreciated by the company. Visitors were present from Almondbury, Huddensfield, Halifax, Shipley, Pudsey, Tong, Batley, Horbury, and Ashton-under-Lyne.

Mr. Arthur Goodall, on behalf of the ringers and friends who had subscribed for the gifts, made the presentation to Mr. Garforth, who suitably expressed his thanks, and remarked that the presentation came to him as a surprise. Whenever he used either one or other of articles it would remind him of the proceedings that night.

Mr. Garforth's career as a ringer has been a very long one, commencing when he was quite young. He rang his first 5,000 when he was 16 years of age, and he has been a ringer ever since, being at different times connected with the churches at Dewsbury, Batley Carr, Orsett and Earlsheaton, and he is still a member of the Earlsheaton Society. He was also a member of the Dewsbury handbell ringers for a period of 30 years, and was a regular participant in the annual contests at Belle Vue, Manchester. He was noted for a number of years for his abilities as a tenor ringer on tower bells. He is still as expert as ever with a pair of handbells in method ringing. During his career he has been most successful at ringing contests in all parts of Yorkshire and Lancashire. He is now the only member left of the company who rang in the peal of 16,000 Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton, in December, 1872—the time taken being about ten hours.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch was held on Saturday last at Balderstone Parish Church, Rochdale, members from Milnrow, Newhey, Middleton, Todmorden Parish, Ashton and Hammersmith, being present. The bells were kept going from three o'clock till six p.m., with touches of Plain Bob Major and Minor.

The business meeting was afterwards held, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Leesfield Parish Church, Oldham, on Saturday, February 16th.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the tower and bells, and also to the local band for having everything ready.

A hearty welcome was given to Mr. E. R. Mackrill of St. Paul's, Hammersmith, who is at present stationed at the Auxiliary Military Hospital, Birch Hill, Dearnley, Rochdale. Mr. Mackrill was elected a non-resident member of the Association.

MANCHESTER BRANCH MEETING.

Owing to the holidays and the awkward postal arrangements, and other minor mishaps, only one insertion of the notice calling the first meeting of the year of the Manchester Branch at the Cathedral could be obtained, but that did not prevent some twenty to thirty members turning up for the gathering. A disappointment was, however, in store, for the ropes were in a poor state, and the new ones had not arrived. The treble rope came down almost as soon as a start was made, but to make the best of things all the four standard methods were practised as well as Superlative.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. J. Ridyard, who welcomed the members, and wished them the compliments of the season, Bolton, Deane, Stockport, Ashton, Eccles, Pendleton, Didsbury, Cathedral, Town Hall, and Prestwich, were represented.

The next meeting was arranged for Pendleton, on Feb. 9th.

There seems a scarcity of new members just at present, and as there was no other business to discuss, the meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the Dean, and those in authority, as well as to Mr. Eachus, the esteemed tower keeper.

ROTHERHAM.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, January 6th, for morning service, 335 Grandsire Triples: S. Bogle 1, Miss W. M. Hague 2, H. Taylor 3, J. Cottom 4, T. C. Ryder 5, Pte. A. Hague R.A.M.C. 6, A. Cattell (conductor) 7, W. Ayre (Gainsborough) 8; 160 Bob Major, with Pte. A. Hague 5, T. C. Ryder 6, and W. Ayre (conductor). Also a Plain Course of Grandsire Caters on handbells: Miss W. M. Hague 1—2, A. Cattell 3—4, Pte. A. Hague 5—6, W. Ayre 7—8, T. C. Ryder 9—10. For the special intercession service, at 3 p.m., attended by the Mayor and Corporation, etc., 320 Bob Major, the ringers standing as for the 160.

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of these occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

WHERE ARE OUR "LEADERS" ? AFTER-THE-WAR REVIVAL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Although it is war time, and most people have their hands pretty full, some of our "leading lights" ought to show a little more interest in ringing matters than has been the case for some time past. There seems to have been a complete disappearance of most of those worthy gentlemen from the ringing firmament. Despite the many openings which you, in your leading articles, have given them of entering into what might have proved profitable discussions on a number of subjects of general interest to ringers, and the opportunities which their own initiative might suggest, those to whom we look for expressions of opinion have been as mute as the Sphinx—with the exception of one man, to whom the Exercise is indebted for a bit of wholesome criticism of the Central Council, which, through the war, has been in a state of suspended animation.

Surely there never was a time when ringing was more in need than at present of all the help and encouragement which it can obtain, and it seems to me it is up to those who like to be considered "leaders" of the Exercise to show us now that they are leaders in fact, and not merely in their own opinions. It was easy when things were at full flood to pose at the head of the ringing ranks, but events have proved that when it comes to maintaining interest in a difficult time these so-called leaders retire into their shells. We, who form the rank and file, would like to hear from them on some of the subjects in which we are interested, as they from time to time crop up.

For instance, there is one subject of paramount importance to the Exercise. It will not be possible, when peace is proclaimed, to start the ringing clock exactly where it stopped. Every phase of life will have its "after-the-war" problems, and ringing will be no exception. If our leaders of the past are to be the leaders of the future, let them soon come out of their hibernation and tell us what is the best way, in their opinion, of re-establishing ringing in its former position of eminence. That is one of numerous matters in which they might interest themselves and upon which they might give us the benefit of their advice. It is certainly the one subject that ought now to engage the attention of all our Associations, but I doubt if half a dozen of them will give more than a passing thought to it. If, however, our "leaders" will condescend to interest themselves in this matter, perhaps something may be done among the organisations in which they are specially concerned. Otherwise, I fancy, the policy of drift will continue, and the end of the war will find the Exercise no more prepared for a revival of ringing than it is at the present day. May I, sir, in conclusion add a word of thanks to you, for the effort you are making from week to week to sustain the interest in ringing and to keep us informed of what is happening in the Exercise in various parts of the country in this unhappy time.—Yours truly,

CAMPANO.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE.

The annual meeting of this society, which was held at St. Martin-in-the-Fields on Saturday last, might almost be described as a gathering of the veterans. This complaint, however, is probably not only common under present circumstances to the various ringing societies up and down the country, but also to many other institutions who have to rely practically on the "old stalwarts" to keep things going until the boys come home. It may be worth mentioning in passing, however, that of the thirty odd members assembled in the Parish Room for the business meeting all except one had to plead guilty to more than 40 years, and this exception was a new member made on this occasion.

Shortly after three the fine old peal were set going to, various methods, including Stedman Triples and Cinques, Grandsire, Caters, Treble Ten and Twelve. A distinguished visitor who took part was Pto. John Capp, M.M., a Brighton ringer, who is convalescing in a military hospital at Mitcham, the regulations of which unfortunately, prevented him from staying to the meeting. "Dora" put her foot down at five o'clock, and owing to the food difficulties no attempt had been made to arrange the usual tea; consequently each member had to forage for himself in the environs of Trafalgar Square in the interval between ringing and the meeting.

The business of the meeting was naturally more or less of a routine character. The balance sheet was satisfactory, and the meeting unanimously re-elected all the officers and Central Council representatives. One honorary and one ringing member were elected. In the absence of opportunities for tower-bell practice, it was decided to hold occasional meetings for handbell practice, combined with the social side, the first of which will be fixed, if possible, for Saturday evening, February 16th, in the society's room at the "King of Denmark," Old Bailey, at 6.30 p.m.

Various touches on the handbells brought to a close the fourth war "annual," which, under the circumstances, must be voted as decidedly up to all expectations, thanks to the boys of the old brigade already referred to.

MORE OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

"By special request" (as the concert programmes sometimes put it) and "by special permission" (the Editor will tell you) "Bob Major" makes his reappearance in the arena. He can imagine that the reception awaiting his perhaps unexpected re-entry may not be entirely complimentary, and while some may welcome, others may resent his intrusion. However, he is prepared to risk the bricks as well as to accept the bouquets, and so—well, here I am. Why have I returned after so long an absence?—to some extent that may be a matter of opinion. I hope it may be to entertain some of my readers, though others may think it is only to bore them. The truth is, I thought it time I let my old friends know that I was still in the land of the living—I only wish it were possible to say the same of all those of my acquaintance who read the feeble splutterings of my pen a while ago.

Times, my friends, have changed since then, and one person at least is still rubbing his chin in pensive doubt as to the wisdom of my presence here. That person is he who sits in the seat of the mighty, and in whose presence I tremble till my brains rattle. When I begged for a little corner occasionally, he fixed me with his steely eye (he's got two of them), pointed to the door, and in the most stentorian tones at his editorial command, snapped out, "Variat, begone," and, encouraged by the order of the boot, I went. But "Bob Major" was not to be so rudely denied, and, to cut a long story short, he of the scissors and paste department eventually relented and—here I am.

But the promise has been given that these notes shall be very short, and very occasional. However, short as they are, and occasional as they must be, on account of my ration of space, I must first say to all and sundry, "How are you?" and metaphorically shake you all by the hand once again, and say I'm pleased to see you. Although it is not really so long since last I chatted to you in these notes, it seems half a lifetime when one looks back over the things that have happened and the changes that have taken place since last I wrote. There has been much to sadden us, but I am not going to dwell upon that, although one cannot help thinking of all the old faces that have disappeared, and the fine young lives that have been sacrificed in the last two years.

For the present, however, I am content to be concerned with those who are still among us—perhaps, I ought rather to say, still in the flesh, for a great number of the ringing acquaintances of all of us are scattered throughout the world, wherever the British flag is upholding the Cause. From Jerusalem to Flanders, from "German East" to the Arctic Circle, boys from the belfry are doing their best to "barge" Old Fritz. A good many of us who are left at home are only old men or cripples, but there is one of the former whose face, though he hasn't left our shores, has been seen (in the pictures) by thousands of people on the other side of the Channel. Dear old Ted Morrex, ringing the treble at St. Paul's on Cambrai Joy Day, was one of the most conspicuous figures in a large photograph in the French journal "Le Miroir." Never such fame befel him before, and I hope he'll be there when we ring for peace.

There used to be an old quip, "How's your mother off for soap?" In these days the quantity of soap in the stove cupboard of one's maternal parent is of little import compared with the question of "How's your mother off for tea?" or "marg" or meat, or something else in the larder line. If you want anything to eat in these days you have to mind your p's and queues; in fact, it looks as if pealless days may soon become mealless days. By the way, have you heard the latest chestnut? "What's the difference between a ring of bells and a profiteer?" One peals from the steeple and the other steals from the people.

There were days when some of us had a pretty lean time because we had no money with which to buy what was going but now that we are able to earn a bit at sundry war jobs—necessary but safe—it looks as if that which was going, has by this time gone, and we are

still to be sent empty away. I knew the day when you could always depend upon enjoying a good meal after a peal, but good meals, like good peals, seem to be getting fewer. Never mind, we've got to grin and bear it, as the boy said, when ordered a birching. They are talking a good deal now of food cards, but I hope there's nothing of the three card trick about it. If the food is as elusive as the "lady," our smiles will soon rub off. Cards are all very well, but we shan't be able to live on cards alone.

Lord Rhondda says, by hook or crook,
You must resist the wiles of cook,
And if by luck you ring a peal,
And just an aching void you feel,
At food you must then only look.

To live on air may well be hard,
But sage advice should never be marred.
And if your appetite is keen,
Just think of others still more lean,
And be content to chew your card.

The editorial injunction is ever "cut it short," and though there is much I should like to have said, my further remarks must be postponed to a later date, for I realise I have already consumed my ration—of space.

EDUCATING THE PUBLIC.

WHAT CAN BE DONE BY THE INDIVIDUAL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I say how glad I was to see advocated in your columns the explanation of the art of ringing to those outside the favoured few, who know something about it? For some while, whenever I have had the opportunity, I have always tried to make my brother officers understand that there is something more in it than an old man pulling half a dozen or more ropes with different parts of his anatomy. The sight of my "Ringing World" lying on my table is usually the means by which a conversation is started, and I have always found that a very little explanation is sufficient to ensure a very real interest.

Being only a beginner myself, and with little opportunity for practice or study, there is little I can tell them; but after having explained to them the work of the treble in Grandsire Doubles, and told them that this is the easiest work in the easiest method on the easiest number of bells, I have always found that they were quite prepared to hear more of the work of the other bells and work on more bells; leading up the bobs and singles. Beyond that I cannot go; but I think I may say that my hearers go away with a feeling of admiration for the brain, at any rate, of the ringer, which they never felt before, and an understanding that there is not only something, but a great deal in it.

Now, if everyone was to work on similar lines, I think we should soon get a country, not only tolerant of, but enthusiastic about the art.

Hearing bells and knowing nothing of them, there can be only one of two things possible in people's minds, "How pretty!" or "Wish they'd stop!" according to the temper, work and location of the individual. If that same individual, however, knew that each member of the band ringing those changes was combining mind and muscle, and especially at an intense strain, to produce the music he hears and to complete a labour he set out to do, knowing that one slightest mistake will upset the whole thing, and that the peal or touch will be a failure for the whole band, then I say that individual cannot help taking an interest in the matter, and interest is 99 per cent. of everything.

As for ringing itself, the good that it does would cover pages. But there is one point which I think can never be rubbed in enough—I leave aside the church side of the matter, except for one reminder to the non-ringing clergy that they have in the belfry the nucleus of an absolutely loyal men's congregation who always get as far as the church, and are surely worth encouraging. My main point is a lay one. You have in the belfry a number of men, each one of whom is working for the good of the whole. What is the result of a peal? Is it not that the band has scored it? What is the result of one man's mistake? Is it not annoyance with himself that he has spoilt the performance of the band, not his own pleasure? This is very much for the good of the country as a whole, and is the spirit encouraged at our big schools and in the services. In connection with this I may say that I have never yet known a ringer who has not been more than willing to help on someone else.—Yours truly,

C. F. JERRAM,

Major, R.M.L.I., B.E.F.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Halesowen on Saturday, January 26th. Bells available for ringing at 3 p.m. Service in the Church at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the Schools after the service.—E. J. Dowler, 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Ringing from 2 o'clock until 6. Committee meeting at 5.30. Tea (1/3 each), followed by general meeting at 6 o'clock, all at the Dining Rooms, Market Place.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, January 26th. Bells available 3 till 9 p.m. Divine service at 4 o'clock. Tea at the Church House at 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Established 1878).—The annual meeting will be held at Headingley, Leeds, on Saturday, January 26th. Service in St. Michael's Church at 4.45 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow in the Parochial Institute, Bennett Road. Further particulars by circular.—H. Williams, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, New Wortley Cemetery, Leeds.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—Ringing practice will be held at Earls Colne January 26th, Braintree February 9th. Bells, 3 p.m. until 4.30 p.m.—H. F. Cooper, District Master. B. Redgwell, District Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Shepton Mallet on Saturday, 26th inst. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service, 4 p.m. Tea and business, 4.45 p.m. Douling bells (6) also will be available. N.B. 1918 subscriptions are now due.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., Midsomer Norton, Bath.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Croydon on Saturday, 26th Jan. The eight-bell tower of the Parish Church (St. John's) will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock, and the ten-bell tower of St. Peter's, South Croydon, from 3 to 5.30 o'clock, when service will be held at St. Peter's. Tea will be served in St. Peter's Mission Hall, Selsdon Road, at 6 p.m. (members 6d., visitors 2/-), after which business will be transacted, including election of officers for all three districts, reception of accounts and reports. Please notify intention to be present to Ch. Reading, Assist. Hon. Sec., Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER, S.W.—Ringing for evensong will recommence Sunday, Jan. 27th, at 5 p.m. (Service at 6 o'clock), and fortnightly thereafter. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Hewett.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual general meeting of the above will be held at Appledore, Kent, on Saturday, January 26th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock until 4.30. Tea, by the Guild, at 5 p.m. for all members.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingborough District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Irthlingboro on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells ready 2 p.m., tea at 4.30 p.m. (no sugar).—W. Perkins, Dist. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—A Meeting will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 29th. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Short service, 6 p.m., followed by business meeting and handbells. Tea arrangements depend upon the necessary articles being obtainable. Outstanding subscriptions for 1917 should be forwarded before the meeting.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Burnham-on-Sea, Feb. 2nd. Service, 5.30; tea and meeting after. Bells (8) afternoon and evening. Intending visitors please write.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, February 2nd, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting following the ringing.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of the society will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, Feb. 2nd, 1918. Bells will be available from 2.30 p.m. till dusk. The business meeting will afterwards be held in the White Cross Hotel at 7 p.m.—William Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's Church, Pendleton, on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Leesfield, Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—I beg to remind members that the subscription for 1918 is now due.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 29, Leigh Road South, Clifton, Bristol.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.—On Christmas Day, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Pte. Cecil Greenfield 1, S. Stone 2, S. W. Corden 3, P. H. Doick 4, Sergt. W. H. Hollman 5, Sergt. A. B. Corden 6, A. Greenfield (conductor) 7, Lieut. L. N. Corden 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Pte. Cecil Greenfield 1, S. Stone 2, P. H. Doick 3, S. W. Corden 4, Sergt. W. H. Hollman 5, Sergt. A. B. Corden (conductor) 6, A. Greenfield 7, F. J. Killick 8.

COALBROOKDALE.—On Sunday, December 30th, 1917, for evening service, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins.: Wm. Prince 1, T. Abbott 2, J. York 3, L. Hewitt 4, R. Jones 5, W. Lago 6, W. Saunders (conductor) 7, J. Aston 8. The composition appeared in "The Ringing World" of Friday, December 28th, 1917. This was Ptes. Abbott's last touch before joining the Cadet Section of the Royal Flying Corps, at Farnborough, on Jan. 1st.—On Sunday, January 20th, 1918 for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: Wm. Prince 1, Pte. Walter S. Crawford 2, J. York 3, P. Shaw 4, R. Jones 5, L. Hewitt 6, Wm. Saunders (conductor) 7, J. Aston 8.—For evening service, same date, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins., composed by Walter Lago: Wm. Prince 1, Pte. Walter S. Crawford 2, J. York 3, L. Hewitt 4, R. Jones 5, W. Lago 6, Wm. Saunders (conductor) 7, J. Aston 8. Specially arranged for Pte. W. S. Crawford, who was home on a few days' leave from the Army Service Corps Supply Depot, South Camp, Warminster, Wiltshire. — Also on handbells, same date, 120 Grandsire Doubles: Pte. W. S. Crawford 1—2, Wm. Saunders (conductor) 3—4, Leonard Hewitt 5—8; also a course of Grandsire Triples: Wm. Prince 1—2, Pte. W. S. Crawford 3—4, Wm. Saunders 5—6, Leonard Hewitt 7—8. Also a course of Grandsire Major by same band.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday afternoon, January 13th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major: J. W. Fruin (first in the method) 1, A. W. Davis 2, Robt. Holloway 3, G. Hes 4, F. Skevington 5, Pte. S. Meadows, A.S.C. (conductor) 6, A. Mason 7, W. Lawrence 8.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Sunday, January 13th, at St. George-the-Martyr's Church, Southwark, for morning service a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 43 mins.: A. R. Davis 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, A. Dierens 3, H. N. Davis 4, W. G. Matthews 5, W. A. Alps 6, T. Walker 7, H. Dyas 8.—On Sunday, January 20th, at St. Giles', Camberwell, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1280 changes), in 52 mins.: A. Cutmore 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, W. G. Matthews 3, A. W. Darlington 4, E. A. Reeve 5, A. Mason 6, W. H. Hewitt 7, I. Emery 8, H. Mance 9, H. Dyas 10.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—On January 19th, at St. Peter's Church a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes), by G. R. Newton, in 1 hr. 11 mins.: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, R. Wimpenny 2, J. W. Holme 3, Miss Ada Wolstencroft 4, Miss Sarah Holt 5, John Harrison 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, John Rolls 8. This is the longest length yet rung by the ladies, and also by the tenor ringer.

CAERPHILLY.—Llandaff Association.—On Saturday, January 19th, at St. Martin's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins., rung after an attempt for a peal: W. Pike 1, F. Boucher 2, G. Cooke 3, A. Addicott 4, F. Evans 5, S. Dawe 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, F. Stephens 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late churchwarden, Mr. W. M. Savours.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church, on January 20th, for evening service, 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: B. Wilson 1, A. J. Smith 2, L. A. Goodenough 3, Corpl. W. Payne 4, F. Hunt 5, T. Kendall 6, A. King (conductor) 7, H. Shaw 8. Rung as a welcome to Corpl. W. Payne, Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, home on leave from the front.

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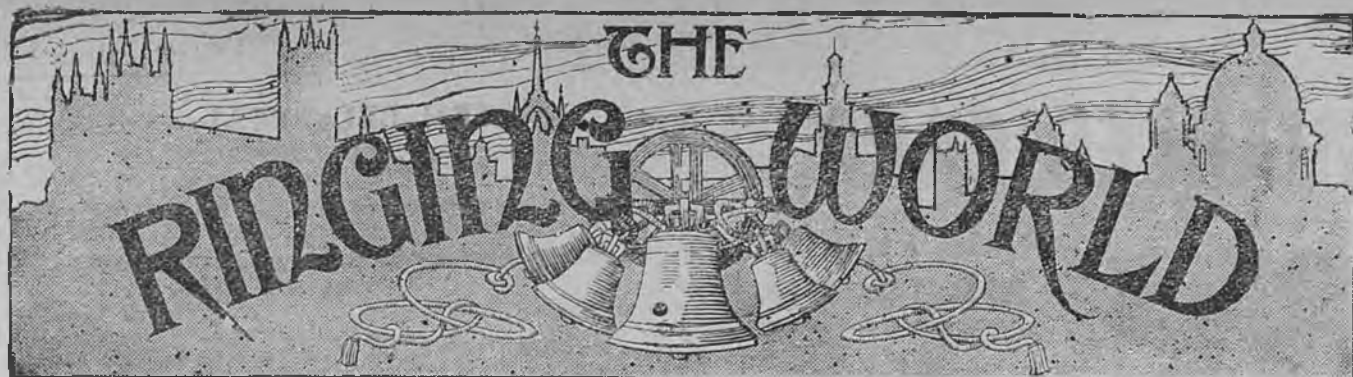
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Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorized by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

LONG SERVICE.

Twenty-seven years' service in a voluntary capacity is a noteworthy record, and it is not surprising that when the Rev. E. E. Broome retired the other day from the honorary secretaryship of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild the members should show their appreciation of his work in a tangible form. There are very few association secretaries in the country who can look back upon such an unbroken period of service as Mr. Broome, although there are, we believe, just one or two who have topped the quarter century.

The executive office of an organisation is usually an onerous one and only those who have discharged the duties are aware of the work which is involved. The smooth and successful running of an association is due very largely, if not entirely, to the ability and tact with which the secretary fulfils his task, and the absence of friction and discontent are in themselves a testimony to the labours of this official, who often has to take the brunt of the criticism, as well as shouldering the whole of the work. It is an impossible task to please everybody, and ringers are no exception in this respect. They are always the best and most loyal of comrades, but, human nature being what it is, they are never behindhand if there is grumbling to be done. They are none the worse for that, and when they have had their say they are ever ready to give credit to the men who do the work.

The Exercise, as a matter of fact, owes an inestimable debt to those men who discharge so conscientiously their secretarial work, a good deal of which is done behind the scenes and without the knowledge of the members. To men who give their labours in this direction for a length of time like that which the Rev. E. E. Broome has devoted to the Oxford Guild, ringers are doubly indebted, and we can well imagine that the Sonning Deanery members have received with the deepest regret the resignation of one who has served them so long and so faithfully.

While referring to the work of secretaries one may add that it is surprising that men who have acquaintance with little more than the elementary principles of ringing are often to be found taking an active part in the running of associations. One can readily understand a man who has dipped deeply into the fascinations of the Art, undertaking duties in connection with a ringers' organisation; but it is possible to find men acting as secretaries where practical knowledge of ringing is limited—we say this in no disrespectful sense—and the Exercise fully appreciates what these officials are doing. If a ringing organisation is to be successful much depends upon the secretary, and taken as a whole the associations up and down the country are fortunate in the men who to-day are filling these positions.

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Makers to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc. etc.

TEN BELL PEAL.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1918, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

SAMUEL WESLEY Treble	WILLIAM J. TRYNG ... 6
JOHN HOLMAN 2	JOHN FLINT 7
WILLIAM LAMBERT 3	GEORGE HOLLIS 8
FRANK JACOBS 4	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 9
SAM THOMAS 5	WALTER ALLWOOD Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Rung as a farewell peal to the Vicar, Archdeacon Crosse, who is leaving for Whitwell, near Worksop.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, January 26, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, DERITEND,

A PEAL OF DRABSDIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANE FIVE-PART.

SAMUEL COLEY Treble	WILLIAM F. WEBB ... 5
JAMES GEORGE 2	ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... 6
JOSEPH PORTER 3	JOHN B. COLLETT 7
ALBERT E. NORMAN 4	THOMAS PEARCE Tenor

Conducted by A. T. SCRIVENS.

First peal on the bells since their rehanging by Messrs. J. Barwell, Ltd. First peal by A. E. Norman, who was elected a member of the Association in the tower.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, January 22, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

At 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEPMAN CATERS, 5078 CHANCES;

HERBERT LANGDON ... 1—2	CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 5—6
WILLIAM T. COCKERILL 3—4	ALFRED B. PECK ... 7—8
HARRY R. PASSMORE ... 9—10	

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and
Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

Umpire: EDWIN HORREX.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

A successful quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Nuneaton on Saturday week, when members attended from Birmingham, Chilvers Coton, Coventry, Leicester, Nuneaton, Rugby, and Stoke Golding, including three lady ringers from Chilvers Coton, and one from Bishop Ryders, Birmingham. Touches of Grandshire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent and Duffield Major, Double Norwich, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major were rung.

The business meeting was afterwards held in the belfry, presided over by Mr. James George (Ringing Master), who made sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. G. H. Kettle, the late secretary of the Guild, who died of wounds in France, and the secretary was instructed to write a letter of condolence to the widow.

An apology for absence was received from the president (the Rev. H. C. A. Back).

Two new ringing members were elected, and it was decided to hold the annual meeting at Warwick on Easter Monday next as usual.—A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells concluded the business.

HANDBELLS SUBSTITUTED FOR ORGAN.

The organ of Kingston Magna Church, Dorset, having been removed for renovation the Rector, with three young ringers, took the place of the organist on Sunday last by accompanying the singing on a musical octave of handbells. The congregation followed the lead with great spirit, the hymn, "Jerusalem, my happy home," being thus rendered with especially fine effect.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

The annual general meeting of the Romney Marsh and District Guild was held at Appledore on Saturday last, when about 20 members attended, representing Ashford, Appledore, Biddenden, Mersham, Rye, Rolvenden, Stone and Tenterden. The bells were raised in peal soon after two o'clock, and were rung at intervals till 5 p.m., the premier touch being a 518 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by C. Tribe, with Sapper Limpus, from Vancouver, Canada, ringing the tenor.

A special service was held in the church, the Vicar (the Rev. A. O. Scuttl), president of the Guild, officiating.

Tea was served at Bean's Bakery, opposite the church, the president being in the chair. At the business meeting, which followed, the balance sheet was presented, and showed a balance of £5 8s. (£4 of which is invested in War Loan). This was passed, together with a proposition that £1 be allotted from the funds towards the rehanging of Brookland bells.

The President was re-elected, as was also Mr. H. Balcouth, the secretary.

The office of Master having become vacant, after some discussion it was decided by a majority to abolish the office, which was more or less a sinecure.

Four new members were elected, including Miss Rose Thomas, of Mersham, who thus becomes the first lady member of the Guild. Biddenden was proposed for the next place of meeting on February 23rd, and votes of thanks to the secretary, the chairman, and the caterer, concluded the meeting.

A pleasant hour was afterwards spent with handbells, patriotic songs and recitations, concluding with the National Anthem.

OXFORD GUILD PRACTICES.

On Saturday week members of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild had the unusual, and pleasing experience of being welcomed by the Vicar of the parish, when meeting at Bray-on-Thames, for ringing previous to attending the Branch Committee meeting at Boyne Hill, Maidenhead. Touches of Plain Bob and Oxford Bob Minor, and six-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung on this beautiful ring of six (tenor 28 cwt.), by Messrs. G. T. Leader and T. Smith (Slough), Miss G. E. Bateman, W. J. Bateman, and Will Henley (Stoke Poges), and Miss E. A. Fuller and G. H. Gutteridge (Fulmer). These bells which were recently rehung by Messrs. Warner, in a frame built up from the ground level on stanchions, are in first-class ringing order.

On Saturday, January 26th, a successful combined practice was held at St. John's Hillingdon, the methods rung being Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Bob Major. The following members attended: T. Smith (Slough), W. Lawrence and C. Edwards (West Ealing), A. Mason (Wembley), Misses Feltham and Williams, and Mr. H. H. Chandler (Hillingdon), Miss G. Bateman and W. Henley (Stoke Poges), and Miss Fuller and G. H. Gutteridge (Fulmer). Handbell ringing and a cup of tea, finished a most pleasant afternoon and evening.

PRACTICE MEETING AT HILLINGDON.

Some ringers who form the "rank and file"—to quote Campano's excellent letter—do not claim to be "leading lights," but who do claim to be enthusiastic, and try to "keep the pot a-boiling," met at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday afternoon for a united practice. By the field path, St. John's is fifteen minutes' walk from Cowley Station, and on their approach the fine tenor was giving a "hum" very pleasing to hear, and Grandsire Triples was rolling out from the church tower the Misses Feltham, Fuller, and Williams taking part. Two Oxford Guild men arrived, and a variety of touches including Stedman Triples and a 224 Bob Major were rung: Miss G. Bateman 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, W. Henley 3, C. Edwards 4, T. S. Smith (Slough) 5, H. H. Chandler (conductor) 6, A. Mason 7, W. Lawrence 8. The touch proved a good finish to a progressive and useful practice. The genial landlady at the hostelry near by provided a first-rate "war" tea, and Miss Fuller kindly presided.

MEETING AT LOUGHBOROUGH FOUNDRY TOWER.

On Saturday, January 19th, the annual district meeting of the Loughborough Branch of the Midland Counties Association was held at the bell foundry tower. The district officers were re-elected en bloc, viz. Canon Pitts, chairman; Mr. J. Oldham, secretary; and Messrs. W. Thorley and E. Rearden, committee-men.

Afterwards some good ringing took place on the peal of eight in the tower, touches being brought round of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major. The ringers were especially pleased to see Lance-Corpl. W. Smith and Sergt. W. Trigg, both of the Leicestershire Regiment, home on leave from France, and were glad to have a ring with these two popular members of the Loughborough district once more, after their long absence from the Exercise.

THE LATE CORPL. HAWKINS.

AN APPRECIATION.

By the death in France (as reported in your last issue) of Corpl. Kenner G. Hawkins, 2nd Life Guards, late of Alderbourne Manor Farm, Fulmer, Bucks, at the age of 21, the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, has lost a very promising and enthusiastic member. Deceased took up ringing in 1912, and had rung three peals, one of Grandsire Triples and two of Minor. He was also a member of the Middlesex and Sussex County Associations. Always of a happy and unselfish disposition, he was very persevering at the practices, and "never late" could have been written across his character regarding his attendance on Sundays. He was very fond of horses, an expert rider and a fine shot (having practised both from his school-boy days); he was a fine typical English lad, of the like of which, alas! we have already lost far too many. The writer has recollections of many happy days spent in his company, and can truly say of him, that he was "one of Britain's best boys."

G. H. G.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

Two very successful combined practices of the above Guild have been held this month, the first on Saturday, January 5th, at Christchurch, with its fine ring of ten bells, when visitors turned up from over 30 miles around, including Messrs. G. Williams (hon. general secretary), W. H. George, W. T. Tucker (North Stoneham), L. W. Wiffen (Wyke Regis), W. Townsend (Poole), G. W. Goodenough (Bournemouth), Rev. Carew Cox and A. M. Stewart (Ferndown, Wimborne), also Q.-M.-S. W. Cave, R.E., who is stationed close by. In addition there was a big muster of the local band, including Mr. Street, who was home on holiday from Liverpool University. Touches were brought round of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Double Norwich Major and Kent Treble Bob Royal, also a plain course of Superlative Major, the bells being kept busy from 3.30 till 7.30 p.m., with a short interval for tea.

On the Sunday morning Q.-M.-S. Cave cycled to Ferndown (ten miles), when touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor were rung on Mr. Stewart's fine set of handbells, with Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams and Mr. Stewart.—It is proposed to hold another of these meetings immediately after Easter.

At Curdridge, on Saturday last, a good practice was held, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob, and Double Norwich Major being brought round. The following were present: Messrs. G. Williams, W. T. Tucker, W. H. George (North Stoneham), G. Robinson (St. Michael's, Headingley, Leeds), now serving on H.M.S. "Venerable," the Rev. E. Banks-James, with two of his pupils from Lee-on-the-Solent, W. Linter, senr. (Swanmore), H. Smith (Wickham), and the local band, including Messrs. Mears (2), Ryves (3), Pook, etc. Regret was expressed at the absence of Messrs. Hardy, R.G.A. (Leicester), Day (Bristol) and Bond (Burford, Oxon), who had hoped to be present. They were all elected compounding members of the Guild at the recent meeting at Fareham, being at the moment temporarily engaged in the district. It is hoped as many as possible will attend the district meeting at North Stoneham, on Feb. 9th, to ensure a successful meeting.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Fylde Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Lytham, on Saturday, January 12th. Mr. James George, of Birmingham, who was spending a few days at Blackpool, was among the visitors. The first tower visited was St. John's (six bells), where several touches of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford, etc., were rung, and a considerable time spent in instructing the lady ringers, of whom there were a good number present. At St. Peter's (six bells) several further touches were rung, and then the ringers went on to St. Cuthbert's (eight bells), where the ringing included a 504 Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. James George; Thos. Crookall 1, R. Martin 2, George Mares 3, J. Tipping 4, W. Wild 5, James George 6, Sergt. Lloyd 7, J. Smith 8.

On the following day, for morning service, at the Church of the Sacred Heart (R.C.), 517 Grandsire Triples: R. Martin 1, W. Wild 2, J. Smith 3, W. Wilkinson 4, Sergt. Lloyd 5, T. Crookall 6, James George (conductor) 7, J. Bolton 8. Afterwards, for Divine service, at St. John's Parish Church, Blackpool, 504 Grandsire Triples: W. Howarth 1, R. Martin 2, J. Eckley 3, Sergt. Lloyd 4, W. Wild 5, James George (conductor) 6, J. Bolton 7, J. Smith 8. Mr. George left Blackpool at noon on Sunday, with the best wishes of the Blackpool ringers, who were delighted to have had his company, and hope to receive another visit from him at some future date.

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTHERN BRANCH MEETING.

A largely attended meeting, in connection with the Northern Branch, was held on Saturday last at Halesowen, and ringing was indulged in on that splendid ring of eight, where the first long peal of London Surprise Major was attempted, and unfortunately lost after over five hours' ringing. Many towers were represented, including Kidderminster, Old Hill, Selly Oak, Northfield, Tipton, Smethwick, Birmingham, Edgbaston, Wollaston, and the local company. It was very pleasing to see the ladies well represented, and to welcome soldiers on leave from the front anxious once again to take a rope in their beloved art.

The service, which was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. Colville) was well attended. Taking as the basis of his remarks, Tennyson's famous poem, "The Bells" (published in 1858), he spoke of the use of the bells and the purpose of ringing. When eight men ascended those belfry steps, looked themselves in the church, and commenced ringing, the people who heard the bells asked each other, "What are the bells ringing for?" Sometimes it would be for a wedding, or alas! with the bells muffled, as a token of respect for some departed friend. Sometimes they had rung for peace. He wondered how many times they had been rung for peace? He trusted it would not be long before they would be rung for a peace which would last for ever, a peace after which they would welcome those brave heroes who were carrying their lives in their hands on the sea and under the sea, and also to those heroes who were so nobly doing their duty on the various battle fronts. In conclusion the reverend gentleman quoted the poem upon which he had based his address, and it was very much appreciated by everyone who was at the service.

After the service, the business meeting was held at the Church House. The Rector presided, and said how pleased he was to welcome the Association there. It was the first one that had been held there since he became Rector, and he regretted that owing to the conditions of the food supply he had not been able to offer the members the same hospitality that they had been in the habit of receiving, but he hoped that when the Association visited them again—he trusted at no distant date—they would be able to entertain them once again. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Wollaston, on June 22nd.

Two hon. members were elected, including the Rector, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for arranging the service and giving the address, and also to the local ringers for making all necessary arrangements.

Ringing was continued up to 8 o'clock, and some well-struck touches were brought round in the standard methods, while some of the veterans were successful in bringing round several touches of Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major, which brought a very successful meeting to a close.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A pleasant afternoon was spent by those who attended the quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association, held at Hinckley on Saturday last. During the afternoon touches in various methods from Grandsire to Cambridge were attempted on the bells. After tea, which was served at six o'clock, and to which 25 sat down in the Dining Rooms, Market Place, the usual business meeting was held, the president, Mr. John W. Taylor occupying the chair, supported by the hon. treasurer, Staff-Sergt. W. C. Wakley (home on leave from France), the hon. secretary (Mr. W. E. White), and representatives from Barwell, Birmingham, Burton-on-Trent, Leicester, Loughborough, Nuneaton, Sapcote, Sharnford, South Wigston, Stoney Stanton, in addition to the local ringers.

One honorary and four ringing members were unanimously elected. The retiring auditors (Messrs. E. D. Taylor and C. Draper) were re-appointed, on the proposition of Mr. J. Garratt, seconded by Mr. H. Argyle.—A vote of thanks to the Rev. Hurrell for the use of the bells, and to the local men for making arrangements for the meeting, was unanimously recorded.

The President, when putting the vote to the meeting, regretted that the Rev. Hurrell was unable to be present, as it was most desirable that the Association should get in as close touch as possible with the clergy and church workers generally.

BIRMINGHAM.—At St. John's Church, Devilend, on Jan. 6th, for evening service, with the bells muffled before a service in memory of soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives in the war, half a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 28 mins.: G. Bluck 1, A. T. Scrivens 2, J. Porter 3, W. F. Webb 4, A. E. Norman 5, T. Pearce 6.—On Sunday, January 20th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 45 mins., by the same band, both conducted by A. T. Scrivens. This was the first quarter-peal of Doubles by all the band.

OXFORD GUILD.

SONNING DEANERY BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

REV. E. E. BROOME RETIRES: INTERESTING PRESENTATION.

The annual meeting of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday week at Wokingham. Proceedings commenced with a service of intercession at All Saints' Church at 5.30 p.m., at which the Rector (the Rev. B. Long), assisted by the Rev. F. M. C. Hare, officiated.

The Rural Dean (Rev. Canon Coleridge) gave a most appropriate address from Acts xi. 29, "Every man according to his ability." He had chosen these words, he said, because they brought home very much what was being done throughout the country at the present time, and because they appealed with very great force and meaning to them as ringers. The disciple determined, every man according to his ability, to send relief unto the brethren who dwell in Judaea, and we, as a nation, were at the present time doing the same. Every man, according to his ability, had been sending, and would continue to send, relief as long as the war lasted. "Man-power" was the phrase heard on all sides. Our sorely diminished force needed relief. Was it possible anyone calling himself an Englishman would think of saving his own skin, skulking away in some safe employment, when far more urgently needed elsewhere? That man, whose age and stamina fitted him for the line of battle and yet was found wanting, failed in his duty. Some might be more usefully placed where they were, holding vitally important positions at home. Few ringers would shirk their duty. They saw bellfries stripped of their most promising members, the choir stalls of the singers emptied, their places filled with veterans; the ranks of the clergy cruelly depleted; organists gone for military duties. Every church in the land had been affected—the bellfries most of all, but the remnant have determined to carry on, and in spite of all difficulties to persevere. The Sonning Deanery Branch of their Guild met that day, first and foremost for worship, then for its annual meeting. Few opportunities had occurred during the past year of his visiting their towers, owing to difficulties of travelling. Many, probably most, towers had been greatly depleted of members, and their places had been taken by boys and young girls and women. All honour to them for coming forward, and to those who had undertaken their instruction—a not easy task, yet followed by a rich reward by perseverance. All were learners. None could say like the well-known head of an Oxford College, "What I know not is not knowledge." The science and the art of ringing were quite distinct, the art was not so much needed as the head. When he started ringing 45 or 46 years ago, there were few bands in England who could ring the higher Surprise Methods on eight bells. There was one at Woolwich—the members of the Banister family—and one at Bennington, in Hertfordshire. They attained to the very highest. To look at one would have thought there was not a bit of ringing in some of them. Some agricultural labourers in the field were splendid ringers. They could hardly write the figures one to eight, yet with straight lines marked on a piece of slate or tile, they in their spare time, worked out the most intricate combinations of the higher methods—Superlative Cambridge or London Surprise. Thus these illiterate men learned to ring those intricate methods. This should provide encouragement for those who exercised a good deal of patience with but little result. Nine-tenths of the art was learned resistably at home with pencil and paper. The practical side came in the belfry afterwards. The qualities needed were those of perseverance and determination, exercised according to the ability with which one might be endued. Ringers were determined, according to their ability, to do what they could to further the art—the more failure the greater the perseverance and determination—and so become in time efficient, able to further that important branch of church work for which their abilities had fitted them able to take their part in the bellfries in that bright and happy day of a lasting peace.

The address was followed with much interest and great appreciation. Some 50 members were present, including several ladies. The ringers' hymn, "Unchanging God, who livest," was sung during the service, which closed with the National Anthem.

A move was then made to St. Paul's Parish Room, where one had been prepared. Mrs. Barry and Miss Cooper, assisted by Mrs. Long, Mrs. Tyndale Heelas, Mrs. F. Heelas, Miss Eaglefield and Miss Heelas, being in charge of the arrangements, which were most ably carried out. On the platform were the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, the Rev. B. Tong, the Rev. H. M. Walter, the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, the Rev. F. M. C. Hare, the Rev. E. E. Broome (branch secretary), Mrs. Broome and Mr. Hibbert (general secretary of the Diocesan Guild), and about 60 ringers sat down to tea.

THE MEETING.

The Rural Dean said the Rev. R. S. Hart-Davis, their chairman had asked him to preside, as that day he had lost his wife, after an acute illness. All, he knew, would deeply sympathise with Mr. Davis. —On the motion of Mr. S. Paice (All Saints'), a vote of condolence and sympathy was immediately passed, all silently standing.

The Chairman then felicitously thanked the ladies who had so kindly provided the tea, and had waited upon the members. He was glad to do this, before those ladies left them, and not, as on other occasions, in their absence. —The Hon. Secretary (the Rev. E. E. Broome) presented the balance sheet for the past year. This showed a balance from 1916 of £7 13s. 8d.; annual subscriptions of 28 hon. members, £7 5s.; 158 ringers, £8 1s.; donations to tea, £1 6s. 6d.; total, £24 6s. 2d. After paying various items of expense there remained a balance in hand of £9 19s. 10d.

The Hon. Secretary, after referring in terms of deepest sympathy to the loss sustained by their chairman, said the number of members stood at 184, ten less than last year. They had lost the Rev. A. R. Price, of Ruscombe, and as far as he knew, three of their ringers had been lost. A. Edwards (Arboretfield), F. Collins (Sandhurst), killed in action, while G. Collins was still missing as last year. Fifty-seven members were on active service, eight more than last year.

The balance sheet was unanimously adopted, on the proposition of Mr. Moth, seconded by Mr. Dentry, the Chairman adding with best thanks to Mr. Broome's untiring energy.

Foremen of towers were all re-elected to form the committee, with the addition of Miss I. White, and Miss Rose Hurst.—Messrs. F. Dentry, S. Paice, Moth, and G. I. Wright, were elected representatives on the Guild General Committee.—The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis was unanimously re-elected chairman.

The Chairman said that for 27 years the Rev. E. E. Broome had acted as their secretary and treasurer, but he felt that the time had come for him to resign that position owing to advancing years and the state of his health. They accepted Mr. Broome's resignation with deep regret, and with great and hearty thanks for the care and attention he had bestowed on their affairs for those many years.—Mr. S. Paice voiced the regret of all the members at Mr. Broome's resignation, and proposed that Mr. F. Dentry be his successor.—Mr. W. Houlton seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Dentry thanked the members for electing him, and said he would do his best to discharge the duties.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. R. T. Hibbert who had been appointed assistant secretary of the Guild to carry on as Mr. Reeves had "joined up."—Mr. Hibbert said he was willing not only to "carry on," but hoped when Mr. Reeves returned to be able to show progress. The general Guild report would not be issued as usual in book form, thus saving some £12 or £15.

Thanks to the Rev. B. Tong for the use of his church, to Miss Walker (organist), and to the Rev. H. M. Walter for the use of his parish room, were heartily accorded.

PRESENTATION TO REV. E. E. BROOME.

The Chairman then read letters written by the Master of the Guild (the Rev. C. W. J. Jenkyn) and the chairman of the branch (the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis), expressing earnest and affectionate appreciation of Mr. Broome's work. Canon Coleridge then presented to the Rev. E. E. Broome a handsome Louis bureau, subscribed for by the members and purchased by the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, together with a list of subscribers to be copied later in book form. Mr. Broome, said the speaker, reminded him of the prophet that gentle man who goeth in and out among us continually. It was the modest and unassuming man who did best. Mr. Broome had done everything, thrown his whole heart and soul into the work for the good of their branch. He retired from his office with the warmest wishes of every member for his future health and welfare. Last March his brother clergymen of the Church of England congratulated Mr. Broome on the completion of his 50 years' ministry, and presented him with a token of the esteem and affection in which he was held by all of the clergy. With the book of their names was a small blotter. Now that bureau was the very thing to contain that blotter. In the name of the ringers of the Sonning Deanery he asked Mr. Broome to accept the gift as a memento of the esteem and affection they had for him for all that he had done for them in the past 27 years.

The Rev. E. E. Broome, in acknowledging the gift, expressed his complete surprise, and thanked the members for the expression of their esteem and affection. He had served them long but without their help, and that of his dear wife, he could not have done as he had. He hoped still to be of some use to them. In Mr. Dentry they had chosen, happily his successor. Mr. Dentry had been resident in the district since 1902, was a first-rate ringer, well known to all, and ever ready to help the Guild and the branch.—Mr. Broome, who was most affected by the expressions of esteem which had been made, referred to their long and cordial relations, and said, though in one sense he wished them "good-bye," yet he hoped to be ever ready to help them in any way he could (applause).

Continued on page 38.

Continued from page 37.

The Rev. B. Tong proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was heartily carried by acclamation.

The National Anthem brought the most interesting proceedings to a close.

The bureau presented to the Rev. E. E. Broome bore the following inscription, engraved on a brass plate:—

"Presented to the Rev. Edmund Broome, secretary to the Sonning Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers, 1890-1917, by the ringers and their friends, January 19th, 1917."

Parties of ringers visited each of the church towers of All Saints and St. Paul's for ringing at the close of the meeting.

DERITEND BELLS RINGING AGAIN.

The peal, rung on Saturday at St. John's, Deritend Birmingham, was the first on the bells since they were rehung by Messrs. J. Barwell, Ltd. The last peal rung on them, we believe, was during the passing of the last century and the beginning of the present, the only one, if we are not mistaken, to be rung at midnight on that occasion. Since that time very little ringing has taken place at St. John's, on account of the bad condition into which the bells had got. Thanks, however, to the perseverance of the tower keeper, Mr. F. Webb, this state of affairs has been altered, and while one or two further improvements remain to be effected when funds permit, it is very satisfactory to know that the bells themselves are in ringing order again. The peal, which is recorded in another column enabled Mr. James George to add yet another tower to his already long list.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

ACTON.—For afternoon service, on December 2nd a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (composed by H. Miles, Kensington): A. Smith 1. W. Lawrence (conductor) 2. R. Holloway 3. C. Edwards 4. J. Abbott 5. J. H. Frin 6. E. Vickery 7. C. Brown 8.

BIRMINGHAM.—At St. Chad's Cathedral (R.C.), on Sunday, Dec. 2nd, 1917, after morning service, in 44 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted and composed by A. T. Scrivens: J. B. Collett 1. A. T. Scrivens 2. G. Mackenzie 3. J. Porter 4. W. F. Webb 5. T. Miller 6. T. Kelly 7. J. King 8. Arranged for Mr. J. King as a birthday compliment.

WICKHAMBREAU.—On December 6th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, at St. Andrew's Church, on the occasion of the golden wedding of the Rector (the Rev. G. Hyde Smith) and Mrs. Hyde Smith: B. Wood (Wickhambreau) 1. R. J. Cobbold (Littlebourne) 2. E. Rye (Littlebourne) 3. W. Savage (Littlebourne) 4. Pie, G. Hope (South Notts Hussars and Gloucestershire Association) 5. J. A. Johnson (Littlebourne) 6.—On Sunday, January 13th, 720 Plain Bob: E. Wood (Wickhambreau) 1. Harrison Smith (Wickhambreau) 2. Corporal Lancaster (South Notts Hussars and Lancashire Association) 3. P. J. Cobbold (Littlebourne) 4. W. Savage (Littlebourne) 5. A. Johnson (Littlebourne) 6.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, January 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Pitts 1. T. Banning 2. H. Packer 3. H. Gillett 4. W. Stratford 5. W. Large (conductor) 6. J. Collett 7. J. Buttler 8. Also on Sunday, January 27th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Pitts 1. H. Gillett 2. H. Packer 3. T. Banning 4. W. Stratford 5. J. Collett 6. W. Large (conductor) 7. J. Buttler 8.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Sunday, January 20th, for evening service 518 Grandsire Triples: H. Holderness 1. H. Sear 2. W. Mead 3. A. Crane 4. W. Sear (conductor) 5. E. Marks 6. P. Whitehead 7. F. Hedges 8. Great credit is due to Mr. Holderness, and this was his first 500.

ACTON.—On Sunday afternoon, January 20th, 720 Bob Minor (from the "Clavis"): C. Brown 1. H. G. Frin 2. W. Lawrence (conductor) 3. R. Holloway 4. C. Hunt 5. F. Skerington 6.

CHIPSTABLE.—Bath and Wells Association. — On Jan. 22nd a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1290 changes) was rung in 52 mins.: W. Poole 1. W. V. Young 2. A. Smith (conductor) 3. G. Jones 4. C. Quicke 5. W. Smith 6. First quarter by all except ringers of 3 and 4.

SELINFOLD, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, January 27th 1918, for the morning service, 720 Bob Minor: G. Worsfold (Itchingfield) 1. F. Denman (Shipley) 2. Mrs. R. Whittington (Cranleigh) 3. W. Short (Warnham) 4. R. Whittington (Cranleigh) 5. A. J. Bartlett (Chiddingfold) conductor, 6. In the afternoon, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: F. Denman 1. P. Doick (Pulborough) 2. Mrs. R. Whittington (first 720 of Treble Bob on an inside bell) 3. W. Short 4. J. Bowell (Shipley) 5. W. Denman, junr. (Shipley), conductor, 6.

NOTICES.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingborough District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Irthlingboro on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells ready 2 p.m., tea at 4.30 p.m. (no sugar).—W. Perkins, Dist. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Short service, 6 p.m., followed by business meeting and handbells. Tea arrangements depend upon the necessary articles being obtainable. Outstanding subscriptions for 1917 should be forwarded before the meeting.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Burnham-on-Sea, Feb. 2nd. Service, 5.30; tea and meeting after. Bells (8) afternoon and evening. Intending visitors please write.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, February 2nd, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting following the ringing.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of the society will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, Feb. 2nd, 1918. Bells will be available from 2.30 p.m. till dusk. The business meeting will afterwards be held in the White Cross Hotel at 7 p.m.—William Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on Feb. 7th and 21st, and for general business on the 12th and 26th, all at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8 which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's Church, Pendleton, on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting for practice will be held at North Stoneham on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells from 3 p.m. till 9 o'clock. Tea cannot be provided owing to food restrictions.—James W. Elkins, Dist. Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Aldershot on Saturday, Feb. 9th, 1918. Bells (6) available from 3.30 till 9 p.m. Service at 6 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. No tea will be provided, but members attending will be allowed 9d. instead. Subscriptions should be paid at the meeting. The next meeting will be at Haslemere in April. A cycle tour round Farnham and neighbourhood is being arranged for Whit-Monday. Full particulars later on.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Established 1824).—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Ringing will take place as follows: Southwark Cathedral, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m. and 4.15 to 5 p.m.; St. George's, Southwark, 3.30 to 6 p.m. Business meeting, election of officers, etc., will be held at the Southwark Tavern at 6.30 p.m. It is hoped that all members will endeavour to be present.—Ringing friends invited. T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at West Derby on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells ready at 4. Meeting, 6.30.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Christ Church, West Bromwich, on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells (12) at 3. Committee meeting in vestry, 4.45. Short service in church at 5.15, with an address by the Vicar (the Rev. Basil G. Nicholas). Tea if possible (1/-) in the Parish Room at 6. Those intending to be present please notify me by Tuesday, Feb. 12th.—Rev. C. Holroyd Barker, Hon. Treas., 57, Lodge Road, West Bromwich.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Leesfield, Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A meeting for handbell practice, etc., will be held at the King of Denmark, Old Bailey, E.C., on Saturday, Feb. 16th, at 6.30 p.m.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec., *pro tem.*

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual district meeting will be held by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. Dr. Relton) at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Ringing from 3 to 6, followed by short service. Tea will be provided if necessary arrangements can be made. Members please note that all 1917 subscriptions should be paid by the date of the meeting.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

DICK NEWTON'S BIRTHDAY.

Writing from Boston, U.S.A., Mr. Richard Newton, late of Manchester City Police, sends his third contribution of 15s. to the War Fund, the amount being the sum formerly spent on his birthday peal at Manchester Town Hall.

Referring to the efforts made in Boston to assist in the war, he says the organisation with which the ringers from England are connected cleared over 1,300 dollars in the last Empire Day Festival. This amount was equally divided between the American Red Cross and the Prince of Wales' Fund, which means it practically all comes to this side in warwork, "but," he adds, "we must include the American now, and that was the best way to do it. We had a great success. We had our first meeting on Sunday, January 6th, 1918, to start our arrangements for the 1918 festival, on May 24th. Thus we are at it nearly all the year round, and we hope to do better this year. We also organised a mass meeting in the Great Mechanics' Building for the Halifax (N.S.) Disaster Relief Fund. We charged 50 cents (2s.) admission, got about 1,800 in attendance, collected nearly 2,000 dollars, and cleared over 2,000 dollars for the fund, so you see we were soon 'on the job.' The explosion happened on a Wednesday: we had our meeting the following Sunday; some speed, wasn't it? I wish to be remembered to all my ringing friends in and around Manchester, and also other parts."

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 360. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8th, 1918.

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.

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Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Apart from the question of peal ringing, the effects of the war have varied considerably with the different associations. All, of course, have suffered from the temporary loss of members, but there are some who still are able to command a fair attendance at their annual meetings, and Surrey seems to be among the fortunate ones. When the Association met at Croydon the other day the number of members who put in an appearance was extremely gratifying, and although there were missing faces, the gathering was a surprisingly good one for a war-time "annual." True, Croydon offers many attractions for Surrey ringers; it is conveniently situated for many to reach, it has two capital peals of bells, and it is one of the modern centres of the bell founding industry. These facts all tended to make the annual meeting a success, but the sustained interest of the members in adverse conditions was doubtless the underlying factor which really counted. That Surrey ringers have been "carrying on" successfully despite all the handicaps was testified to by the Master, who, in his customary review, was able to show that Sunday service ringing had been well maintained, and that the financial position of the Association had been upheld despite the difficulties of the times.

The position of the Surrey Association is a somewhat peculiar one. Its "sphere of influence" does not cover the whole county, a considerable portion of the south-western area being within the well-established bounds of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, while in part of the London district which overlaps the northern edge of the county, the Association's hold is not very comprehensive. Thus its operations are considerably circumscribed; and while it lives in complete amity with its neighbours, there is little room for expansion. It has, however, been a matter for surprise that the Association has not pressed more persistently towards the Thames, as its neighbour in Kent has done, for, while an endeavour to embrace towers in the south-west of the county might be to tread on delicate ground, South London towers inside the Surrey border ought to be an open recruiting ground, just as much as towers on the other side of the river come into the Middlesex fold.

The fact that such societies as the College Youths, the Cumberlands, and the London County Association, extend their influence through this area ought to be no obstacle, for these three venerable organizations are looked upon in a totally different light to the ordinary, geographically defined association. The three London societies which are mentioned occupy a very special position, and are not likely in these days to resent the coming

Continued on page 42

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,
I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,
CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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Continued from page 41.

of a kindred association into their midst, so long as the new comer confines its activities to that area to which it is legitimately entitled. The South London Surrey towers might, therefore, offer a wider field for the expansion of the County Association than they have yet done, although, of course, the fact that the Surrey Association has been established nearly 40 years and has not yet embraced these belfries may be good evidence that such a policy is not advisable or practicable.

TEN BELL PEAL.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 2, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE GATERS, 5003 CHANCES;*

Tenor 24½ cwt.

SAMUEL WESLEY 1	CHARLES DRAPER 6
WILLIAM LAMBERT 2	JOHN FLINT 7
CHARLES E. HART 3	GEORGE HOLLIS 8
ALBERT H. WARD 4	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 9
JOHN HOLMAN 5	FRANK JACOBS Tenor

Composed by GEORGE HOLLIS.

Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Rang with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. David C. Parthing, for 48 years a ringer at the above Church, who died on January 24th and was interred on the 27th.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Thursday, January 24, 1918, in One Hour and Fifty Minutes,

IN THE CHURCH TOWER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Seven 720s each called differently.

ARTHUR SYMONDS 1—2	FREDERICK PRYKE 5
STEDMAN H. SYMONDS 3—4	STANLEY SMITH 6

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung to celebrate the 60th birthday of A. Symonds, which occurred on the previous day, when a 5040 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was unsuccessfully attempted.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Chew Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Long Ashton on Saturday week. About 80 ringers (including nine ladies) were present from Portishead, Wraxall and Bristol. Before service, touches of Grand-sire and Stedman Triples were rung, and also some rounds, by eight ladies, this being the first occasion on which the bells have been rung entirely by ladies. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. — Young), who gave an excellent address.

The tea and meeting followed, the chair being taken by the Vicar. Perhaps some of the unfortunate ringers who have had to wait in queues for butter, may like to hear that this commodity was very much in evidence, thanks to one of the ringers being a farmer. Probably there would have been 100 ringers present had this fact been advertised in "The Ringing World."

It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Portishead. All the officers were re-appointed, the secretary, Mr. G. Yeo, for the fourteenth time.—Ten new members were elected, of whom eight were ladies.

It was decided that the next quarterly meeting should be held at Portishead.—Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for his kindness in granting the use of the bells, and giving the address, to the organist for his assistance at the service, and to all those who helped to make the meeting a success by supplying the provisions for tea and arranging all other details.

More touches were rung after tea, including Stedman and Grand-sire Triples, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SEDGLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

*CHARLES EVANS... .. Treble	THOMAS WALTON 5
THOMAS GRIFFITHS 2	HARRY JEAVOUS 6
WILLIAM MILLS, Jnr. 3	WILLIAM MILLS, Senr. 7
FREDERICK EVANS 4	BENJAMIN FULLWOOD ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by HARRY JEAVOUS.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. Dr. Sumdell, on the completion of 30 years as Vicar of Sedgley.

* First peal.

LLANBRADACH, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 2, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. 0 qrs. 21 lbs.

WILLIAM PIKE Treble	FREDERICK EVANS 5
FRANK BOUCHER 2	JOHN W. JONES 6
GEORGE COOKE 3	SIDNEY DAWE 7
ALBERT ADDICOTT 4	FRANK STEPHENS ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. JONES.

First peal of Triples for the ringers of the treble, 2nd, 4th, 5th and tenor. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of upwards of sixty men of this parish, and especially to Charles Mountstephens and Frederick Harford, ringers of this Tower, all of whom have fallen in the war.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH).

On Saturday, February 2, 1918, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

At St. James' Church, MILNROW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANCES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

EDM. SCHOFIELD Treble	H. DEVONPORT 5
G. STAFF 2	J. GREENWOOD 6
WM. CRABTREE, R.N.A.S. 3	J. H. C. MASSEY 7
PTE. R. MACKRILL 4	H. BUCKLEY Tenor

Conducted by G. STAFF.

Rung as a welcome to Wm. Crabtree, who was home on leave. The ringer of the 3rd bails from Todmorden, and is now stationed at Plymouth, the 4th from Hammersmith, at present in Birch Hill Military Hospital, Diarney, Rochdale, the 5th from Todmorden, the 6th from Accrington, and the rest from Milnrow.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Saturday, February 2, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTAN'S FOUR-PART.

BENJAMIN GOUGH Treble	JAMES GEORGE 5
JOSEPH FAULKNER 2	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 6
WILLIAM R. SMALL 3	WILLIAM FISHER 7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER... 4	*ARTHUR GRAINGER ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. A. Rowley, a much-respected member of the local band.

* First peal.

AN APPEAL.

A fund has been opened at Ipswich for the benefit of Mr. Daniel Prentice, who, owing to indifferent health, has had to relinquish work for some time past, and whose present circumstances are such that the many ringers who have known Mr. Prentice through his association with St. Mary-le-Tower Church can lend a helping hand at an opportune time. In former years Mr. Prentice took a prominent part in ringing in Suffolk, and was an able conductor, as well as ringer. Donations forwarded to Mr. William Motts, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich, will be gratefully acknowledged.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the North and East District was held, as in former years, on Saturday last, at Southgate. A capital attendance of members and friends made good use of the bells, when touches comprising of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Superlative Surprise and Double Norwich Major were rung. Service was held in the church at 6 p.m., and took the form of evensong and war intercession, after which all adjourned to the Cherry Tree, where a rationed tea was provided, "Nuttie" and "Billy" doing justice to the jam.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by the President, Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O., supported by Mr. F. A. Milne, vice-president. The meeting learned with deep regret of the death of three members, Pte. L. G. Hicks, of St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton; Lieut. C. J. W. Alderton, of St. James', Clerkenwell; and Mr. W. Childs, of Barnet. Votes of condolence were passed with their relatives.

The Hon. Secretary gave a short account of the district doings for the year, stating that six meetings were held, and were well attended, 22 new members were elected, while death claimed no fewer than eight, several of whom leave behind memories revered by all. Three fell on the battlefield. Some towers have been further depleted, and the war roll lengthened. Four members had accomplished noteworthy achievements, Mr. J. George on passing 600 peals, and Mr. E. Barnett, son-in-law, 500. Mr. J. E. Miller, of Southgate, completing 25 peals as a ringer there, and Mr. W. Pyle on raising £66 for the widow of the late Mr. A. Grimes.

The balance sheet presented was satisfactory, showing about £1 advance on previous years service.—One new member was elected.

Several suggestions were made for the place of the next meeting, and it was eventually left to the hon. secretary to make the best arrangements possible.

On the proposition of the president, the district officers were re-elected en bloc.

The meeting expressed their gratitude to the Vicar (the Rev. C. F. Peplow) for again allowing them to visit Southgate wishing him a complete and speedy recovery from his present illness; and to Mr. J. E. Miller for making the necessary arrangements.

The handbells were then brought into use, and so finished a pleasant gathering.

The hon. secretary (Sapper C. T. Coles) sent his best wishes to the meeting, and to all members of the Association.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

MEMORIAL SERVICE TO FALLEN RINGERS.

The annual meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held at Stinchcombe on Saturday week, members attending from most of the towers in the district. By the kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. Dr. Reynell Reynell) muffled ringing took place during the afternoon and evening, and the Rector conducted a special memorial service for members of the Branch, who had been killed during the war, with prayers for those who are now serving their country in the army and navy. The very appropriate address of the Rector, and the able services of Mr. James H. Fussell at the organ, made the service most suitable to the occasion.

Tea was provided in the Schoolroom, followed by the business meeting, which was presided over by the Rector, who said it was through the co-operative system of the Stinchcombe ringers that they were able to provide a tea, as under the present war conditions he was unable to offer the members hospitality at the Rectory as he had done on previous occasions.

The Hon. Secretary read a report of the year's work, and presented the balance sheet, which was passed as most satisfactory. The receipts were £4; working expenses of the branch, £1 14s. 3d., leaving a balance of £2 5s. 9d. to be sent to the hon. treasurer.

Mr. H. W. Fussell was elected chairman of the branch; Mr. G. Sheppard, vice-chairman; Mr. W. A. Lewis was re-appointed as hon. branch secretary; and Mr. A. Burcombe elected representative on the management committee.

Wickwar was proposed as the next place of meeting, on the first Saturday after Easter.

Mr. F. K. Howell proposed a vote of condolence with Mr. Walter Woodward in the loss of another son, this being the second son Mr. Woodward has lost in the war, both of whom were members of the Association.—The motion was carried by the members standing in silence.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the Rector, the Stinchcombe ringers, and the ladies, for their kindness that afternoon, and needless to say this was carried with enthusiasm.

CORRECTION.

The peal rung at Deritend, Birmingham, and published in our last issue, was the first peal of Grandsire by A. E. Norman, and not his first peal, as he has previously rung two peals of Stedman.

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Established
A.D. 1570.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
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For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

WHAT OUR "LEADING LIGHTS" ARE DOING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—“Campano” is correct in his statement that our “leading lights” are not in the limelight to the extent that they were in pre-war times, but he forgets, or does not appear to know, that they are engaged to the utmost extent of their capacity. One-half are certainly either in khaki or on work which demands of them a greater toll of hours, and the other half have not got the opportunity to appear in the limelight because the limelight of ringing is not on top just now. We were asked to darken our lights as to ringing at the commencement of the war, and our leaders have loyally adhered to that stipulation, but they have by no means slackened their efforts on behalf of the art, but have redoubled their ardour and concentrated their efforts on the very limited opportunities that occur to them of demonstrating their love for and interest in the cause. In London and district, the limelight, as far as peal ringing is concerned, is off, but the leading lights are more in evidence than ever before at official and social meetings, and that in spite of the great call on their “spare” time. War work overtime and the necessity of producing food, limit their opportunities more than ever but the “lights” still shine with the old pre-war lustre, and each and every expert has in his own particular way earned a halo for his ungrudging help in keeping the flag flying over our citadel.

I have exceptional opportunities of seeing the condition of ringing in all parts of the land, and though far from being a “light,” I can only stand amazed at the enormous progress made in three and a half years. One must bear in mind that the field for recruiting is less than ever, probably over 50 per cent., but I am sure that the quantity of beginners is as great as, if not greater than, ever before. As to peal ringing, the amount of labour required to arrange a peal is many times greater than before the war. We have to contend with limited train service, increase of fares, inability to obtain a meal after ringing, and distance to be covered by those who turn up, as very few towers have a complete band left. But even after all these adverse conditions are taken into account, we still get some peals in our paper, and the name of one “light” or another appears with fair regularity. When we remember that our “lights” have not always received the encouragement they deserve from the rank and file, and that they have been often subjected to the worst of criticism through the columns of your and other papers by correspondents who don't know where criticism ends and vituperation begins, I think it is wonderful how well our “lights” keep on striving to help forward: not the individual, but the art they love so well. When this war is gone down to history we shall sit and wonder and devise schemes for honouring those whom we call our “lights,” who have worked so silently and uncomplainingly and yet so well, not for their own selfish vainglory as some would have us believe, but for the furtherance of the art and the helping of beginners.—I am, Sir, yours very truly,

ONCE A BEGINNER.

DEATH OF MR. D. C. FARTHING.

CHESTERFIELD'S OLDEST RINGER.

It is with regret we have to record the death of Chesterfield's oldest bell ringer, in the person of Mr. David Christmas Farthing, who passed away on January 24th, at the age of 71. He had been in failing health for some time, but had been a regular attendant in the belfry up to Christmas, and had also taken part in the ringing. Mr. Farthing was a native of Oakley, Suffolk, and came to Chesterfield at the age of 18. He had been connected with the belfry for nearly 50 years. Although not a great peal ringer, having rung about a dozen peals for the Midland Counties Association, he was always enthusiastic, and for several years had not once been absent from Sunday ringing. He always looked forward to his quarterly peal on his birthday, Christmas Day, which rarely came to grief, and for nearly all the peals that have been rung at Chesterfield in recent years David acted as “official timekeeper.” Any dispute in the belfry as to time was instantly settled by David's “old Turnip.”

He was laid to rest on Sunday, January 27th, in the churchyard of Christ Church, Stonegravels, the first portion of the burial service being taken in the Parish Church by Archdeacon Crosse, and the committal service by the Rev. W. Ducker. His brother ringers acted as bearers, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by Messrs. Hollis, Knights, Thyng and Allwood. The bells of the Parish Church were rung muffled during the day, and on Saturday last a peal of Grandsire Caters, which is recorded elsewhere, was rung to his memory.

A CARSHALTON PEAL BOARD.

A peal board to commemorate Johnson's 17 course peal of Treble Bob (5088), rung in the Oxford variation, has recently been installed in the tower of All Saints. This board is practically the gift of some Leatherhead friends, and the peal was rung under the auspices of the Surrey Association; conducted by A. J. Perkins, of Reddington.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.**SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT CROYDON.**

The annual general meeting of the Surrey Association was held at Croydon on Saturday week, when between 60 and 70 members were present from Ashford, Burstow, Beddington, Cheadle, Croydon (St. John's and St. Peter's), Godstone, Epsom (St. Martin's and Christ Church), Horley, Horsham, Leatherhead, Mitcham (St. Peter's and Christ Church), Streatham (St. Leonard's and Immanuel) and Wimbledon, as well as several visitors.

Touques of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Caters, Treble Ten, with some elementary ringing for junior members, were rung at the Parish Church (8) and St. Peter's (10) during the afternoon. It will be remembered that the latter ring were recast and increased to ten some few years ago by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, and on that occasion the firm emphasised their connection with the Borough by bearing the cost of one of the additional bells.

Shortened evening prayer was conducted at St. Peter's by the Vicar (the Rev. Arthur Reeve), who gave an appropriate address.

Considerable difficulty had been experienced in making any provision for tea, but it had been overcome by the hon. secretary of the Association, Lieut. Cyril Johnston (Grenadier Guards), who, perpetuating the generosity of his late father's firm, invited the members to tea at the works in Whitehorse Road, the newly-erected canteen of these (now) munition works being admirably suited for so large a gathering.

At the business meeting, the chair was occupied by the Rev. Arthur Reeve, who was supported by the Rev. Donald McDonald, Vicar of Christ Church, Mitcham, and the Ringing Master (Mr. J. D. Drewett), of Mitcham (Surrey C.C.). Mrs. A. A. Johnston, Miss Johnston and Miss Carlson honoured the Association by their presence. Letters of apology for absence were read from Canon L. J. White-Thomson, Vicar of Croydon, and the Revs. G. E. C. Hoare (Godstone), R. J. Woodhouse (Merstham), Mr. C. Dean, of Croydon, and Mr. H. Ewins.

THE PAST YEAR.

In spite of a heavily depleted membership roll and correspondingly decreased receipts in subscriptions (service members being excused), the treasurer's account showed a balance in hand of some £35. The Western District (Mr. W. Shepherd, hon. secretary and treasurer) also showed a balance on the right side. In the Southern District (of which Mr. H. Ewins, of Reigate, is hon. secretary), where enlistments have almost depleted the towers, the receipts and payments alike have been nil.

The Ringing Master, in his address, referred to the losses sustained by the Association and its members during the past year in those brave souls who have bled and died in the Titanic struggle for righteousness, and the sympathy he expressed was silently endorsed by those present, amongst whom were many sore hearts. Whilst ringing for Sunday services had been generally maintained throughout the district, the Master added that peal ringing had been impossible from a practical as well as from a sentimental point of view, but he referred to a peal-board, presented by anonymous friends at Leatherhead, and, fixed, with the consent of the Rector, in the tower of All Saints', Carshalton, for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob rung in that tower by the Association in 1913, conducted by Mr. A. J. Perkins. Mr. Drewett expressed, amidst a chorus of applause, the gratitude of the Association to Lieut. Cyril Johnston for his hospitality, and recalled the two previous occasions in 1909 and 1911, when the Surrey ringers had been welcomed and entertained in the bell foundry.

All the old officers were re-elected, including the hon. treasurer, the venerable Vicar of Kingston, who has filled that office since the founding of the Association, some 34 years ago.—Seven new members were elected, four from Christ Church, Mitcham, and one from Streatham, and Messrs. G. M. Kilby (Willesden) and W. H. Hewett (Camberwell) unattached.

It was resolved that the next annual meeting be held (subject to consent) at Kingston, and a suggestion was made that a quarterly meeting should be held at Reigate on Monday in Easter week.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of both the Croydon Churches for the use of the bells; to Mr. Reeve for the service and address, as well as the conduct of the business meeting; to the organist and choir boys of St. Peter's, and to the respective steeple keepers, were unanimously and enthusiastically carried, as was also a special and well-merited eulogium to Mr. J. Beams, of Ewell, for his completion of the 5th volume of the society's illuminated peal records. These handsome and valuable books are deposited in a glass-fronted oak case in the tower entrance of the Croydon Parish Church, and may be inspected on application to the vergers.

A PLEASANT EVENING.

After the business meeting, the members were conducted over the works by Mr. Johnston and some dozen of the pre-war staff, who had at one time been engaged in the manufacture and installation of church bells in the church towers of the country. The ringers saw much to interest them, as it was a few years since they last had visited this birthplace of bells, and it was not easy to recognise in this factory, that had suddenly expanded to four times its original size, and was replete with the latest and most perfect machinery that

America and England can produce, the old bell foundry and clock factory of three-quarter's century standing, that had been well known to them in former days.

At the conclusion of the inspection, a pleasant surprise had been most kindly provided by the host and Miss Johnston in a vocal and instrumental concert, and this unusual, unexpected and most pleasurable termination to the gathering was much appreciated. The artistes who so kindly seconded the efforts of the host and hostesses to make this meeting the most memorable and enjoyable annual gathering were Mrs. Kimber, Miss Cameron, Miss Onslow, Miss Doris Vane, and Messrs. Thurst, Higgetty, Isitt and C. F. Johnston. A course of Grandsire Caters in hand by Messrs. L. Atwater, Kilby, Perkins, Hewett and Clark, and of Stedman Triples by the last-named four, were amongst the items. The night-shift of fuse makers had long started to work the clock round again before "that's all" was called, and, as Mr. Pepys wrote, "so home and to bed," tired out, virtuous, and well content.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**ANNUAL MEETING AT HEADINGLEY.**

In spring-like weather the annual meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Headingley on Saturday week. The official headquarters for the day were the Parochial Institute, Bennett Road, and here the officials met at one o'clock, together with the auditors, who went carefully through the books and vouchers, and finally signed the treasurer's balance sheet as correct.

During the afternoon visitors arrived from many parts of the county, the Eastern, Southern and Western districts being well represented. The bells of St. Michael's and St. Chad's (both peals of eight) were at visitors' pleasure, and were kept going until dusk.

The service, which was choral, was held in St. Michael's Church. The lessons were read by the president (the Rev. C. C. Marshall, M.A.), Vicar of St. Chad's, who also read out the names of members serving with the forces, and conducted the intercession. The address was given by the Vicar of the Parish (the Rev. G. A. Hollis, M.A.), from Acts ix, 11: "And the Lord said unto him, arise and go into the street which is called straight, and inquire in the House of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold he prayeth." He pointed out that the great lesson of Saul's life was to obey the dictates of conscience and to stand up boldly for the right.

Tea was served in the Institute to about 60 visitors, and the Vicar who had to leave early, gave a very hearty welcome to all, and said how pleased he should be to welcome a much larger gathering in happier times at the conclusion of peace.

The annual business meeting followed, with the president in the chair. New members were elected, including the Vicar and the senior churchwarden (Mr. C. F. Letley, M.A.), as well as the curate (the Rev. G. A. Hillier), who was admitted as a ringing member.

The balance sheet, alterations to rules and regulations, and the president's and secretary's reports on the year's work were passed, special mention being made of the fact that the committee were marking this the fourth and most serious year of the war by not printing the annual report.

No nomination having been received for the office of president, it was proposed by Mr. G. Bolland, seconded by Mr. H. Williams, and supported by Mr. F. Willey, that the Rev. C. C. Marshall be re-elected president for the ensuing three years, and this was carried by acclamation.

The President, in acknowledging his re-election, expressed his pleasure at the members continued confidence, and concluded a happy speech by saying that his best services were at the Association's call.

Votes of thanks were passed to both Vicars for the use of the peals of bells, also to the local company for their hospitality, and to the ladies who presided at the tea tables.

The secretary was instructed to write letters of sympathy and hope to two members reported ill, and the president promised to visit another unfortunate local brother.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded a very pleasant meeting.

Many courses and touches were rung on the handbells during the afternoon and evening, and a finish was given to these performances by four members ringing a well-struck course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

THE PEAL AT LLANBRADACH.

The Vicar of Llanbradach was good enough to arrange evening two hours earlier to enable the peal recorded in another column to be rung. The tenor ringer is of the local band, and chiefly owing to his efforts the company at Llanbradach are now practising change ringing. The band includes several ladies who have taken the place of those gone to the war. The ladies are most enthusiastic and heartily congratulated the band at the end of the peal. Opportunity is now taken of thanking them for their kind hospitality in providing tea. Mr. Dawe belongs to Llandaff Cathedral band, Mr. Jones to Newport, the others to Caerphilly.

DEATH OF MR. A. WARD, OF UFFORD.

The death of Mr. A. Ward has taken place at the Lion Hotel, Ufford, near Woodbridge, Suffolk. He was a life member of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, as well as a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and he was always a welcome visitor to St. Mary-le-Tower belfry, where he was much liked for his genial and courteous manner. The deceased, who was 62 years of age, leaves a widow and daughter to mourn their loss.

On the occasion of the funeral, on Saturday week, the members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society rang at the Tower Church various touches of Stedman and Grandsire Cinques, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Ward.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at Bromley (SS. Peter and Paul's) on January 19th, and quite put one in mind of pre-war times, for between forty and fifty ringers put in an appearance. The following towers were represented: Beckenham, Bromley (Parish and St. Luke's), Chislehurst, Crayford, Deptford (St. John's), Erith (St. John's), Eynsford, Hayes, Lewisham, and unattached members from London and Croydon. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and Superlative were rung, a course of London Surprise failing.

At the service, the Association form was used, and a short address was given by the Rev. J. K. Wilson (Vicar). Tea followed in the Parish Hall, kindly provided by the Vicar and churchwardens.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. Seven new members were elected, and Crayford was selected for the next meeting-place on the last Saturday in April.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens, and organist, brought the meeting to a close, the rest of the evening being spent with the handbells.

5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By GEORGE HOLLIS, CHESTERFIELD.

23456789		32456978	2, 3s, 4s
32457968	1-5	4325	9 in 3
4325	9 in 3	2435	9 in 3
2435	9 in 3	4532	8 in 3
4532	8 in 3	3452	9 in 3
3452	9 in 3	5342	9 in 3
5342	9 in 3	62354	8 in 2
42356978	2, 3s, 4s	35264	8 in 3-8
3425	9 in 3	43562	9 in 3-8
2345	9 in 3	The first 24 courses repeated, calling the first course, 1s-8-9, produces—	
3542	8 in 3		
4352	9 in 3	45237968	
5432	9 in 3	65432978	9 in 2
42357968	2, 3s, 4	23465879	2s-3
3425	9 in 3	42365	8 in 3
2345	9 in 3	34265	8 in 3
3542	8 in 3	Contains all the 7-9-6-8's, and the 6-9-7-8's.	
4352	9 in 3		
5432	9 in 3		

Rung at Chesterfield on February 2nd, 1918.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

READING.—At St. Giles' Church, on January 13th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Batten 1, A. Osborne 2, G. Cook 3, N. Cox 4, H. Egby 5, Miss E. Goodship 6, A. Wiggins (conductor) 7, A. Philipps 8. Also 504 in the same method, for evening service: Miss D. Batten 1, A. Osborne 2, G. Goddington 3, N. Cox 4, G. Cook 5, Miss E. Goodship (conductor) 6, H. Egby 7, A. Philipps 8; and on Wednesday, January 23rd, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples: Miss E. Goodship (conductor) 1, G. Boddington 2, A. Wiggins 3, H. Egby 4, N. Cox 5, G. Cook 6, A. Osborne 7, A. Philipps 8.—On January 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Batten 1, G. Boddington 2, H. Egby 3, A. Wiggins (first quarter-peal as conductor) 4, Miss E. Goodship 5, G. Cook 6, A. Osborne 7, A. Philipps 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Jan. 27th, for evening service, 640 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. N. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.—At St. Michael's Church 504 Grandsire Triples was rung on Sunday, January 27th: W. Hibbert (conductor) 1, H. White 2, F. G. Wilson 3, C. T. Hansford 4, J. Ward 5, A. Burgess 6, J. E. Ballard 7, F. J. Paice 8.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on February 21st, and for general business on the 12th and 26th, all at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8 which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's Church, Pendleton, on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting for practice will be held at North Stoneham on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells from 3 p.m. till 9 o'clock. Tea cannot be provided owing to food restrictions.—James W. Elkins, Dist. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Established 1824).—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Ringing will take place as follows: Southwark Cathedral, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m. and 4.15 to 5 p.m.; St. George's, Southwark, 3.30 to 6 p.m. Business meeting, election of officers, etc., will be held at the Southwark Tavern at 6.30 p.m. It is hoped that all members will endeavour to be present.—Ringing friends invited. T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at West Derby on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells ready at 4. Meeting, 6.30.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Christ Church, West Bromwich, on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells (12) at 3. Committee meeting in vestry, 4.45. Short service in church at 5.15, with an address by the Vicar (the Rev. Basil G. Nicholas). Tea if possible (1/-) in the Parish Room at 6. Those intending to be present please notify me by Tuesday, Feb. 12th.—Rev. C. Holroyd Barker, Hon. Treas., 57, Lodge Road, West Bromwich.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Leesfield, Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A meeting for handbell practice, etc., will be held at the King of Denmark, Old Bailey, E.C., on Saturday, Feb. 16th, at 6.30 p.m.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec., *pro tem.*

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The first quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, February 16th, at Henbury. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Secretary, 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual district meeting will be held by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. Dr. Relton) at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Ringing from 3 to 6, followed by short service. Tea will be provided if necessary arrangements can be made. Members please note that all 1917 subscriptions should be paid by the date of the meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's Church, Newent, Glos., on Saturday, 23rd February, 1918. Service in the Church at 4.30. Tea will be provided at the Parish Room by the Rector, the Rev. Canon Connor (if obtainable). Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. till 9.—Joseph Williams, Hon. Sec., Glen Holm, Newent, Glos.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED, Set of 12 or 13 handbells, size 15, with light octave, must be a good peal and in excellent condition.—Apply "Handbells," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

DEATH OF AN OLD SALEHURST RINGER.

The death of Mr. J. C. Peacock, an old Salehurst ringer, and a respected inhabitant of Robertsbridge, took place at Fair Lane, Robertsbridge, on January 25th, after a long and painful illness, patiently borne. Deceased, who was 67 years of age, was by occupation a farm labourer, and worked on the Salehurst Abbey Farm for over 40 years. He joined the Salehurst ringers about 34 years ago, and learnt to ring by the old card system, which was in vogue at Salehurst at that time. On the Salehurst bells being rehung about 12 years ago, change ringing was introduced, and deceased, although not learning the working of an inside bell, blossomed forth into an excellent cover man, and no one could fail to notice the enjoyment he received, when the bells were properly struck to the tune of Grandsire Triples. Deceased had never taken part in a peal, but had stood in several quarter-peals. Owing to his health, however, he had been unable to take part in ringing for several months, his last performance being to ring the tenor to an excellent quarter-peal of Grandsire, with bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Lord Kitchener.

The funeral took place on Monday week, at Salehurst Church, amidst every sign of respect, the Vicar (the Rev. C. E. Ward) officiating. Messrs. L. Franch and W. H. Perry (local ringers), A. Weston and T. Oliver (fellow workmen) acted as bearers. Pte. G. C. Peacock, Tank Corps, deceased's only son, who was home from France on leave on account of his father's illness, was present, with other relatives, and the remains were laid to rest under the shadow of the tower. Several floral tributes were sent.

Owing to the ringers not being able to get a band to ring for the funeral, the bells of St. Mary's Church, Salehurst, were rung, half-muffled, as a token of respect to the deceased for Matins, on Sunday, February 2nd. A well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was brought round in 47 mins., followed by the usual whole pull and stand, the following ringers taking part: J. Goodsell 1, W. Franks 2, W. H. Perry 3, J. Blake 4, T. Booth 5, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 6, W. Hoad 7, S. French 8. Messrs. Franks and Blake hail from Battle and Hawkhurst respectively.

OLDHAM.—On January 27th, for service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): H. Wright 1, J. Cox 2, S. Stott (conductor) 3, A. Waite 4, W. Hodgson 5, S. Butterworth 6, C. Marsland 7, J. Garlick 8.

WINDSOR.—At the Parish Church, on January 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins.: J. Bateman 1, Miss G. Bateman (first quarter with a bob bell) 2, G. T. Leader 3, T. S. Smith 4, A. Mason 5, W. Henley (conductor) 6, W. T. Hooper 7, C. Farr (first-quarter) 8.

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Estimates Furnished to cover every
Expense.

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for Tune or Change-ringing, in Guaranteed
Quality.

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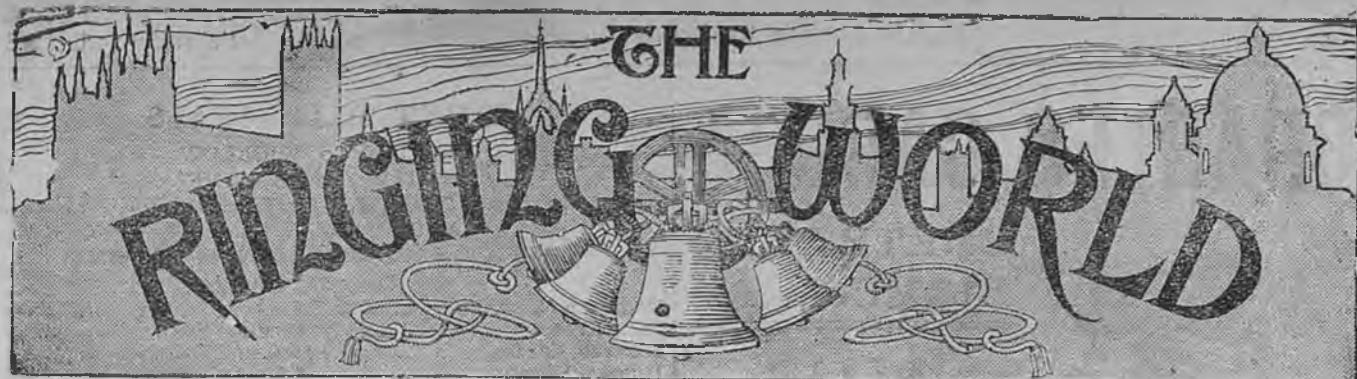
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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.

ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.

Birmingham, whose coat of arms bears the motto "Forward," has many times and in numerous directions set an example to other cities. More than once it has, in the world of our own art, stood out prominently. Just now it is giving us another instance of the practical application of its city motto. A serious defect has developed in the internal structure of the lofty spire of St. Martin's Church, famous throughout the land among ringers for its ring of twelve bells, and the result is that until this flaw is remedied, the peal cannot again be rung, for fear of endangering the tower. Such an occurrence, especially at a time like the present, would, we are afraid, have had but one result in many parishes—the bells would have been allowed to remain idle and the tower to continue defective indefinitely upon some real or fancied difficulty in getting it repaired.

But Birmingham is fortunate in possessing a Vicar who believes in maintaining the fabric of his Church, and who, in this respect, does not put the tower behind the chancel. Moreover, he has much at heart the interests of his very loyal band of ringers, and is ever ready to assist them in performing their share of the church duties. Backed up by equally enthusiastic churchwardens, Canon Willink has, in the present emergency, readily shouldered the burden of a costly task and without any delay—and there could, no doubt, have been found plenty of excuses for putting off the work—has gone forward with the undertaking. It may be a few months before St. Martin's bells are heard ringing again, but their enforced silence will be borne with equanimity by the ringers because of the knowledge that no time is being lost in rendering the spire once more safe.

Unhappily, the energy which is now being shown at the Parish Church of Birmingham is too seldom seen. Usually when the fabric of a tower develops defects the first and only remedy adopted to save the building is to stop the ringing of the bells. A peal may hang idly for years from this cause, whereas the difficulty, unexpected as it is in the majority of cases, and unpleasant as it always must be, could be just as well grappled with at the time it occurs, as at some distant date. Somehow or other, however, the restoration of the defective or dilapidated tower is one of the things which Church authorities often postpone as long as possible, and the courageous methods adopted at St. Martin's are, therefore, warmly to be commended, especially as—and one must not lose sight of this fact—about five years ago the outside of the tower and spire was thoroughly renovated, at very considerable cost.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRED CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.
Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

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CHARLES CARR, LTD.



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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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and Worcester Cathedrals etc. etc

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ARKLOW, Co. WICKLOW.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26th, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
At St. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

REGINALD WOOLLEY ... Treble	ARTHUR HADLEY ... 5
JOHN KEARON ... 2	EDWARD PRICE ... 6
RICHARD KEARON ... 3	RALPH PRESTAGE ... 7
HUBERT HOYLE ... 4	JOHN LEWIS ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR HADLEY.

Rung with the bells muffled as a last token of respect to the late Countess of Carysfort, widow of the late Earl of Carysfort, donor of the church and bells.

First peal on tower bells by the ringers of 2, 3, 6 and Tenor.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 2, 1918, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART No. 2. Tenor 9½ cwt.

JOHN T. SCOTT ... Treble	SERG. R. CARRIER ... 5
CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 2	MAURICE SMITHER ... 6
THOMAS MACK ... 3	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 7
THOMAS ATTWELL ... 4	ARTHUR ASHDOWN ... Tenor

This was J. T. Scott's first peal and first attempt.

Serg. R. Carrier hails from Western Canada. He was elected a member of the Winchester Guild before starting, and it was his first peal in England.

PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, February 2, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qrs. 27 lbs.

GEORGE F. SWANN ... Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 5
THOMAS MILLER ... 2	A. PADDON SMITH ... 6
FREDERICK DICKINS ... 3	CHARLES WILLIAMS ... 7
WILLIAM KENT ... 4	JAMES E. GROVES ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung as a special compliment to Mr. Henry Brown on his completion of fifty years' honourable and faithful service as Sunday School teacher, chorister, bellringer and parish clerk, and whose services have been acknowledged by the presentation to him by the parish of 100 guineas.

BLACKENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, February 9, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

REV. CHAS. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART No. 2. Tenor 10 cwt. in F.

THOMAS SMITH ... Treble	DANIEL JONES ... 5
ARTHUR RODEN ... 2	JOHN BRADNEY ... 6
FREDERICK DARRALL ... 3	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... 7
ANDREW JONES ... 4	EDWARD G. BOWYER ... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Bradney, who kindly entertained the band to tea after the peal. The conductor hails from St. Chad's, Shrewsbury.

A MONMOUTHSHIRE AUGMENTATION.

The tower of Whirenewton, Mon., contains a ring of five bells, and is about to have the present treble recast and a new treble added to make it a ring of six. The donor of the new bell gives it on condition that it shall not be rung until peace is declared. The work is being carried out by Messrs. Meare and Staibank.

OLDSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, February 9, 1918, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH PIGOTT	Trèble	SAMUEL GROVE	5
THOMAS J. SALTER	2	JOHN BASS	6
WILLIAM BIRD	3	WILLIAM SHORT	7
ALBERT E. PARSONS	4	JOHN WOODBERRY	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

This, the annual peal, was rung half-muffled in memory of those members who have fallen in the war.

KILDWICK, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1918, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs. in F.

CHRISTOPHER BROWN	Treble	HERBERT HAIGH	5
ROBERT W. JENNISON	2	FIRTH HOPWOOD	6
ARTHUR E. LAMBERT	3	EDWARD CROWTHER	7
THOMAS BANCROFT	4	ARTHUR HUDSON	Tenor

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD and

Conducted by ARTHUR HUDSON.

This peal was arranged for A. E. Lambert, and was his first peal of Major. Thos. Baneroff's 30th peal of Major.

PENN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Sunday, February 10, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

J. F. PENNING'S FIVE-PART No. 1. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

THOMAS SMITH	Treble	EDWARD G. BOWYER	5
JOHN APSE	2	ARTHUR RODEN	6
JOHN BRADNEY	3	CHARLES R. LILLEY	7
ANDREW JONES	4	DANIEL JONES	Tenor

Composed by J. F. PENNING.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

Mr. Daniel Jones' 70th peal.

PRESENTATION AT BAGSHOT.

27 YEARS CAPTAIN OF A SURREY TOWER.

A meeting was held in the belfry of St. Anne's, Bagshot, on Saturday week, at which the Vicar (the Rev. A. H. Ford, M.A.) presided, for the purpose of presenting Mr. T. J. Gould with a little token of the esteem in which he is held by all the band, and Vicar and churchwardens. He has been a ringer at the church for 33 years, and for 27 years he had acted as captain.

The Vicar, in presenting the gift to Mr. Gould, said how sorry he was that, owing to business, Mr. Gould was obliged to go away from home to work, but he hoped that the war would soon be over so that he could come back and be with them again.

The present consisted of a bell-shaped inkstand, inscribed: "Presented to T. J. Gould for 27 years' service in the belfry, from Vicar, churchwardens and ringers of St. Anne's, Bagshot, January, 1918."

In acknowledging the gift, Mr. Gould thanked the members for their kind feeling towards him, and said he should be pleased to come to the belfry whenever the opportunity afforded.

A 720 Bob Minor was then rung, with 6-8 covering, by: — Pearce 1, J. Corbett 2, H. Gould 3, H. Stapleton 4, T. J. Gould 5, H. Berry 6, F. Nye (conductor) 7, W. Varnndell 8.

On Sunday, February 3rd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 48 mins., by: — Pearce 1, J. Corbett 2, H. Gould 3, H. Stapleton 4, T. J. Gould 5, F. Francis 6, F. Nye (conductor) 7, W. Varnndell 8.

At a meeting, held recently in the belfry, the Vicar presiding, Mr. W. Varnndell was elected captain, in the place of Mr. Gould, and Mr. J. Corbett, secretary and treasurer. Any communications in the future should be addressed to Mr. J. Corbett.

THE PEAL AT MILNROW.

The peal at Milnrow recorded last week was the first in the method by Pte. R. Mackrill, and was arranged for him as an appreciation of the help he had given the local band while staying at the local military hospital.

A RINGER IN PALESTINE.

EXPERIENCES NEAR THE HOLY CITY.

Corporal Alan R. Macdonald, R.E., of Bournemouth, and well known in the Metropolis, writing from "somewhere in Palestine," on January 13th, wishes to be remembered to all his old ringing friends.

He adds: "I have advanced by stages, like the children of Israel into the promised land. We journeyed through the desert, and at last, with the fall of Gaza, reached my present station, which is within a cycle ride of the Holy City. The R.E. have been kept very busy with railway, road and water supply work. I have been chiefly employed on the latter, which, after all, is the most important. Now, after not seeing rain for months on end, we are up to our eyes in mud nearly as bad as Flanders.

"There are always two or three 'Ringing Worlds' for me whenever a mail arrives, and it is a pleasant reminder of the happier days of yore. I think some of the old school would be amazed if they could see the 'Ringing World' right in the wilds of the Holy Land, and in an old Turkish mud house, which is my billet.

"The natives here seem in the same state as when Christ was on earth. Civilisation has not reached them with its comforts and discomforts. Their only pleasure seems what they make themselves, such as feasts and weddings. I attended a feast to celebrate the release of the chief man of the village near us, who had been arrested on account of some trouble some of the inhabitants of his village had given our troops. It consisted of a weird sort of dance to a kind of flute, and the refreshments consisted of small cups of very strong coffee.

IMPROVISED BELLS.

"Needless to say, I have not heard any bells in these parts. At one of our garrison churches on the Suez Canal, where I was stationed, there was a chime made of lengths of railway metal suspended from a wooden frame, but as they were hardly in tune the effect was not very pleasing. They were struck with an iron bar. The Greek Churches in most of the Egyptian towns have generally three bells, which they swing frame high, jangled anyhow, and all together. I am told that when our troops entered Ramleh the bells of the Greek church were rung to welcome them, a compliment our troops much appreciated, our men saying it put them in mind of "Blighty" on a Sunday morning.

"From what I can make out in the 'Ringing World' the ladies are getting so strong in the towers that I have my doubts if mere men will be required again. Still, it is good news to know that the dear old bells are still ringing. It has been very sad to hear of so many of the old faces that have passed away during the last year."

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD DISTRICT.

A meeting of the Guildford District was held at Aldershot, on Saturday, February 2nd, and was attended by ringers from Farnham, Cranleigh, Guildford, and other towers. The service was conducted by an army chaplain, in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar.

The feature of the meeting was undoubtedly the "Ration Tea," so it had been found impossible to provide tea for those attending, so it was decided to hand over the 9d. allowed by the Guild, and let the members ration themselves. Arrangements were kindly made by Mr. J. Mann, of Aldershot, and Mr. Miles, the caretaker of the Church Rooms, for a plentiful supply of crockery and boiling water. The tables were very soon laid out with real sugar and real milk, bread and butter (of assorted colours), and a cake, which made one think what a lucky man the husband of the fair provider must be. As each one brought a little more than was wanted, there was enough and to spare for several unexpected visitors, amongst them being Sergt. Gilbert and his bride.

The business included the election of four Aldershot lady ringers, as full members, all of them being able to ring 120 changes.

The Secretary (Mr. J. J. Jones) reported that he had sent £2 9s. 2d. balance on the year's work to the general secretary. This was the lowest on record, but when he explained that only two hon. members had paid their subscriptions, and that the ordinary members had, therefore, paid practically the whole of the expenses it was felt to be quite satisfactory.

The Ringing Master's report mentioned that three peals had been rung since the last meeting, each of which contained a new ringer's first peal, also the first one by the conductor.

The pretty little peal of six was kept going in various methods till 9 p.m.

NO BUSINESS DONE.

Few members of the Winchester District turned up at their district meeting at North Stoneham on Saturday last. However, with assistance of members of the Curdridge band and the Rev. E. Bankes-James, with two of his pupils, some very good practice was carried out, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major being brought round, in addition to spoofs of rounds for the juveniles, the bells being kept busy from just after 3 p.m. till 7. Owing to the absence of the district officers no official business was transacted.

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

SURREY TOWERS IN LONDON AREA.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I was very interested in your article on the Surrey Association, which appeared in this week's "Ringing World."

The suggestion of your leader that the Surrey Association should cover the whole of the South London towers is splendid, and very practicable. Having lived in South London for the last 24 years, I can assure you that the need for a County Association to link up the towers and promote the art is very great and very urgent.

If it will at all interest those concerned, and especially ringers residing in South London, I ask them to look at the campanological position of South London towers, which I set down below. These are all in Surrey, and, as far as I am aware, are unattached to any society. The position of the towers prior to the war was:—

Rotherhithe, S. Mary (8).—Change ringing.
Bermondsey, S. John's (10).—Out of order.
Bermondsey, S. James' (10).—Out of order.
Southwark, S. Saviour's (12).—Stony.
Southwark, S. George's (8).—Change ringing.
Southwark, Christ Church (8).—Stony.
Waltham, S. Peter's (8).—Out of order.
Newington, Holy Trinity (8).—Out of order.
Camberwell, S. Giles' (10).—No band.
Camberwell, S. George's (8).—Stony.
Kennington, S. John's (8).—Change ringing.
Clapham, S. Mary, R.C. (8).—Stony.
Battersea, S. Mary (8).—Stony.
Lambeth, S. Mary (8).—Stony.
Lambeth, S. John (8).—No band.
Putney, S. Mary (8).—Change ringing.
Dulwich, College Chapel (5).—No band.
Merton, S. Mary (5).—No band.
Wandsworth, All Saints' (8).—Stony.
Mortlake, S. Mary (8).—Stony.
Richmond, S. Mary (8).—Stony.
Barnes, S. Mary (8).—Change ringing.

Of course, since the war, most of these towers have lost many of their members.

The number of towers in this district where "stony" was rung, or never ring, was simply extraordinary. The only places where the art was regularly practised were Vassall Road (Kennington), Southwark (St. George), Barnes, Putney and Rotherhithe. Of course, I am not referring to the towers attached to the Surrey Association.

I am sure there are many good ringers residing in South London who have long seen the need for the County Association to extend its influence over their district, on the same lines as the Kent, Essex and Middlesex Associations do in their parts of London.

A good plan would be for the Surrey Association to visit these towers and get in touch with the local men and incumbents. The question is whether the best time is now or after the war? but I hope that something will be done for South London by the Surrey Association.—Yours truly,
HENRY H. BARNBY.

THE HENRY JOHNSON DINNER.

Intending visitors to the forthcoming Henry Johnson Commemorative Dinner, to be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 16th, will learn with pleasure that the "Guild's Own Rector," as the Birmingham men style Canon Willink, will again take the chair. It is certainly evidence of the Canon's popularity that this is the fifth year in succession that he has been invited to preside at this function, and the fact that he has accepted on each occasion proves beyond all doubt his sincere goodwill towards ringers in general and the St. Martin's Guild in particular.

Unfortunately the bells of St. Martin's will not be available for ringing on March 16th, owing to the fact that an internal fault has developed in the spire which renders it inadvisable to have the bells rung until it has been thoroughly overhauled and repaired.

About five years ago the tower and spire were repainted from top to bottom externally, and our readers will doubtless remember the striking photograph we published at the time, showing the scaffolding erected for the work. The present mischief is, as stated above, in the interior, but with commendable promptitude the Rector and churchwardens have decided to put the work in hand right away, and it is hoped to get the grand old bells swinging again in a few months.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Counter attractions in the locality caused a smaller attendance than usual at a united practice held at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on Saturday afternoon last. The sterner sex only just outnumbered the ladies. Mrs. F. Hairs and the Misses F. Foltham, E. Fuller, E. Jones and D. G. Williams, all of whom rang in touches of Grandine Triples on the tower bells. Stedman Triples was rung on a fine set of handbells (which one of the ringers from Willesden had brought) by members from Camberwell and West, Ealing, one of the ladies, and the owner of the bells.

BISHOP RYDER'S, BIRMINGHAM. INTERESTING UNVEILING CEREMONY.

It is not very often in these troublesome times that one reads of the unveiling of peal tablets, and it is to be expected that there will be quite a glut of such ceremonies when the time comes—and may it come soon—when "Peace Peal Tablets" will be unveiled all over the country.

In these circumstances the exception to the rule is provided, as might be expected, by one yclept "the ubiquitous" James George, one-time "of Rugby," who has caused to be erected in the belfry of the above church, a marbled tablet recording his 600th peal.

The unveiling took place after Evensong, on Sunday, Feb. 3rd, and was performed, in the presence of a large congregation, by the Vicar, the Rev. G. E. Badger, M.A., who also preached an eloquent sermon on the text, "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the Glory of God." Speaking of bells and ringers, the preacher said "the bells conveyed a message to careless and forgetful Christians, making them think of God and duty. Bells must be sound if they are to give pleasure when rung, and our witness to God in life depends on our being sound morally. Ringers had to work together, keep time together, and learn to subordinate their own wills for the good of the whole. They needed to think deeply, there was much to learn, many complex problems to work out. They had never finished learning, but could always make progress, become more efficient, and always gain more experience. Ringers do a good work for God and His Church. They make people think of God, and lift them above the commonplace and sordid. There are few things more important than to make men think of God and the things above." In conclusion, the Vicar said: "May God bless our ringers and make the message of the bells to be heard and heeded. Whatever we do, whether we teach or preach, or ring, let us do all to the Glory of God."

After the service the Vicar proceeded to the belfry, which is open to the church, with a gallery running along the open side. On this gallery some hundreds of the congregation gathered to witness the unveiling, the Vicar explaining that the work had been done free of expense to the church by their esteemed Ringing Master, Mr. James George. He was pleased to know that in Mr. George they had one of the most enthusiastic and one of the ablest exponents of ringing in the country, and under his care the ringing had not only been vastly improved, but a great transformation had been made in the belfry itself. The walls had been match-boarded and painted, the floor covered, the gas brackets renewed, the old tablets cleaned and varnished. For some of this work they were also indebted to the generosity of Councillor Gelling.

After the unveiling, Alderman G. S. Pritchett M.A., Presiding Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, thanked the Vicar for his most inspiring address, stating that he had never heard so eloquent an address on bells before. The belfry was often a place where the clergy seldom entered, and often it was not very inviting, but this one was now a pattern for all. He was pleased to see the progress made by the lady ringers under the able tuition of Mr. George, and recommended the Exercise to all young men and women.

Touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung before and after the service, the ladies also having a turn. Among the ringers present were the veteran Mr. Wm. Rock Small, of Tipton; Messrs. Ben Gough and W. Fisher, of Coseley; T. J. Bratton, Thos. Russam, and W. N. Carrod.

The tablet is a beautiful sample of the work of Messrs. O. C. Hawkes, Ltd., of Birmingham, who have supplied several for St. Martin's belfry, and measures 20in. by 30in. The lettering is incised on marbled, gilt with English gold, and reads as follows:—

St. Martin's Guild.
For the Diocese of Birmingham.
Established 1755.
Bishop Ryder's Church.

On Saturday, August 18th, 1917, in two hours and fifty-six minutes, was rung on these bells by the following members of the Guild:—
A Peal of Stedman Triples (5040 changes).

Sir A. P. Heywood's Transposition of Thurstan's Four-part,
Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

Albert T. Scrivens	..... Treble	A. Paddon Smith	..... 5
Morris J. Morris	..... 2	Thomas Miller	..... 6
Benjamin Gough	..... 3	James George	..... 7
William Fisher	..... 4	John B. Collett	..... Tenor

Conducted by James George.

This Tablet was erected by Mr. James George to commemorate the above, which was the 600th true and complete peal in which he had taken part.

Rev. G. E. Badger, M.A., Vicar. G. F. Harris W. Aldridge, churchwardens.

It is placed in the centre of a framework which has spaces provided for three further tablets of the same size on either side and is indeed a splendid addition to the belfry.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY 'BOB MAJOR.'

New brooms sweep clean, they say, and the inference is that old ones are sometimes not of much use. But down Wokingham way they have had a Broome that has maintained its good reputation for seven and twenty years. Though he grew old—or shall we say merely older—in the service of the Oxford Guild, the Rev. E. E. Broome never grew weary of well-doing, and he has now retired from the office of Sonning Deanery secretary, full of years and honour, and with the regret of all the members at his resignation. Everyone will join in wishing the reverend gentleman many years of improved health to enjoy the associations and friendships which have sprung up during more than a quarter of a century of work among ringers.

That letter the other day, by "Campano," contained a lot of truth, but, like "Once a Beginner," I am just going to put in a word for some of the "leading lights" who, during the dark days have been trying to shed a few rays of sunshine upon gatherings of ringers. In some of the Associations, the "big guns" have been to the fore at the meetings, and have shown their desire to keep in close touch with the members. In and around London at least I know they have done their best to keep our spirits from drooping, and to keep our ringing tails up, so to speak. All the same, "Campano" is right with regard to others who profess and call themselves leaders, for verily have they retired to their dugouts and remained there. Let us hope that they are concocting great schemes for the resuscitation of ringing when the opportunity occurs—and it may occur sooner than some of us think.

From the pursuits of peace to those of war is never a far cry—at least that is what seems to me—but many would be surprised, I think, if they only knew the contribution which our bell foundries have made to munitions of war. From the peaceable work of the manufacture of bells, they have turned with more than redoubled energy into war-time labours and those ringers who were down at Croydon a week or two ago, for the purpose of the annual Surrey meeting, opened their eyes in wonderment at the transformation of the Gillett and Johnston establishment. It has expanded to abnormal size, and what was once the clock department has become the centre of an important industry, of which the Huns are reaping the results.

And talking of munition factories reminds me that a munition friend of mine (not at Croydon) who is, by the way, also a ringer, is wonderfully keen on "doing his bit" in the factory line—if he was younger I am certain he would be in the trenches. Not for worlds would he lose time, and the other day, he tells me, he went to work without a sock to one of his feet. Getting up in the early hours by the light of a candle he had put a sock on one foot, but neither high nor low could he find the other. Rather than be late or wake his good wife, he went off to work for the day with a sockless foot, and he manfully put up with the discomfort. When he reached home in the evening, and related his trouble, his better half quickly produced another pair of coverings for the good man's toes. Then it was he found he had, in the morning, put both socks on one foot.

I have heard it rumoured that there is to be no more ringing at the famous Church of St. Martin, in the Birmingham Bull Ring, for some months. The reason is that the spire has "jacked up," or got tired, or something of that kind. The neighbours living round the Ring will not miss the bells so much now as they might have done before the war, when they pealed without fear or favour, affection or ill-will, as the police court phrase goes, every Tuesday evening and Sunday morning. Even the orators of the Bull Ring used to have to give way on these occasions, for no speaker yet born could hold his own and a crowd against the brazen tongue of St. Martin's twelve. On a Sunday these speakers gather their audiences when the ceasing of the bells denotes the opening of the morning service, but these same audiences melt like snow before the sun with the opening of the public-house an hour and a half later. But these tub thumpers do not concern me. What I am concerned about is the trouble that has developed in St. Martin's spire. However, I hear that repairs have already been taken in hand; in other words, that Canon Willink and his churchwardens have taken the bull by the horns, and are getting on with the job right away. And where, I would ask, is a better place to take the bull by the horns than in the Bull Ring!

Away down the country in an out of the way village lived old Ben, who years ago I knew well. He was the steeple keeper and a good ringer, too. In a rough and ready style he wasn't bad at figures either, and could be trusted to prove a peal as well as call it. But as Ben grew older the belfry stairs seem to grow longer. Every one of those stairs was an old friend of his, and he knew them as well in the dark as in the daylight. On an average old Ben climbed those stairs or part of them four times a week. Three times—twice on Sunday and once on practice night—he went up as far as the ringing chamber, and once a week he went up the second flight to see after the bells. Thought he one day, "if in the top flight there were one-fifth more stairs and in the bottom flight one-quarter less, I should save my old legs a climb of 24 steps a week." My readers can amuse themselves by working out how many stairs there were.

TWO RINGERS LOSE THEIR LIVES IN EXPLOSION.

It is with great regret that we have to record that two of the ringers attached to Barthomley Parish Church, Cheshire, have lost their lives in the terrible disaster which occurred at the "Minnie" Pit, Halmer End, Staffs. on January 12th last. They are John Austin, aged 41, and Harry Eden, aged 23, and both were highly respected in the parish.

Austin's body was recovered on Tuesday, February 5th, but at the time of writing Eden's body is still in the mine.

The funeral of John Austin took place in the quiet and beautiful Churchyard of Barthomley, on Friday last, amid many signs of sorrow and regret. He was carried from his home to his last resting place by his fellow ringers, the service being impressively conducted by the venerable Rector of the parish. The grave had been neatly lined with evergreens by two of his comrades, and the bells were rung deeply muffled before and after the service and again for the services of Sunday last, which were in memory of all who had lost their lives in the explosion, when the offertory, amounting to about £27 was given to the relief fund.

Since the disaster the bells had been silent out of respect for the deceased ringers.

STEPNEY'S TRIPLE LOSS.

DEATH OF MR. J. H. BARRETT.

The local band at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, has been still further depleted by the death of Mr. J. H. Barrett. In November last, Mr. H. Springall, the greatly respected conductor, passed away, followed shortly afterwards by Mr. Alfred Goody, and on January 18th, Mr. Barrett was laid to rest.

On Saturday, January 26th, members representing the Ancient Society of College Youths met at St. Dunstan's Church to ring a muffled peal as a mark of respect to their old colleagues. Probably few of the younger ringers were acquainted with Mr. Barrett, but he was well known and highly respected by the older members, especially those ringing in East London churches. Although never taking an active part in half-pull ringing, Mr. Barrett was the author of many peals, conducted by Mr. Springall. Mr. Barrett was also an authority on the history of St. Dunstan's, where he regularly rang for Divine services for many years.

The whole pull and stand was rung by the following members: E. Horrex, W. Tanner, S. E. Joyce, H. Langdon, J. Scholes, R. Sanders, C. S. Burden, J. Nichols, E. Hall, A. B. Peck. Afterwards two touches of Stedman Caters were rung, with Messrs. E. G. Fenn and T. Langdon standing in.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Wellingborough District was held at Irthlingborough on Saturday week, and was attended by about 26 members and friends. Good use was made of the bells during the afternoon and evening, the methods rung being Grandsire Doubles, Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major.

Tea was served in the Schoolroom, and was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Vicar. Amongst those present were Mr. J. Mills (churchwarden), Mr. F. Wilford (general secretary), Mr. W. Perkins (district secretary), and the towers represented were: Higham Ferrers, Finedon, Earls Barton, Wellingborough, Kettering, Easton Mauditt, Northampton, Ringstead, Thrapston, Burton Latimer, and Irthlingborough.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Earls Barton, and a special meeting at Doddington at the end of April. Three new members were elected from Earls Barton and Easton Mauditt, and a hearty vote of thanks were accorded the Vicar for the use of bells, and also to the ladies who provided tea.

The ringers afterwards adjourned to the Bell Hotel where touches were rung on the handbells.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

LONDON.—On Sunday, Feb. 3rd, at 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, on handbells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): F. G. Symonds 1—2, W. Alps 3—4, A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor) 5—6, T. H. Taffender 7—8. This was the conductor's 66th birthday, and he received the usual congratulations. Touches of Bob Major, Treble Bob and Stedman Triples were also brought round.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, Feb. 3rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Pte. Cecil Greenfield 1, S. Stone 2, Sergt. W. H. Hollman 3, S. W. Corden 4, Sergt. A. B. Corden 5, P. H. Doick 6, A. Greenfield (conductor) 7, F. J. Killick 8, Sergt. W. H. Hollman has recently been awarded the D.C.M., and both he and Sergt. A. B. Corden are now going to an officers' training corps, near Plymouth. They were the recipients of hearty congratulations from their "brother strings" at Pulborough.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Christ Church, West Bromwich, on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells (12) at 3. Committee meeting in vestry, 4.45. Short service in church at 5.15, with an address by the Vicar (the Rev. Basil G. Nicholas). Tea if possible (1/-) in the Parish Room at 6.—Rev. C. Holroyd Barker, Hon. Treas., 57, Lodge Road, West Bromwich.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Leesfield, Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A meeting for handbell practice, etc., will be held at the King of Denmark, Old Bailey, E.C., on Saturday, Feb. 16th, at 6.30 p.m.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec., *pro tem.*

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The first quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, February 16th, at Henbury. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Secretary, 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—A combined practice meeting will be held at Harmondsworth, near West Drayton (six bells) on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells ready 3.15 p.m. Middlesex ringers are asked to kindly help support this meeting.—G. H. Gutteridge, Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on February 21st, and for general business on the 26th, all at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual district meeting will be held by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. Dr. Relton) at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Ringing from 3 to 6, followed by short service. Refreshments (by invitation of the Vicar). Business meeting and handbells at the "London Apprentice." Members please note that all 1917 subscriptions should be paid by the date of the meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's Church, Newent, Glos., on Saturday, 23rd February, 1918. Service in the Church at 4.30. Tea will be provided at the Parish Room by the Rector, the Rev. Canon Connor (if obtainable). Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. till 9.—Joseph Williams, Hon. Sec., Glen Holm, Newent, Glos.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Biddenden on Saturday, Feb.

23rd. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—Ringing practice will be held at Stebbing on Saturday, Feb. 23rd; Sible Hedingham, Saturday, March 9th. Bells from 3.30 until 6 o'clock.—H. F. Cooper, Master; B. Redgwell, Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. George's Church, Bolton, on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY will hold their quarterly meeting on Saturday, Feb. 23rd, at the Parish Church, Ashton. Bells available from 3 o'clock afternoon. Business meeting at 7 o'clock. All ringers invited.—C. Bower, Hon. Sec., 25, Chadwick Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the above Guild will be held at the Parish Church, Clifton, Bristol, on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30. Tea will be arranged *if possible*, but only for those who notify me before Feb. 26th.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 29, Leigh Road South, Clifton, Bristol.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (12) available from 3 to 6.30 p.m. Important business to follow, which will be held in the Wostenholme Hall. A good attendance is desired.—Frank Willey (Vice-President), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

CENTRAL COUNCIL SECRETARY.—The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Hon. Sec. of the Central Council, has removed to Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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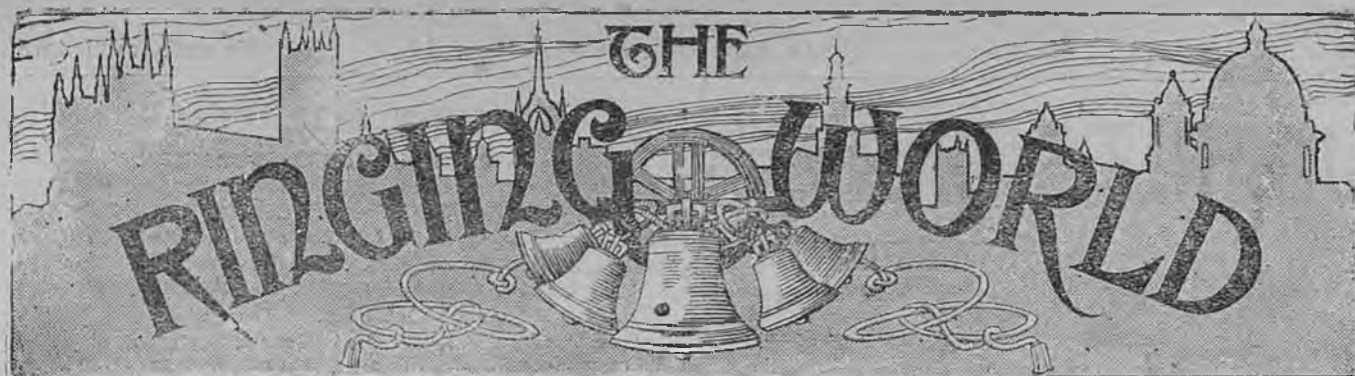
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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, 1918.

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MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON. 4th March 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. RECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

COMPOSERS—AND OTHERS.

How easy it is for the most competent composers to trip is once more exemplified this week by the letter from Mr. J. E. Groves, of Birmingham, who writes to say that one of his own compositions, rung a few weeks ago, is false, and at the same time points out that the figures given in our last issue by Mr. Inglesant are also false. Neither of these gentlemen are novices at peal making, yet they have stumbled. They are not alone in their failure among men who may be classed as experts in this phase of the art. Since composition began probably every composer of pretensions has, sometime or other, found himself in possession of, even if he has not rung or published, a false peal which he had cherished as a perfect production.

Those who are not aware of the many pitfalls that there are in composition are apt to judge a man harshly when he gives the world a peal which eventually turns out to lack complete truth, but they do not realise all the difficulties that confront a composer, and especially he who endeavours to give the Exercise something off the beaten track. The expert composer has a reputation at stake, and, in order to keep that reputation, he will do his utmost to ensure that peals to which his name is attached are true. The tiniest slip, or the least oversight, will upset a composition and reduce it from a meritorious construction to one of uselessness. Men of the kind to whom we are now referring do not waste their time on worthless things if they can, by painstaking effort, obtain something which will be a credit to their name.

There is, however, another class of "composer" with whom we have not the same amount of sympathy. These are they who know practically nothing of the subject, except, perhaps, the way to transpose from one course-end to another. "Proof" is to them either a sealed book or a thing beyond their comprehension, and they depend upon others to examine the truth of their productions, or allow the world at large to have their figures through the papers in order to find out whether they are true or false. These people, of course, are not "composers" in the strict sense of the term, but they are often the most anxious of all to get their peals rung. To strive to master this side of the theory of ringing is a highly commendable ambition, but we must say we think that no man ought to publish any figures until he is able to prove them by his own efforts. The man who can do this is to be forgiven when he makes mistakes; the man who cannot ought to have more self-respect than to try to foist upon the ringing public something which his own limited abilities do not enable him to say whether it is right or wrong. Everyone has got to begin, but those who make the attempt should learn to walk before they run, and the step to take before trying to compose peals is to learn how to prove them.

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CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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Makers to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester, and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, February 12, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ORCHARD Treble	HUBERT SCRIVENS 9
WILLIAM HALE 2	ALBERT WRIGHT 6
L.-CPL. WILLIAM IRELAND 3	FRANK COLE 7
ARTHUR TAYNELL 4	RUPERT SHARPE Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

The peal was arranged for Lance-Cpl. W. Ireland, who was home on leave from France.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, February 13, 1918, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. T. RUSSAM, 114, WATFORD ROAD,
SPARKBROOK.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

A. PADDON SMITH 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES 7-8
THOMAS RUSSAM 3-4	GEORGE E. SWANN 9-10
ALBERT WALKER 5-6	MORRIS J. MORRIS 11-12

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: MR. VICE-PRESIDENT W. KENT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. T. Russam and Mrs. A. Walker.

5040 BOB MAJOR.

By C. V. EBBERSON, A.S.C., BLACKHEATH.

23456	W	M	H	23564	W	M	H
64235	—	—	—	45236	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—	24536	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—	52436	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—	43526	—	—	—
23465	S	—	—	54326	—	—	—
46325	S	—	—	32546	—	—	—
32465	—	—	—	53246	—	—	—
43265	—	—	—	25346	—	—	—
24365	—	—	—	34526	S	—	—
36245	—	—	—	52346	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—	35246	—	—	—
Repeated, omitting				23546	—	—	—
Singles at W, pro-							
ducees 23564.							

Repeat these 12
courses, omitting
bob at M.

5184 DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR.

By G. H. CROSS, NORWICH.

23456	1	4	5	6	Continued	1	4	5	6
32654	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	—	52436	—	—	—	—
63254	—	—	—	—	24536	—	—	—	—
52364	—	—	—	—	45236	—	—	—	—
23564	—	—	—	—	32546	—	—	—	—
32465	—	—	—	—	25436	S	—	—	—
24365	—	—	—	—	54236	—	—	—	—
43265	—	—	—	—	42536	—	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	—	35246	—	—	—	—
25463	—	—	—	—	52346	—	—	—	—
54263	—	—	—	—	43256	—	—	—	—
45362	—	—	—	—	32456	—	—	—	—

Repeated.

Reduced to 5072 by calling 1-4-5 instead of two courses A.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK. — On Boxing Day, at All Saints' Church, Sudbury, Suffolk, 350 of Grandsire Triples: G. Herbert 1, S. Howell 2, M. Silvester 3, W. Perry 4, G. Tatum 5, D. Elliott (conductor) 6, A. Scott 7, W. Cross 8. Rung to oblige D. Elliott, who has gone to live in the district.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Axbridge Deanery Branch was held at Burnham-on-Sea, and was very well attended, members being present from Weston-super-Mare, Winscombe, Weare, Mark, Worle, East Brent, Berrow, Bridgwater, and Huntspill. At the service a very instructive address was given by the Vicar (Preb. P. Hayes-Robinson). Tea was partaken of at the Royal Clarence Hotel, and was followed by the meeting at which Preb. P. Hayes-Robinson was again elected president; the other officers were also re-elected. — Uphill was selected for the next meeting.

The balance sheet and report showed the branch to be in a very satisfactory state, considering so many of its members are serving with the forces.

The Hon. Secretary, in his report, said he hoped members would do their utmost to make 1918 equally, if not more, successful than 1917, by attending the meetings and doing their best in the interests of the Church and the Association.

During the afternoon and evening some good touches were brought round in Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob.

ILCHESTER DEANERY BRANCH.

A meeting was held at Martock, on Saturday last, when there was a good attendance, the following towers being represented: Bridge-water, Yeovil, Tintinhull, Stoke, South Petherton, Langport, Huish Episcopi, Curry Rivel, Muchelney, and Martock. Service was held in the Parish Church, and conducted by the Rev. G. W. Saunders, Vicar of Martock. The Rev. — Warrington, Vicar of Long Load, preached, and urged those present to bear in mind the words of the text, "Do all for the glory of God."

A business meeting followed the tea at the Church House, the President (Preb. Monck) presiding. — The Chairman thanked the preacher for his excellent address, the Vicar for his kindly welcome and the use of the bells, and the organist (Mr. Carey) for presiding at the organ. He congratulated the members on being able to carry on and on holding such a representative meeting in times like the present.

The officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, and thanked for their past services.

New members were elected from Tintinhull (two ladies), Langport, and Huish Episcopi.

Yeovil was selected as the next place of meeting, and the Secretary (Mr. F. Tarrant) read a report of the year's work.

Good use was made of the bells, touches of Grandsire Doubles, Minor and Triples being rung, as well as rounds for the benefit of beginners.

KILLED IN ACTION.

The death has occurred, on active service, of Cuthbert Randall, one of the band at Bisley Church, Glos. The deceased was held in high esteem by his brother ringers, and on Sunday, February 10th, for evening service, eight members of the Stroud and District Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1280 changes), in 50 mins., with the bells deeply muffled: G. Dowdeswell 1, W. Hale 2, Lance-Corpl. W. Ireland 3, F. Cole 4, H. Newman 5, A. Wright (conductor) 6, T. Anslow 7, C. Jordan 8.

JACK THOMAS RINGING AGAIN.

Air-Mechanic John Thomas, so well-known throughout the country from his connection with the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, is able to ring again after his severe accident in France, by which both of his arms were broken by an aeroplane propeller. When the Winchester Guild meeting was held at Aldershot a fortnight ago, Air-Mechanic Thomas, who has recently been transferred to the Cambridge Hospital in the garrison town, was able to attend, and was warmly welcomed by the members. He took part in some Stedman Doubles, ringing the treble with his right arm, while his left was still bound, to his side by surgical bandages.

DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

At St. Mary's Church, Aberavon, on Feb. 14th, a date touch (1918 changes) was rung by: B. Stitch 1, A. Perry 2, W. Nulton 3, C. Frankcom 4, D. Frankcom 5, H. Perry 6, A. Pitman (composer and conductor) 7, J. Wethersby 8. Rung as a compliment to H. Perry, who has been ringing at this tower for over 45 years, and is well over 60 years of age. The wish is expressed that he may have a good many years of ringing yet. The composition is an easy musical touch in six parts: Dobs at 4 2 1 3 1 3 3 1 4 2 1 repeated four times, with single third part end; 6th part: 4 2 1 5 single. Contains 23 6-7's and 4-6's and 7-4's at back stroke.

ACTON.—Recently, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss Edith Jones 1, W. Phillips 2, Staff-Sergt. Verrels 3, C. Edwards 4, E. Newell 5, J. Fruin 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, A. P. Smith 8.

THE RINGERS' QUEUE.

We all deplore the present war,
And hope it soon will end;
Though there's a doubt I'll see it out
If matters do not mend.

Oft it transpire, beside the fire,
I veer the sofa round,
To ponder o'er the days of yore,
Fall into dreams profound.

One night a queue came in review
Outside a church pathway;
And strange to add, no one looked sad,
But bright as flowers in May.

Could sugar, tea, or luxury,
Have drawn this phalanx here?
Filled with caprice, I dodged the police
In three-four-down the rear.

'Twas morning hour, above the tower
The Union Jack flew high,
The bells rang out with clarion shout
As though the King passed by.

"Peace!" all exclaimed, "has been proclaimed,
Long life to old John Bull!
We're longing much a rope to clutch—
Years since we had a pull."

Lor' bless my soul, there stood Jack Moule,
Bill Doran, Harry Long,
Pitstow and Watts, the Brothers Motts,
Bill Judd was going strong.

The Pyes, 'tween which stood Little Tich,
Had new top hats to wear;
Winney and Alps stood on their scalps
When they saw Cockerell there.

Reuben Sanders and Harry Flanders
A well-timed dance upkept,
Went round the queue to all they knew,
Fell on their necks and wept.

We climbed, in pairs, the belfry stairs,
Rang methods tough and rare,
E'en Joe Wagstaff was seen to laugh
To see the ladies there.

The day wore through, and then the queue
Dispersed and quiet reigned;
When I awoke 'twas all a joke,
No peace had been proclaimed.

The friends I saw I've tried to draw,
Goodwill the verse devised;
Heaven bless them all, soon may it fall,
My dream be realised.

G. F. M.

SOUTH WALES LADIES RING DOUBLES.

The ringers of St. Martin's, Caerphilly, and All Saints', Llanbra-dach, paid a visit to Rumney (Mon.), on Saturday, Feb. 16th. On arrival they were met by the local band. The party in all numbered about 25, among whom were nine ladies who could all ring Grandsire Doubles. They took part in several six-scores themselves without the help of the men. Two touches of Minor were rung during the evening, and a well-struck six-score was rung to finish the proceedings, after a good three hours' practice.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, January 27th, at St Lawrence's Church, for service, two courses of Treble Bob Minor: Sergt. Wallace 1, R. Drage 2, J. Harrison 3, Lance-Corpl. H. Green 4, R. Sims 5, J. Bailey 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, with Miss Lily Geeson on the Treble; and 308 Grandsire Triples: Sergt. Wallace 1, R. Sims 2, Pte. N. Widdowson, R.E., 3, J. Harrison 4, R. Heckton 5, Lance-Corpl. H. Green 6, J. Bailey 7, Miss Lily Geeson 8.

BLACKBURN.—On February 17th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, for evening service, at the Parish Church, as a farewell to Sergt. T. Wilson, of the Royal Naval Division, who has been home on leave from the Western front: E. Eastwood 1, W. Briggs 2, E. Duteson 3, J. Woods 4, Sergt. T. Wilson 5, J. Watson 6, W. E. Wilson (conductor) 7, G. Wilson (first quarter-peal) 8.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

"THE FIRST PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE."

AN INTERESTING ANNIVERSARY.

To-morrow (February 23rd) is an interesting anniversary. Beneath the figures of a peal of "5152 Cambridge Surprise," given in "The Clavis," is the following:—

"In the foregoing peal there are as many changes given as possibly can be obtained with the tenors together, which is only 15 courses (it being a more precarious method than Oxford Treble Bob), the rest of the peal, the practitioner may see, is made by putting in two courses with three bobs with the seventh, viz., first called in fourth's place, then into the hunt and then out; which is continued in the first four courses and finishes at 65324. It was rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, on Sunday, February 23rd, 1783, being deemed the greatest performance ever achieved in the campanological art as so intricate a method was never practised by any other set of men whatever; indeed the same people (except one) did ring a peal in this same method and at the same place, on Sunday, January 30th 1780, they being then London Youths; 10 as this was rung with the tenors together it proved false on the new discoveries which happened about this time, and was the cause of their ringing another peal."

It may be added that there were two societies of College Youths at that time.

DEATH OF MR. R. H. HAYWARD.

A WELL-KNOWN SUFFOLK RINGER.

Members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and especially those in the Ipswich district, will learn with great regret of the death of Mr. Robert H. Hayward, which took place at his residence, at Maylesford, on Monday of last week, somewhat suddenly. It will be remembered that some few weeks ago Mr. Hayward met with a serious accident, being thrown from his cart while driving. This accident confined him to his bed for a time, but the last report we had of him was that he was again up and making satisfactory progress.

Mr. Hayward was a very active and enthusiastic member of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and was known to a wide circle of ringers outside his own county of Suffolk. He was a safe ringer on any number of bells up to twelve, and was frequently to be found at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, where his presence was always welcome, and of which society he was a member. He had rung a considerable number of peals, of which about 70 stood to the credit of the Norwich Association, including Cinques and Maximus.

RAISING OF HEAVY BELLS.

SINGLE-HANDED PERFORMANCES

To the Editor.

Sir,—About two years ago there appeared in the "Ringing World" a report of the raising of Southwark tenor (50 cwt.), single-handed, and in looking over back numbers of the "Bell News," I find it recorded in the issue of October 10th, 1885, that the pulling up of St. Paul's tenor generally occupies four, five or six men, sometimes more in hot weather. On Tuesday, October 6th, 1885, however, this feat was accomplished by Mr. Joseph Jones, a private in the Royal Horse Guards (Blue), and a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, in the presence of several well-known ringers and friends. The time occupied was a little over three minutes. This tenor weighs 62 cwt., and that was the first time she has been pulled up by one man alone. I may also say the heaviest bells that I have raised are Canterbury Cathedral, Maidstone, Tenterden, St. Paul's, Bedford, and St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, tenors.—Yours etc.,
PHILIP HODGKIN.
Headcorn, Kent.

A GOLDEN WEDDING CELEBRATION.

Mr. and Mrs. Dawe, of 18, Priory Street, Southover, Lewes, have celebrated their golden wedding, having been married on Feb. 2nd, 1868. Although Mr. Dawe has not himself been a ringer his son, Mr. Robert J. Dawe, has been among the most prominent of Sussex ringers for many years, having been a member of St. Peter's, Brighton, company at the height of their successful period and having served the County Association as divisional hon. secretary, and as one of the representatives on the Central Council. The golden wedding was celebrated by a family gathering on Sunday week and ringing took place at Southover Church in the afternoon, in honour of the event, old ringing friends of the family from Brighton and other neighbouring towers, coming to take part and join in the congratulations. The event also coincided with the 64th birthday of Mr. C. Errey, the enthusiastic secretary of the local band, and he, too, received the congratulations of the assembled ringers.

IN FRANCE.

The many friends of Pte. J. A. Trollope, who is now in France, will be glad to hear that he is well. He sends greetings to ringing friends at home. His address is Pte. J. A. Trollope, 29863, 6th Field York Regt., B.E.F., France.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

A very successful meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford was held at Christ Church, West Bromwich, on Saturday last, when about 30 members (including two lady ringers from Smethwick) assembled from numerous towers. Although the ringing was nothing exceptional, it was up to the average, and touches in various methods were successfully accomplished during the afternoon and evening.

A short service was held in church—the Society's form being used—and in an address the Rev. Basil G. Nicholas (Vicar) explained the meaning of the Blessed Sacrament and its advantages, and pointed out to his hearers the necessity of becoming regular communicants.

Subsequently an adjournment was made to the Parish Room, where a delightful tea was provided—most noteworthy at this time when food queues are "all the go"! But the West Bromwich-ringers seem to possess the happy knack of overcoming such difficulties, and right well did they succeed on this occasion.

On the motion by Mr. W. R. Small, seconded by Mr. J. Bradney, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his interesting and unusual address, and to the ladies for catering and waiting at the tea tables.

After a couple of touches on the handbells a return was made to the belfry, the ringing including a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in which Miss Pigott took a part.

THE OXFORD GUILD.

A united practice meeting was held at Harmondsworth on Saturday last, when 19 ringers attended from Camberwell, Farnham Royal, Fulmer, Hillingdon, Slough, Stoke Poges, Swindon, Windsor, Willesden, Wembley and West Ealing, and included the following enthusiastic ladies: Mrs. F. Hairs, and the Misses G. Bateman, W. Cooper, E. Fuller, A. Gudgeon, and N. G. Williams.—The Vicar (the Rev. W. Bellet Sealy, M.A.) greeted the visitors with a right genial welcome, and the methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Oxford Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and Cambridge Surprise.

During the afternoon there were quite a lot of "firsts"; the Rev. Deacon and Mr. Farr from Windsor rang their first 120 Doubles, and a similar record was set up by Mr. Tasker, of the local band.

The bells were lowered in peal—Mr. W. H. Fussell at the helm—the local men saying it was the first time they had heard the bells run down so perfectly in sequence.

Messrs. F. Lawrence (captain) and H. Tasker made all welcome, the latter proved himself to be an excellent guide in leading the way to the cosy hostelry near by, where twelve of the ringers partook of a "war-time" tea, well served by the good hostess (Mrs. Fowler), who at the close of the meal kindly provided excellent cigarettes for those of the party who indulge in the fragrant weed.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING OF STROUD BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Stroud and District Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Stroud on Saturday week. A capital attendance of 24 members made good use of the bells during the afternoon in various touches of Grandsire Doubles, Triples, and Caters. At the kind invitation of Canon and Mrs. Proctor they went to the Brickrow School, where a rationed tea was provided.

The business meeting followed at which Canon Proctor presided, and the Branch Secretary (Mr. W. Hale) read a report of the year's work. Ten ringing meetings had been held, and had been well attended. Three new members had been elected. There were 80 performing members, of whom 24 were serving their King and country, and two had given their lives. There were five honorary members, and although most of the towns were depleted of ringers many visits had been arranged to ring on any special occasions, and the bells had been kept going. The clergy and churchwardens of the different towers, and the press for publishing the accounts of the meetings, were thanked for their kindness.

The balance sheet was passed as most satisfactory, showing a balance for the treasurer of the association of £3 12s. 2d.

All the officers were re-elected, and the Rev. W. J. Clay, of Bisley was elected President.

Service was held in the Parish Church at 6 p.m., when the Association's form of service and hymns were used. A very appropriate address on the value of unity and associations was given by Canon Proctor.

Mr. James Fussell, one of the ringers, ably presided at the organ. The bells were then again rung till 9 p.m. in various touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples and Bob Major.

Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to Canon and Mrs. Proctor and the Stroud Society for their kindness in making the meeting so pleasant and successful.

KIDDERMINSTER RINGER KILLED IN ACTION

Official news has just been received that William Smith, of Kidderminster, is believed to have been killed in action on the Western Front on or about April 24th, 1917. Since this date his relatives and friends have had no letters from him, and it was feared that something serious had happened. He joined up under the Derby Scheme, in March, 1916, being then 29 years of age.

He was one of the many ringers from Wolverley, who had joined the Kidderminster band, and at the time was only able to ring Grandsire and Plain Bob, but he soon developed into a good ringer and striker, and was able to ring any bell from the treble to tenor in Stedman, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, London, and Bristol. He had rung but very few peals.

Of a genial disposition William Smith was always "merry and bright," which made him quite a favourite with his fellow ringers, and he gained the respect of his mates in his platoon to such an extent that he earned the sobriquet of "father." He expressed a wish to the writer for some London for his "last touch," and a 448 was rung two days before he went away, in which he rang the tenor. The pity of it is, it was his "last," the opportunity never presenting itself for "Will" to ring again.

As a mark of esteem and respect, the bells were half-muffled for evening service on Sunday, February 10th, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung: K. Salter 1, G. Davis 2, N. Davis 3, May 4, T. J. Salter (conductor) 5, W. Short 6, J. Woodberry 7, Bennett 8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The February meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Pendleton, when, considering the wet weather prevailing, a good muster of members attended, and kept the bells going from 3 p.m. till 7. Grandsire, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Stedman, Double Norwich and Superlative were rung. When D.O.R.A. arrived the members adjourned to the gallery for the business meeting, which was presided over by the vice-president, who welcomed over 30 ringers from 15 different towers, including the Rev. A. T. Beeston (New Mills) and Mr. Bibby (Frodsham), besides one or two unattached members.

The next meeting was arranged for Radcliffe, with strict instructions to "bring your own refreshments," on March 9th.

The meeting concluded with the usual vote of thanks to the Vicar, wardens and ringers for doing what they could to make the meeting a success.

ROCHDALE BRANCH MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch was held at Leesfield Parish Church, Oldham, on Saturday last, when about 25 members were present, this being an excellent attendance in view of the fact that so many ringers are away serving their country. Balderstone, Glodwick, Leesfield, Middleton, Milnrow, Newhey, Oldham, Heywood and Ashton were represented. The bells were kept going from three o'clock until seven p.m. in touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major.

Additional interest was given to the meeting by the visit of Mr. W. W. Wolstencroft's party of six lady ringers from St. Peter's Church, Ashton, and he is to be heartily congratulated on the success that has attended his painstaking efforts in training these ladies.

After the ringing the business meeting was held, and it was decided that the next meeting be held at St. Luke's, Heywood, on March 16th (Saturday).

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the tower and bells, also to the local ringers for having everything in readiness.

Mr. S. Taylor (of Balderstone) was elected performing member of the Association.

A FALSE PEAL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I much regret to say that the peal rung at Aston on December 15th last, the figures of which appeared in your issue of December 23th is false; and I tender my humble apology to the band that rang it. It is all the more regrettable because it was specially rung to celebrate the capture of Jerusalem by the British forces.

In my humble endeavour to produce something in Stedman Caters and Cinques more interesting than the old-fashioned "mild and bitter," I have in this instance "slipped wheel" more perhaps through carelessness than anything else.

I have corrected the composition, which I hope at an early date to persuade the same band to ring.—Yours, JAS. E. GROVES.

P.S.—The peal of Stedman Caters in this week's issue by Mr. W. H. Inglesant, is, I am sorry to say, "jewelled" (false).—J. E. G.

HERSHAM, SURREY. — A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, on handbells: F. J. Shepherd 1—2, F. Shepherd 3—4, W. Shepherd (conductor) 5—6, Corpi Loveridge 7—8. Arranged for ringer of 7—8, who was home on leave.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

GLADWICK, OLDHAM.—On January 20th, for morning service, at St. Mark's Church, 560 Bob Major: J. Knight 1, I. Schofield 2, E. Geary 3, F. Crossland 4, J. Lees 5, Pte. J. T. Clegg 6, J. W. Taylor 7, A. Clegg (conductor) 8. For evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: E. Geary 1, E. B. Shaw 2, J. Lees 3, F. Crossland 4, A. Clegg (conductor) 5, I. Schofield 6, J. W. Taylor 7, Pte. J. T. Clegg 8. The ringer of the tenor was home on leave from Italy.

OTLANDS, SURREY.—For morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: F. Shepherd 1, W. Shepherd (conductor) 2, F. J. Shepherd 3, C. Marshall 4, A. Woodrow 5, J. Emery 6, F. Blondell 7, R. J. Polley 8.

PLYMOUTH.—At Charles' Church, for evensong, on January 27th as a compliment to Bombardier E. W. Marsh, who was home on leave from the Italian front, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 50 mins.: A. H. Kentsfield 1, Lance-Corpl. D. Williams (first attempt at Caters) 2, H. Myers 3, W. Hooper 4, W. Richards 5, W. Rumble 6, Pte. A. H. Wynch 7, Pte. W. Malins 8, Bombr. E. W. Marsh (conductor) 9, G. Kerswill 10.

EASTON-IN-GORDANO, SOMERSET.—On Sunday, Feb. 3rd, for evening service, at St. George's Church, 360 Bob Minor: T. Atherton 1, G. Bennett 2, Pte. T. Moore, junr. 3, U. Greenslade 4, A. Tenell 5, J. Caple (conductor) 6. Arranged for T. Moore, home on leave.

SAXMUNDHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, Feb. 3rd, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: G. Greenace 1, W. Drew 2, F. Watling (conductor) 3, N. Bailey 4, H. Phillips 5, G. Hard 6. Also 360 Plain Bob Minor: W. Fleming 1, R. Greenace 2, Norman Bailey 3, G. Greenace 4, C. Button 5, F. Walling (conductor) 6. C. Button hails from Framlingham, the rest from Kelsale, Leiston and Saxmundham.

PENTRE RHONDDA.—The Llundaff Association. — On Sunday, Feb. 3rd, 1918, for evening service, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: H. Page 1, F. Wines 2, F. Lasbury 3, G. Cross 4, W. Page 5, T. Page 6, J. Cross (conductor) 7, W. Roberts (first quarter) 8.—On Monday, Feb. 11th, 336 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: T. Page (conductor) 1, F. Wines 2, F. Lasbury 3, B. Davies 4, T. Hamlin 5, G. Wines 6, W. Page 7, J. Cross 8. And 672 of Cambridge Surprise Major: B. Davies 1, F. Lasbury 2, F. Wines 3, H. Page (conductor) 4, J. Cross 5, G. Wines 6, W. Page 7, T. Page 8. First touch of Cambridge Major by all, and first on the bells.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, Feb. 10, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): A. Thornton 1, E. Dewey 2, G. Paice 3, P. Tyler 4, A. D. Mills 5, J. Rice (conductor) 6, G. Illman 7, W. Vincent 8.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.—On Sunday, Feb. 10th, prior to evening service, at the Parish Church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: P. Everest 1, E. M. Atkins 2, W. C. Lewis 3, A. E. Fount 4, W. T. Wilson 5, G. A. Blaxby (conductor) 6.

WARWICK.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, Feb. 10th, for evensong, 503 Grandsire Caters: J. Rye 1, W. Mole 2, J. Standley 3, J. Ambrose 4, Joe Broadley 5, T. Mole 6, E. Brassington 7, Joe E. Sykes 8, E. H. Adams 9, G. Lapworth 10.

ABBOT'S LEIGH, SOMERSET.—On Sunday, Feb. 10th, 720 Bob Minor: A. Rowsell 1, T. Atherton 2, G. Bennett 3, T. Moore, senr. 4, A. Tenett 5, J. Caple (conductor) 6. A. Tenett belongs to Cumberland Youths. First 720 Bob Minor, by A. Rowsell.

SHIPLAKE, OXON.—On Sunday Feb. 10th, 1918, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: O. H. Porter 1, W. Hübner 2, H. Hatto 3, J. Hands 4, W. Wenman 5, G. Fuller 6, G. Cleave (conductor) 7, A. Sheppard 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the memory of William Cook, for many years a ringer at this church.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday evening, February 10th, for service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: J. Pemberton 1, J. Preston 2, G. F. Swann 3, H. Spencer 4, W. Stringer 5, T. Bicknell 6, W. J. Meers (conductor) 7, Pte. H. S. Ricketts 8. Arranged for Pte. H. S. Ricketts, of All Saints' Helmsley, Yorks, who is at present at Convalescent Camp, Sutton Coldfield.

HORLEY, SURREY.—For evening service, on Feb. 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): F. Voice 1, P. Tyler 2, G. Paice 3, T. Streeter 4, A. Songhurst 5, J. Rice (conductor) 6, G. Illman 7, W. Vincent 8. This quarter, and that at Crawley on the same day were rung to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Pte. H. E. Dewey, R.A.M.C., of Redhill Surrey, who was a promising young ringer.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—A meeting will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on the 26th, at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual district meeting will be held by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. Dr. Relton) at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Ringing from 3 to 6, followed by short service. Refreshments (by invitation of the Vicar). Business meeting and handbells at the "London Apprentice." Members please note that all 1917 subscriptions should be paid by the date of the meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's Church, Newent, Glos., on Saturday, 23rd February, 1918. Service in the Church at 4.30. Tea will be provided at the Parish Room by the Rector, the Rev. Canon Cornor (if obtainable). Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. till 9.—Joseph Williams, Hon. Sec., Glen Holm, Newent, Glos.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Biddenden on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock until sunset—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—Ringing practice will be held at Stebbing on Saturday, Feb. 23rd; Sible Hedingham, Saturday, March 9th. Bells from 3.30 until 6 o'clock.—H. F. Cooper, Master; B. Redgwell, Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. George's Church, Bolton, on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY will hold their quarterly meeting on Saturday, Feb. 23rd, at the Parish Church, Ashton. Bells available from 3 o'clock afternoon. Business meeting at 7 o'clock. All ringers invited.—C. Bower, Hon. Sec., 25, Chadwick Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the above Guild will be held at the Parish Church, Clifton, Bristol, on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30. Tea will be arranged if possible, but only for those who notify me before Feb. 26th.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 29, Leigh Road South, Clifton, Bristol.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this society will be held at Armley on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells will be available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. The business meeting for the nomination of officers for the ensuing year will be held in the White Horse Hotel at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terr., Burley Road, Leeds.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A combined practice meeting will be held at Bletchley on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. till dark.—W. Sear, Secretary, 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (12) available from 3 to 6.30 p.m. Important business to follow, which will be held in the Wostenholme Hall. A good attendance is desired.—Frank Willey (Vice-President), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1755).—The annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 16th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon Willink, Rector of Birmingham. The bells of the Cathedral (10) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 to 5. Dinner tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 3/- each. Owing to the food difficulties it is advisable for all visitors intending to be present to apply for tickets *not later than Tuesday, March 12th*. Remittance should be enclosed with application.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Delegates to the Central Council. Nominations for four representatives should reach me by February 28th, see Rule 13.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec., Cotgrave, Notts.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The meeting of the above proposed for Boughton in February will not take place, as it appears to be inadvisable to hold it.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. Dist. Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

CENTRAL COUNCIL SECRETARY.—The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Hon. Sec. of the Central Council, has removed to Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—Mr. J. Hunt has removed from London to Waterloo Cottage, Wellington Road, Taunton.—Mr. E. M. Atkins has removed to 46, Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park, W.2, and will be glad to help at any tower near in Sunday service ringing.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED, Set of 12 or 13 handbells, size 15, with light octave, must be a good peal and in excellent condition.—Apply "Handbells," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Feb. 17th, for morning service, 720 B5b Minor: T. Watson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. Stuart 5, T. R. Jackson (conductor) 6, J. Burrows 7 (cover).

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, Feb. 17th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: T. Branch 1, R. Whittington 2, Mrs. R. Whittington 3, P. H. Doick 4, J. Branch 5, A. Greenfield 6, J. Cook (conductor) 7, G. Woodman 8. Incidentally it was the birthday anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Whittington's only son, who we are pleased to hear has taken up change ringing very enthusiastically.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 363. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1st, 1918.

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.

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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (83 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEEK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

RINGERS AND RINGING BOOKS.

In another column we respond to the request of a correspondent for information upon one of the technicalities of ringing, and we have answered the inquiry by quoting from one of the Standard text books on the art. It would have been easy to put the reply in different language, but we do not think that anyone could make it clearer by departing from the expressions used, and, therefore, nothing would have been gained. On this particular matter we go as it were to the fountain head of knowledge on the subject, and we think it would be a good practice if ringers would make it a more general rule to obtain and study the various text books that have been provided for their edification.

Some of the elementary treatises on the subject of ringing are, perhaps, fairly generally sought after, but even these might be made more use of than they are. But except for the purpose of learning the primary things connected with campanology the use of text books is by no means fully taken advantage of. Some people there are, of course, who will devour every publication on the subject that they can lay hands on, but many others, when once they have got started upon the road, are content to pick up their knowledge in any odd way. Text books exist which will take a ringer through the whole of the intricacies of ringing if he will but pursue the study in this way, and it is a loss to the art that many more ringers do not endeavour to improve their knowledge by dipping seriously into the works which have been published as the result of so much labour and patient research.

To quote an example, we doubt if one ringer in a hundred has ever set out to make a serious study of Snowdon's "Stedman," which, taken all in all, is one of the most valuable products to be found among ringing literature, yet the interests of the art of ringing could not be better served than by a general knowledge of what is contained in that book. Our point is this, that every ringer ought to seek to improve his knowledge, and the surest way to do this is to found it on the researches of others. The text books, which are at the disposal of ringers, especially in the Snowdon series, are the essence of more than two centuries of labour, and yet the proportion of ringers who really make a progressive study of them is really minute. It is strange, but it is nevertheless true. It is, however, within the power of ringers to change this state of things, and with the revival of ringing, which is waiting to come with peace, we hope there will spring up a greater desire for the knowledge that is to be gained by a study of the text books that relate to the art.

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Dear Sirs,

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE OLD CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

*MISS OLIVE PARR Treble	MISS KATE PIGOTT 5
JOSEPH PIGOTT 2	JOHN BAE 6
*MISS LILIAN HOLBROOK ... 3	ALBERT E. PARSONS ... 7
MISS SARAH PIGOTT 4	*WILFRED FARROW Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH PIGOTT.

* First peal.

SIX BELL PEAL.

CAPPULL, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1918, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 16½ cwt. in E.

FRED RIGBY Treble	JAMES HOPWOOD 4
TOM LINTHOUZE 2	JAMES GROUNDS 5
JOHN BOOTH 3	JOHN H. GARTSIDE Tenor

Conducted by FRED RIGBY.

First peal on the bells and first peal of Minor by all the band. The ringers of the treble, 2nd, 4th and tenor hail from Chorley, and the 3rd and 5th from Standish.

Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. James Darlington, of Lutterworth, Leicestershire, one of the donors of the church, and also to the late Mr. John Ollerton, one of the wardens of the church.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1918, in One Hour and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. HEAD, CHURCH ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's each called differently.

ARTHUR SYMONDS 1-2	WALTER HEAD 4
STANLEY SMITH 3	STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 5-6

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung to oblige Mr. W. Head, who had a wish to ring a peal of Minor in his own parish, there being only five bells in the tower.

A FIVE-PART PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

BY A. J. PITMAN, PORT TALBOT.

234567		Continued	
672453	2	238574	1
346572	1	742853	2
723654	2	367542	1
487523	1	673542	4
674523	4	258473	1
426735	3	* 672534	3
264735	4	346257	2
432657	3	723546	1
254378	3	237546	4
632754	1	S 642753	2
738425	5	* 376542	1
437562	5	253476	1
254837	1	S 462753	1
652743	5	374562	1
438275	2	623457	2
674352	3		

* These bells may be omitted.

THE LATE MR. R. H. HAYWARD. ONE OF SUFFOLK'S WORTHIES.

Mr. Robert Henry Hayward, whose death we recorded last week, was senior partner in the firm of Messrs. Gooderham and Hayward, merchants, of Marlesford, Suffolk. Early in December he was thrown from his conveyance, and sustained a broken arm and severe facial injuries. He was, however, progressing towards recovery, and the sudden illness, which terminated two hours later in his death, on the night of Monday, February 11th, came as a great surprise and a severe blow to the locality, where he was so well known and esteemed.

The late Mr. Hayward was an ardent bell ringer, sparing neither pains nor expense in the pursuit of this fascinating art. He was a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and an honorary member of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, as well as being a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. He not infrequently made special journeys to St. Paul's Cathedral to take part in ringing with his fellow members of the College Youths.

Mr. Hayward took part in a great variety of peals on all numbers of bells up to 12. He visited the metropolis on Queen Alexandra's birthday (December 1st, 1917), and rang some Stedman Caters at the Imperial Institute with the College Youths, and on the following Sunday he rang at Marlesford Church. This was the last ringing that he took part in before the accident. His first peal was one of Bob Major, at Framlingham, on Saturday, January 17th, 1880. After that he rang the following: In 1888 one handbell peal; 1893, three peals; 1895, one peal; 1902, one peal; 1904, one peal; 1907, one peal; 1909, three peals; 1910, eleven peals; 1911, four peals; 1912, eleven peals; 1913, 22 peals; 1914, ten peals. He also rang peals in London, and a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal at Manchester Cathedral with the members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, who one and all deeply deplore his death. Mr. Hayward was frequently able to take part in ringing at Ipswich, as he used to travel by an early train from Norwich, where he regularly attended the Corn Market to Ipswich to join in the ringing at St. Mary-le-Tower on Saturdays.

A number of ringers attended the funeral at Marlesford on Friday, February 15th, Mr. W. Motts representing the Ipswich band. As a last mark of respect the bells of St. Mary-le-Tower were rung with half-muffled clappers on Saturday week (by kind permission of Canon Douglas Hamilton), touches of Grandsire Caters being brought round.

On Sunday, February 17th, the bells of St. Michael's Church, Framlingham, were half-muffled for both Matins and Evensong, as a token of esteem to the late Mr. Hayward, who was interred at Marlesford, Suffolk on Friday, 15th inst. The following took part: W. Ostler, William H. Eastaugh, Stanley J. Maulden, Alan Mann, Walter Moore, Victor E. Kerridge, David Reeve, Sidney Moore, Cecil Neeling, George E. Symonds (conductor). As mentioned above, Mr. Hayward rang his first peal at the above church, January 17th, 1880.

A LANCASHIRE RAMBLE.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE RINGERS' OUTING.

Another of the very successful "rambles," arranged by members of the St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Society, took place on Saturday week, when Leesfield was visited. Meeting at "Bottom-o'-Penny Meadow," at two o'clock, the party went by car to Hurst Cross, and then wended their way along the ridge of hills, from which they overlooked the country for miles around, with the famous "Hartshead Pike" (erected to commemorate the marriage of the late King Edward) standing out as a prominent landmark. Reaching Leesfield at 3.30, the visitors were met by Mr. Ted Shaw, who had made arrangements for their comfort, and also Mr. and Mrs. John Harrison, of Heywood, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Renshaw. There was lively chatter and many stories told over the teacups, and afterwards Mr. W. W. Wolstencroft, on behalf of St. Peter's company, spoke appreciatively of the manner in which Mr. and Mrs. Shaw had endeavoured to add to the party's comfort and pleasure.—Mr. Shaw, in responding, said it was a pleasure to welcome old and new friends, including the St. Peter's lady ringers. The company having joined heartily in the song, "When the bells of peace are ringing," made their way to the church tower, where they scored a 504 Grandsire, with: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, J. Bayley 2, E. Shaw 3, J. H. Taylor 4, Miss Sarah Holt 5, Samuel Stott 6, W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Lees 8, Miss Ethel Grimshaw, Miss Doris Ogden, Miss Williams and the veteran, Mr. J. Harrison, also rang in shorter touches.

It was originally proposed to go by way of Oldham on the return journey, in order to get a glimpse of the Tank which had been doing such wonders during the week, but tempted by the beautiful moonlight the party resolved to make the return by Lees Road, and never did time pass so quickly. Arriving at Hurst Cross, the rambblers partook of light supper at a restaurant, which was very acceptable after such a pleasant and perfect day. On Sunday they were in their usual places at the ropes, when 168 Grandsire Triples was rung by Miss Wolstencroft 1, Miss E. Grimshaw 2, Miss Doris Ogden 3, Mr. J. W. Holme 4, Miss S. Holt (conductor) 5, R. Wimpenny 6, W. W. Wolstencroft 7, John Harrison 8. This was the first touch ever conducted by a lady in Ashton-under-Lyne.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the London County Association was held at St. Saviour's and St. George's, Southwark, when a large number of members were present, representing Harrow, West Ham, Mitcham, Wendover, Sunbury, Bromley, Chelsea, Putney, Croydon, Slough, Holborn, East Ham, Hammersmith, Shepherd's Bush, Marylebone, Hershams, Brockley, Tufnel Park, Hackney, Southfields, Islington, Edmonton, Willesden, Kensington, Holloway, Deptford, Camberwell, Bishopsgate and Leytonstone. Touches of Stedman Cinques were successfully accomplished on the Cathedral twelve, and as the time for ringing there was limited, a move was then made for St. George's, where this handy ring of eight were kept going until 6 p.m. Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Superlative and London Surprise Major were the methods indulged in. By reason of an unforeseen incident the room previously booked for the business meeting could not be obtained, but the difficulty was overcome by arrangements being made with nine host of the King's Head hard by.

The Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender) occupied the chair, and the following were elected members: Mr. C. P. Pinhorn, Newport, I.O.W., and Mr. A. W. Darlington, of Fulham.

The balance sheet which showed an increase of £2 ls. on the year's working was presented and adopted.

The Secretary's report showed that seventeen new members had been elected, two peals rung, both at St. George's, Southwark, and conducted by Mr. T. H. Taffender, one being Superlative Surprise Major, the first Surprise peal on the bells, the other Stedman Triples. Monthly meetings had been held during the year, and were invariably well attended, and good practice obtained.

On the proposition of Mr. G. Fardon, seconded by Mr. A. E. Young, the whole of the officers were again elected, viz.: Mr. T. H. Taffender, Master; Mr. T. Walker, hon. secretary; Mr. W. G. Matthews, treasurer; Mr. E. A. Reeve, senior steward; Mr. H. Dyas, junior steward; Messrs. Taffender and R. A. Daniell, trustees.

It was also decided that Messrs. Young and Taffender retain the position of representatives on the Central Council for the ensuing three years.

It was also decided that the monthly meetings should continue to be held on the second Saturday in each month until further notice, particulars of which will appear in the "Ringing World" as usual.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the authorities of St. Saviour's and St. George's for their permission to ring; also to Messrs. Mash and Woodage, steeplekeepers, respectively, for having everything in readiness. This brought a very enjoyable and successful afternoon and evening to a close.

LLANDAFF ASSOCIATION.

A few members of the Llandaff Association made the first of a series of visits to the towers in their diocese on a recent Sunday evening, when they went to Rumney, near Cardiff. The Master (Mr. W. Bolton) made the acquaintance of a happy band of bell ringers, all ladies who, by-the-bye, were the first lady six-bell band in the diocese. A very hearty welcome was extended, and the visitors noticed the splendid progress these ladies had made in the short space of ten months since they began to handle a bell. The visit was brought to a close by six ladies bringing round successfully 120 of Grandsire Doubles.—On February 24th, a visit was paid to St. Mellons', where touches of Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob were rung also for evening service. The members were: Wm. Bolton (St. John's, Cardiff), Sidney Dawe, Allen Rowley, Tom Woods and Wm. Biss, all of Llandaff Cathedral, and Joe Bailey and T. Wright, of Whitchurch.

It is hoped to pay these visits to as many towers as possible, especially to those whose numbers have been depleted through war reasons. Any tower requiring assistance will have all possible help given by writing the Master or Secretary of the Association.

RAISING OF HEAVY BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the letter last week, as to the raising of the tenor at St. Paul's Cathedral, on Tuesday, Oct. 6th, 1885, by Mr. Joseph Jones, I should like to inform Mr. Hodgkin that this was not a single-handed feat. It is known by several of your readers that Mr. Jones was assisted by two men up on the bell frames, who, seeing he could not get the bell above frame-high, helped him by the wheel.—Yours truly,

A. B. PECK.

AN INQUIRY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should like to know if any lad of 15 years of age or under has rung a pair of handbells to a peal in the Ely Diocesan Association; if so, when and where, and by whom was it rung?—Yours faithfully,

Lavenham.

A. SYMONDS.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry
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A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

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LONDON, E.



Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

CALLING BELLS ROUND.

WHAT TO DO IN GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

"Anon" requests us to give the rules for calling bells round in Grandsire Triples. In complying with the request, we do not think we can do better than quote what is said in Snowdon's "Grandsire" on this subject, and we would advise "Anon" if he has not already got a copy of this publication to obtain one, for it will tell him all he needs to know about the method from A to Z. Here, then, are the rules laid down by one of the greatest authorities on the subject, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies:—

If neither the 6 nor 7 be in the hunt call one of them in (either by bob or single) at the first opportunity. If this be the 6, call her out the lead after the 7 makes third's place; if 7, call 6 before, and then let the bells run one lead further without a call. This process brings 6, 7 together, and produces a lead of the form 006070. The next step is to bring 5 home. Now there are only four positions that 5 can occupy, of which one is right:—

I.—If she be seen coming down after 7 she is in her proper place.

II.—If she be seen coming down before the treble call her before at once.

III.—If she be seen coming down after the bell in the hunt, call 6 and 7 before.

IV.—If she be in the hunt, call 7 before with a double. The following figures will render the foregoing rules quite clear:—

I	II	III	IV
006075	006570	056070	506070
Here she is right	050708 1	560070 4 075600 3	657000 3 006075 1

After any of the above the bells may be in the plain course. If not, the next call must be a 567, that is the lead after 6 makes third's place. This call may be a bob or single, according to circumstances. If 3 leaves the hunt, 4 must be brought in. If 2 leaves the hunt, 3 must be brought in. One of the following, namely, 234567, 342567, 423567 will thus be produced. The first is round. From the second, by calling 7 in and out, and from the last by calling another 567 rounds are produced in four leads.

Before commencing to call the bells round, according to the foregoing rules, it will be always well for the conductor to ascertain whether 7, 6, 4, are coursing one another in that order. If so, the bells may then be conveniently called round at hand, for in this case 7, 6, 4, will fall together behind thus, 000476. From this position the row 325476 must be produced by treating 3, 2, 5 in a manner similar to that in which 2, 3, 4, are treated above, one exception being, however, carefully borne in mind, namely, that bells cannot be brought home at a single.

We might add to this that "Anon" will find that only practice will make these rules easy of application. A keen eyesight is needed, but the conductor who is possessed of this, and can readily read a coursing order, can often see a short cut to rounds without going through the whole of the operations outlined above. For instance, a lead end which produces 1506007, will enable 567 to be brought together in proper order by simply calling the 7 before.

OXFORD GUILD MEMBERS KILLED.

The following are among the ringers whose deaths have been recently notified. They are all members of the Oxford Guild, and have fallen in action:—

Edmund Saunders, (foreman of the tower) and Victor Dark, of Bray.

J. Burley (son of the foreman of the tower), of Wraysbury.

W. Cooper (son of an old member) and K. Hawkins, of Fulmer.

C. West (son of the foreman of the tower), of Woodburn.

Sergts. W. Bailey and L. Rolfe, of Beaconsfield.

BISHOP RYDER'S, BIRMINGHAM.

The annual meeting of the Bishop Ryder's Church Society was held in the belfry on Thursday week, the Vicar (the Rev. G. E. Badger, M.A.) presiding. The following officers were re-elected: President, Rev. G. E. Badger, M.A.; Ringing Master, Mr. James George; hon. secretary, Mr. W. H. Carrod.—The Vicar spoke in the highest terms of the patience and time the Ringing Master had given in the training of a band of lady ringers, and the Ringing Master congratulated the ladies on the progress they had made. They had, most of them, he said, accomplished Stedman Doubles on handbells, and he hoped shortly to get on with Triples. There were among the beginners six ladies and one lad.

THE "DANIEL PRENTICE" FUND.

The following have kindly subscribed to the above appeal: Ancient Society of College Youths, per Mr. William T. Cockerill, honorary secretary, £1 10s.; St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, per Mr. William Motts, £1 1s.; Eye Society, per Mr. Ernest F. Poppy, 11s.; Mr. William J. Nevard, Great Bentley, 5s.; Mr. John Flint, Bolsover, 2s. 6d. Further contributions should be sent to Mr. William Motts, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.

IRISH TOWERS AND RINGERS.

BY C. MURRAY.

BRAY AND ARKLOW, CO. WICKLOW.

This seaside resort, situated about twelve miles south of Dublin, possesses with the Parish Church a pleasing ring of bells by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough. They were dedicated on the 10th February, 1881. The tenor weighs 28 cwt., and is slightly over four feet in diameter. Its note is D.

The following are the inscriptions:—

1. Te Deum Laudamus.
(We praise Thee, O God.)
2. Benedicite omnia Opera Domini Domino.
(O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord.)
3. Jubilate Deo omnis Terra.
(O be joyful in God, all ye lands.)
4. Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel.
(Blessed be the Lord God of Israel.)
5. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.
(Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.)
6. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
7. Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus.
(Holy, Holy, Holy.)
8. Gloria in Excelsis Deo.
(Glory to God on high.)

The cost of the bells was over £1,000. Among other generous donations a contribution of £50 was given by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

Touches of Grandsire Caters were rung on the day of the dedication of the bells by the Waterford Cathedral change ringers, who were at that time the only change ringers in Ireland. The late Mr. R. S. Blee was the conductor. Other ringers were Messrs. R. R. and J. B. Cherry, and the late Dr. Mackesy.

The bells are rung for morning and evening service on Sundays, and on other special occasions. Practices are usually held on Thursday evenings, but they have been suspended during the war. The bells are fitted with Ellacombe's chiming apparatus; they were formerly fitted with Seage's silent practice apparatus.

Call changes are generally used, though the writer remembers being in the tower when Plain Bob was rung by a local band.

The first peal of Superlative rung out of Great Britain was rung on the bells during a St. Martin's Guild (Birmingham) tour in Ireland, and the following other peals have been rung by visitors: Bob Triples 2, Stedman Triples 2, Grandsire Triples 1, Cambridge Major 1.

HISTORY OF ARKLOW'S BELLS.

The little town of Arklow is situated about 56 miles south of Dublin. Formerly fishing was the principal industry, but in recent years Messrs. Kynoch's have given employment in their cordite factory to a large number of people. The contemplated closing of this factory has brought the town into public notice recently.

In 1889, as the old Parish Church had fallen into disrepair, a new church was dedicated. This church had been built by the generosity of the late Earl of Carysfort, K.P. The peal of bells was given by him.

The tower, unlike those of many parish churches, was built with the object of holding bells, and the steeple contains numerous openings, which allow the sound to escape upwards, thus avoiding the noise so often complained of by those who live in the neighbourhood of a church provided with a ring of bells.

The church is situated in a lofty spot, surrounded by open country, and the bells can be heard at great distances.

The first peal on the bells was rung on Sunday, August 13th, 1889. It was a peal of Double Norwich Major, conducted by John W. Taylor, and rung by the band of Loughborough Parish Church. It was the first peal in the method rung in Ireland.

Great enthusiasm for change ringing existed while Mr. J. W. Washbrook was in charge of the bells. Peals were plentiful. In one of these, a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples, in memory of President McKinley, Mr. Washbrook, who conducted, rang the 3rd and 4th. The report of this peal was not accepted by the editor of "Bell News," and in consequence, another peal was rung, when Mr. Washbrook repeated his previous performance. This time, however three experienced ringers, Messrs. S. Lindoff, W. H. Barber and J. W. Townley, took part in the peal, and testified to the accuracy of the report and the quality of the ringing. The previous peal was then admitted by the editor of "Bell News."

For some time after Mr. Washbrook's departure, there was a falling off in ringing, but now much useful work is being done under the guidance of Mr. A. Hadley.

The bells are of about the same weight as those of Bray, the tenor weighing 22 cwt. Its note is E.

Peals of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Superlative, Double Norwich, Bob Major, Oxford Bob Triples and Bristol Surprise have been rung upon them. Each bell is dedicated to the memory of one of the sons or daughters of the third Earl of Carysfort. The inscription on the tenor is:—

Francis Proby. b. August 3rd, 1819; d. May 15th, 1863.

HENRY JOHNSON.

One hundred and nine years ago yesterday, i.e., on February 28th, 1809, was born Henry Johnson, of Birmingham, one of the greatest yet most humble of men, that ever adorned the Exercise of ringing.



This year, despite the war, St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham will again meet to do honour to his memory, and the gathering on March 16th promises to be a great success.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.

When you see that a meeting is arranged at Isleworth you may be quite sure it will be a success. The rule was unbroken on Saturday last, when the annual meeting of the S. and W. District of the Middlesex Association was held. The company included the following ladies, some of whom had come from long distances on their cycles: Mrs. F. Hairs, and the Misses Bateman, Cooper, Fuller, Gudgeon, Jones and Williams; and Messrs. C. Dean (Croydon), G. Fardon (Shepherd's Bush), G. Gutteridge (Fulmer), T. S. Smith (Slough), and G. Woodiss (Twickenham).—Ringers were also present from Acton, Bushey, Brockley, Camberwell, Hammersmith, Harrow, Heston, Oatlands, Stoke Poges, Sunbury, Walton-on-Thames, Walthamstow, Willesden, Wemhley, and West Ealing.

Ringing ceased at six o'clock, when 45 members attended the special service, the address being given by the Vicar (the Rev. Dr. Relton), who extended a cordial welcome, and afterwards entertained the visitors to tea in a large room at the "London Apprentice." An unexpected and pleasant surprise was the company of a well-known conductor, none other than Rifleman Bertram Prewett, 5th City of London Regiment: keen as ever, and looking hardy and well. Great interest was shown in the examination of his field service oil-can, in which a bullet was embedded, thereby no doubt saving his life.

After the tea the District Master (Mr. T. Beadle) presided.—It was proposed by Mr. A. Hubbard that all the officers be re-elected en bloc. He said that as everyone had done so well during the recent strenuous times that it was undesirable to make any change.

Mr. H. C. Chandler, in reading the report, said that 14 new members had joined last year (all ladies).—The Vicar was elected as hon. member, and as ringers the Misses Freda and Phyllis Moss, and Messrs. A. Peddle (St. Margaret's, Uxbridge), P. Norton (Willesden) (Hammersmith) were elected.

Mr. W. H. Fussell, in one of his neat speeches, thanked the Vicar for the use of the bells, and the great hospitality shown to the members and friends of the Association.

A very smart touch of 223 Stedman Caters was rung on handbells (out of the Willesden brown bag), by: G. M. Kilby 1—2, Mrs. F. Hairs 3—4, Rifleman B. Prewett 5—6, W. Hewett 7—8, and G. H. Horton (conductor) 9—10.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Monday, Feb. 25th, on the occasion of the service of Confirmation, held by the Bishop of Buckingham, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Holderness (first quarter-peal) 1, H. Sear (conductor) 2, W. Mead 3, F. Stanton 4, E. C. Lambert 5, F. Hedges 6, F. Whitehead 7, V. Sear 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

KIDDERMINSTER.—Worcester Association.—On Wednesday, Dec. 26th, at St. Mary's and All Saints', Kidderminster, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 49 mins.: A. Wright 1, G. Davis 2, T. J. Salter 3, R. Moy 4, J. Broad (conductor) 5, J. Woodberry 6, H. Martin 7, J. Bennett 8.

CRAMLINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.—At the residence of Mr. O. Simm, 8, Paradise Cottages, on Feb. 17th, on handbells, 360 Doubles (120 Stedman and 240 Grandsire): O. Simm 1—2, Cpl. A. Hessian (attached Royal Warwickshire Regt.), conductor, 3—4, A. Eudean 5—6. First inside by 1—2, and first touch by 5—6. Also 120 Bob Minor: A. Eudean 1—2, Cpl. A. Hessian (conductor) 3—4, O. Simm 5—6. First touch of Minor on handbells by ringers of 1—2 and 5—6.

HORBURY.—Yorkshire Association. — At SS. Peter and Leonard Church, on Sunday, Feb. 17th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1248 changes): J. Woffenden 1, E. Brooke 2, G. F. Pickles 3, G. Hunt 4, G. Barstow 5, H. Rowley (conductor) 6, J. Smith 7, R. Thickett 8.

ACTON.—On Feb. 17th, for morning service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. E. Smith 1, C. Edwards 2, A. W. Davis 3, J. H. Hunnisett 4, W. H. Hollier 5, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 6, W. Lawrence 7, J. J. Gray 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Lawrence (conductor) 1, W. H. Hollier 2, C. Edwards 3, Miss E. Jones 4, Robt. Holloway 5, W. Vickery 6, A. W. Davis 7, J. W. Fruin 8. Both quarter-peals were rung as a birthday compliment to W. H. Hollier.—Recently, on a Sunday afternoon, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: J. W. Fruin 1, A. W. Davis 2, Robt. Holloway 3, C. Edwards 4, G. Hes 5, C. Hunt 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, W. Lawrence 8.

OXTON, BIRKENHEAD.—Cheshire Diocesan Guild (Wirral Branch).—On Sunday, Feb. 17th, 168 of Stedman Triples: W. Battle 1, H. Brocklebank 2, H. Ludkin (conductor) 3, J. Owens 4, W. Hughes 5, S. F. Barnes 6, H. Martin 7, J. Evans 8. This is the first on the bells in the method by the local band.—On Sunday, Feb. 24th, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Martin 1, W. Battle 2, H. Brocklebank 3, W. Hughes 4, G. R. Newton (conductor) 5, J. Evans 6, H. Ludkin 7, F. Barnes 8.

SHIPLEY.—Yorkshire Association.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Feb. 24th, 240 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: H. Hatley 1, G. A. Nettleton 2, H. Haigh 3, Pte. E. A. Murgatroyd 4, J. Ross 5, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 6. For evening service, a date touch of 1918 changes, Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 12 mins.: Pte. E. A. Murgatroyd, R.G.A., 1, H. Haigh 2, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 3, J. Garnett 4, W. Joyce 5, J. Joyce 6, F. Barker 7, G. A. Nettleton 8. Composed by B. Thorp, of Ashton-under-Lyne. Arranged for Pte. E. A. Murgatroyd, R.G.A., who was on leave from the front.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church on Sunday, Feb. 24th, for evening service, 880 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss F. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Ruddlestone 5, T. Stuart 6, W. H. Dennison 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.—On Sunday, Feb. 24th, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, 1056 Bob Major by: G. Beverley 1, A. W. Baldwin 2, Driver C. V. Ebberson, A.S.C., 3, C. Wybrow 4, J. Godfrey 5, C. S. Tuthill 6, W. E. Bacon 7, R. W. Cooke (conductor) 8.

BEESTON, NOTTS.—On Sunday, February 24th, 384 Superlative Surprise Major: L. Price 1, Bandsman A. Coppock, D.L.I. (conductor) 2, W. J. Bowden 3, W. Clifford, senr., 4, J. C. Dicken 5, W. Clifford, junr., 6, E. J. Boot 7, F. S. Price 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: L. Price 1, Bandsman A. Coppock (conductor) 2, W. J. Bowden (Edmonton) 3, A. B. Moss (Leicester) 4, J. C. Dicken 5, E. J. Boot 6, F. S. Price 7, W. Clifford, junr., 8. First quarter-peal by A. B. Moss.

SURFLEET, Lincs.—On Sunday, February 24th 518 Grandsire Triples: *Herbert Flowers 1, *Sydney Flowers 2, Rev. H. Law James 3, Rupert Richardson 4, William Richardson 5, George Ludd 6, Joseph W. Flowers 7, Ernest Flowers 8. *First touch of Triples in the tower.

SELBY.—On Sunday, February 24th, for evening service, at Selby Abbey, 1060 Grandsire Triples, part of the date touch, which was published in this paper the previous week: J. W. Hall 1, James Jackson 2, Ernest Storr 3, Arthur Hall 4, Frederick Cryer 5, William Hinton 6, Henry Fairlam (conductor) 7, George Rippon 8. Time would not permit for any more being rung, and the bells came round with a bob in place of a single.

OLD WINDSOR.—Oxford Guild.—On Sunday morning, Feb. 24th at St. Peter's Church, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, by: Mrs. F. Hairs, Misses E. A. Fuller, G. E. Bateman, F. Gudin, and Messrs. Leader, Hooper, Smith, Henley, W. Parker (Staines), J. Gutteridge, Blake, Gosling, and G. H. Gutteridge.

FULMER, BUCKS.—For evening service, on Feb. 24th, 360 Bob Minor, by: Miss F. A. Cooper 1, E. Harding 2, Mrs. F. Hairs 3, Miss G. Bateman 4, G. H. Gutteridge (conductor) 5, W. Henley 6.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the above Guild will be held at the Parish Church, Clifton, Bristol, on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 29, Leigh Road South, Clifton, Bristol.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this society will be held at Armley on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells will be available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. The business meeting for the nomination of officers for the ensuing year will be held in the White Horse Hotel at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terr., Burley Road, Leeds.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A combined practice meeting will be held at Bletchley on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. till dark.—W. Sear, Secretary, 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Combined practices will be held on Saturday, March 2nd, at St. Peter's, Staines, bells ready 3.30, and on Saturday, March 9th, at St. John's, Hillingdon, ringing from 3.30. All ringing friends welcome.—G. H. Gutteridge, Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at King's Langley on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 4 to 6. Tea and meeting in Church Institute if arrangements can be made.—F. A. Smith, F. Edwards, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Hythe, by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev. H. D. Dale, on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells will be available from 2 o'clock till 6; service at 6 o'clock. All ringing friends, whether in khaki or civil's, will be cordially welcomed. Members' subscriptions are now due and should be paid at this meeting.—C. Tribe, Hon. Dist. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Nicholas, Newchurch, on Saturday, March 2nd, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 7. A good attendance is earnestly requested as this is the first meeting since the annual. Subscriptions are now due; reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Secretary, 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 7th and 21st for handbell practice, and on the 12th and 26th for general business, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (12) available from 3 to 6.30 p.m. Important business to follow, which will be held in the Wostenholme Hall. A good attendance is desired.—Frank Willey (Vice-President), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Established 1824).—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, 9th March. Ringing will commence at 3.30 p.m. sharp till dusk. No. 6 Bus passes quite close to the Church. Business meeting to follow. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Radcliffe, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells available from 3.30, meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Hon. Secretary.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1755).—The annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 16th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon Willink, Rector of Birmingham. The bells of the Cathedral (10) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 to 5. Dinner tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 3/- each. Owing to the food difficulties it is advisable for all visitors intending to be present to apply for tickets *not later than Tuesday, March 12th*. Remittance should be enclosed with application.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Holbeck, Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 7 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Heywood Parish Church on Saturday, March 16th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Beaconsfield on Easter Monday. Ringing, 2.30. Service at 5, preacher, the Bishop of Bucks. Tea, on rations, at 6 p.m., only for those who notify the Secretary. Business to follow, the Rev. Canon Drummond in the chair. Subscriptions for 1918 became due on 1st January last. High Wycombe tower open 11 to 1 o'clock for 12-bell practice.—W. H. Fussell, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The meeting of the above proposed for Boughton in February will not take place, as it appears to be inadvisable to hold it.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. Dist. Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

CENTRAL COUNCIL SECRETARY.—The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Hon. Sec. of the Central Council, has removed to Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED, Set of 12 or 13 handbells, size 15, with light octave, must be a good peal and in excellent condition.—Apply "Handbells," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

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STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., with an appendix by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., etc., etc.

TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 100 closely printed pages. Part II., suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.

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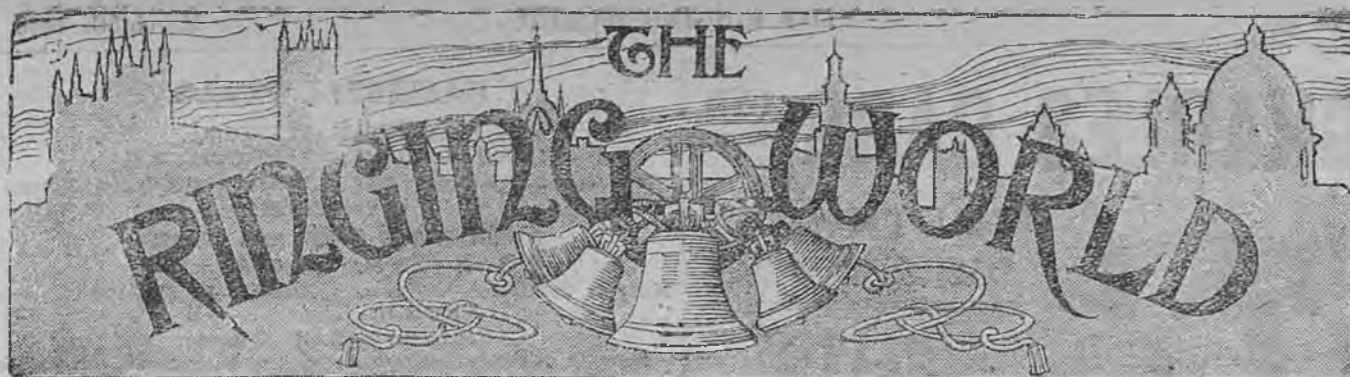


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FRIDAY, MARCH 8th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorized by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST OF BELLS.

It is said with truth that there are many sides of interest in our art and its associations, if only the ringer will take the trouble to discover them. A man who learns to pull a bell sets out on a path with new inducements ever before him to explore in different directions. He may keep to the main road of practical ringing, which will take him simply in progressive stages from one method to another; he may take time to branch off in the direction of theoretical studies, of composition or of method building, and if he does he finds himself in a sphere of ever-widening interest.

But in addition there are many by-paths which offer to a ringer opportunities of discovery, and not the least of these in point of fascination is that which leads to antiquarian research. There is a wonderful allurements to the person who seriously endeavours, for instance, to trace out the history, not merely of bells, but of the art of bell-founding in the centuries that have passed. There is something particularly interesting in reading of the men who, six hundred years ago, carried on with their primitive methods, yet successfully, the work which is being done by the more famous foundries of to-day. And it adds to that interest when we learn that there still exist in our churches specimens of the handiwork of those old masters. Such relics as remain to us from those distant days are objects to be treated with veneration by ringers.

The short article which we publish in another column dealing with some of the earliest of the London bell-founders will be read, we are sure, with interest. The information there given does not pretend to be original, but it has not probably been put before the ringing public before. We have always felt that ringers must gain in interest in the art if they can but learn the history, not only of change ringing and the great performances of the past, but something of the historical associations of the bells themselves. There will be a gain, too, in another direction. To many a man, even now, a bell is but a bell, though to others there must always be a feeling of greater affection for a bell that has come down to our care through the long centuries than for one that, good as its qualities may be, is the product of but yesterday. Many an ancient bell has been lost to us through the careless indifference of a man who had no thought for the preservation of the venerable instrument entrusted to him, and if we could have our way, every one of these old relics of this ancient industry would be released from the risk of damage and be preserved in some honoured niche in the church. No longer should it go into the melting-pot to come again, mixed with new metal, in shape, with its ancient inscription reproduced. No, these ancient bells should be preserved intact as objects of interest to future generations.

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**OPINION OF OUR
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Chelmsford

Dear Sir,
I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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Kindly ask us to inspect, report and tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers

SEND FOR CATALOGUE

HANDBELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 20, 1918, in One Hour and Fifty-eight Minutes,
IN THE TOWER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's each called differently.

MAURICE SYMONDS ... 1—2 | STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 3—4

ARTHUR SYMONDS ... 5—6

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung to celebrate the 15th birthday of M. Symonds. It was his first peal. This is supposed to be the first peal of Minor rung double-handed by father, son and grandson in the Ely Diocese.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, March 1, 1918, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. T. COCKERILL, 32, EDGELEY ROAD,
CLAPHAM, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

ALFRED B. PECK ... 1—2 | HERBERT LANGDON ... 7—8

HARRY R. PASMORE ... 3—4 | WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 9—10

CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 5—6 | CHARLES H. HORTON ... 11—12

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

Umpire, EDWIN HORREX.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. Horrex, who was 80 the previous day. Mr. Horrex also rang in an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples at St. George's in the Boro', S.E., on Saturday, which was unfortunately lost after 2½ hours' ringing through a rope breaking.

YOUNG HANDBELL RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. T. E. Slater, of Glensford, has replied to my inquiry in your last issue as to the youngest double-handed peal ringer in the Ely Association, and informs me that at the age of 14, Mr. Lewis Watson rang 1—2 to a peal of Minor (seven 720's called differently) at the residence of Mr. G. D. Coleman, St. Neot's, Hunts, on July 17th, 1903.—Yours faithfully,

A. SYMONDS.

From the record in this column it will be seen that on his 15th birthday, Maurice Symonds has rung his first peal, and the performance is unique, from the fact that father, son and grandson took part in it.

LONGEST TOUCH ON ANCIENT BELLS.

On Saturday last, the ringers of All Saints' Church, Llanbadach, journeyed to Bedwas, where several touches of Grandsire Doubles were rung, including a quarter-peal, by the following: Jack Gwilym 1, Frank Boucher (conductor) 2, Miss Mabel Griffin 3, Stanley Voysey 4, William Burgess 5, James Phillips 6. The longest touch of Doubles for the ringers of the 1, 3, 4, 5. It is believed to be the longest touch of method ringing on the bells, which date back many centuries.

5056 TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

BY H. PRICE, FISKERTON, NOTTS.

23456	M	W	H
52364	2	2	2
53624		1	2
26354		2	2
52643	2	2	2
62453		2	1
54263		2	2
43265	1		2
23645		2	1
63425		2	1
35426	1		2
52436		2	
25634	2		2
24534	2		1
25346		1	2
23456		1	2

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STEDMAN MINOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am under the impression that teams ringing Stedman Doubles would take pleasure in practising Minor on similar lines, but it has been laid down that Stedman "is not well adapted for use on an even number of bells."

I would like the opinion of your readers as to whether the enclosed Plain Course suggests a solution of the problem.

The work of the first eighteen rows, given below, is repeated five times—making 108 rows in all—all the bells doing identical work. No 6-5's appear at back stroke, but a more experienced student than I am may be able to lay his finger on other serious blemishes which may have escaped me.

123456
214365
241635
421653
412563
142536
124356
213465
123645
132654
312564
321546
231466
324165
342156
432516
423561
243651
234615

I find that a tabular statement of the work makes the most forcible appeal to the memory. (A fellow ringer wrote out—without reference—the attached statement re Minor, after a few minutes' study.)

The vertical columns have no significance except to give the work as systematic an appearance as possible.

III. equals whole pull in Thirds.

I. equals whole pull at Lead.

II. equals half pull in Second's place, etc., etc.

Intervening half pulls in places necessary to pass from III. to I. I. to III., etc., are not mentioned.

The table is appended:—

"Through"
"Front"

I. VI. I. VII.			
I. $\frac{1}{2}$ II.	I. III.	III.	
I. III.	I. III.		
$\frac{1}{2}$ I. III.	I. III.		
$\frac{1}{2}$ I. III.	I. III.		
I. $\frac{1}{2}$ II.	I. III.		
	IV. VI. $\frac{1}{2}$ V. VI.		
	IV. VI.		
	IV. $\frac{1}{2}$ VI.		
	IV. $\frac{1}{2}$ VI.		
	IV. VI.		
	IV. VI. $\frac{1}{2}$ V. VI.		
	VI.		

"Behind"

The following is the table for Stedman Doubles (counting 23145 as the beginning).

A. Front.

I. $\frac{1}{2}$ II.	I. III.	III.	
I. III.	I. III.		
$\frac{1}{2}$ I. III.	I. III.		
$\frac{1}{2}$ I. III.	I. III.		
I. $\frac{1}{2}$ II.	I. III.		
	IV. VI. $\frac{1}{2}$ V. VI.		
	IV. VI.		
	IV. $\frac{1}{2}$ VI.		
	IV. $\frac{1}{2}$ VI.		
	IV. VI.		
	IV. VI. $\frac{1}{2}$ V. VI.		
	VI.		

B. Behind.

C. Run Through.

D. Behind.

Bob and Singles in Stedman Minor can be arranged in various ways. I have worked out several touches but propose not to go further, unless (or until) the Plain Course wins approval.

Yours faithfully,

W. N. SMITH.

FALSE PEAL.

Mr. W. H. Inglesant, of Quorn, writes: "I am sorry to have sent for publication a false peal of 'Stedman Caters' for which I must apologise. It was quite an oversight, through carelessness, I must also thank Mr. J. E. Groves of Birmingham, for kindly giving you the information regarding its falseness."

"PULLING UP" BIG BELLS.

TROOPER JONES' PERFORMANCE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Being interested in this subject, I was glad to see the letter from my friend, Mr. A. R. Peck, in your last issue, because as a matter of fact he is quite correct, only it looks on the face of it as if the Exercise had been wilfully misled. It was not so, however, for what actually happened on the occasion referred to was this: Trooper Joseph Jones, of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue), came among us on his return from the Egyptian War in 1882, and was a regular attendant until his period of service in the regiment came to an end. He was of gigantic stature, very heavy, and immensely strong. He was not a change ringer, and he only rang the tenor for one peal—Grandsire Triples at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, conducted by the late Mr. J. Pettit, and I took part in it.

Now, some little time prior to this, Mr. W. H. George (brother of the famous James of Rugby and Birmingham) twice pulled up St. Saviour's tenor, 52 cwt., single-handed, and also the 11th at St. Paul's Cathedral (44 cwt.) on two occasions. It must be borne in mind that the tenor at St. Saviour's in those days went in a very sluggish manner, very different from the way in which that new and magnificent bell, recast and hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank goes at the present time. I believe it is quite correct that it has been raised single-handed; and no wonder, for it is to my thinking the best going heavy bell in existence! "Bill" George, however, never attempted St. Paul's tenor.

But to continue the story, Trooper Jones was a quiet and unassuming man, and an immense favourite with all, and during the whole of that summer (1885) his one ambition was to "pull up the Cathedral tenor"! When October 6th arrived, I was one of many in the ringing chamber, and he started on the job—and a jolly tough one at that; and, as we all thought at the time he just succeeded in a little over three minutes. In the meantime, Messrs. G. A. Musket (the then secretary) and E. E. Clark, without any knowledge of this, had previously gone up to "turn the clappers," and probably with the grease pots as well. It transpired some days afterwards that they thought "some youngsters" were trying to get the bell up, so kindly lent a helping hand each side of the wheel. Nothing, however, was known of this in the ringing chamber, nor indeed anywhere else, until the end of the week when the "Bell News" had appeared as stated. Then it all came out, and the first idea was to write and contradict it—but then Trooper Jones was so popular that no one liked to hurt his feelings, and the matter was allowed to "slide"—anyhow, for the time being, in order to leave him in blissful ignorance and so retain the idea that his great ambition had been realised. I hope he is still alive, and if he takes in the "Ringing World" he will now know exactly what happened 32½ years ago!

I remember recently being told that the famous tenor bell at Bow (53 cwt.) had been raised single-handed, since rehanging by Messrs. Mears, but I have not the full particulars. If correct, this is the "heaviest job" on record. Hereford Cathedral tenor (46 cwt.) has been raised single-handed.

To my thinking St. Paul's tenor never will be raised by one man alone—certainly not whilst the present Food and Liquor Restriction Orders are in force, otherwise the "Controller" may be bringing in further idiotic regulations and cutting down lower even than the present meagre allowance, on the ground that ringers are much too well F. E. D.—Yours truly,

FRANCIS EDWARD DAWK.

OXFORD GUILD PRACTICE.

A very pleasant and progressive practice was held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday last, when 22 ringers attended, representing the bellfries of Windsor, Slough, Stoke Poges, Sunbury, Hillingdon, Walthamstow, Fulmer, and St. Peter's, Staines. In addition Mrs. F. Hairs, of Willesden, and Mr. A. Mason, of Kemble, were present. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung until seven o'clock. A pleasing feature of the afternoon's ringing was the business-like way in which Mr. W. Parker's little son (of the local band), rang the second in rounds, under the tuition of his father. The unavoidable absence of Mr. W. Lawrence (West Ealing), who is always "father" at these happy little Saturday afternoon gatherings, was, needless to say, regretted.

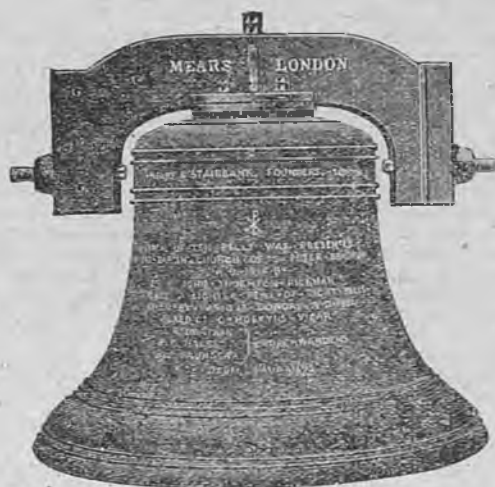
RINGER'S WEDDING AT ERITH.

On Sunday morning, March 3rd, at Christ Church, Erith, as a wedding compliment to Mr. G. Cullum, the leader of the band at Christ Church, who was married earlier in the day to Miss Ada A. Hearsfield, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 48 mins. prior to morning service, by: T. Cullum 1, G. Ambrose 2, G. Cullum 3, H. A. Holden 4, J. Lowry 5, J. Hayes 6, Air-Mechanic J. M. Mitchell, R.N.A.S. (conductor), 7, P. Cullum 8. First quarter-peal in the method as conductor, by J. Mitchell. As the wedded couple left the church they were "rung out" by the new band, of which Mr. Cullum is the conductor. He is shortly leaving to take up his residence at Lymington.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

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**Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
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For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

**Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.**

A LONG PEAL AT NORWICH.

At St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, the scene of many of the renowned performances of the past, there is a tablet recording a famous peal, the anniversary of which falls to-day. The record runs:—

On March the 8th, 1737, was rung a peal of Grandsire Caters, which for excellency of its ringing, Harmonious changes, and ye number of them, was certainly superior to anything of its kind ever done in the World; and to Remove all doubt of the truth of the performance, several ingenious Ringers were abroad the whole time with proper rules to prove the certainty of ye same. Thus was this great peal perfectly compleated to the entire satisfaction and surprise and amazement of thousand of hearers in the space of 8 hrs. 15 mins. The number of changes were 12,603, rung by nine men of the company then belonging to the company. The tenor singly by a young ringer 8000, then a second ringer rung her to the end of the peal. The persons names and the bells they rung as follows:—

Thos. Melchior 1 Wm. Pettingall 2, John Gardiner 3, Tho. Barrett 4, Robert Crane 5, Wm. Porter 6, Tho. Blofield 7, Edwd. Crane 8, Chrstr. Booty 9, James Jerom, Roht. Liddamon tenor.

It is remarkable that this Grandsire Caters record stood unbroken to within the last 30 years. When rung, it superseded a peal of 12,000 rung in April, 1737, at Painswick.

LADIES' GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT CLIFTON.

A very successful meeting of the Ladies' Guild was held at Clifton Parish Church on Saturday last. There were about 30 ringers present, 20 of whom were members of the Guild, and the towers represented including Bridgewater, Bristol, Clapton, Paulton, Portishead and Westbury. During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and Grandsire and Stedman Triples, were rung, including a touch of Grandsire Triples by eight members of the Portishead band.

A short service was held, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. C. V. de Candole, and afterwards the meeting was held in the vestry. Mrs. H. S. Briggs, of Paulton, was in the chair.—The Secretary, Miss E. K. Parker, suggested that a quarterly meeting of the Western District be held, in order to keep in touch with all the members.—Paulton was proposed for the next meeting, which will be held in June, and the arrangements were left in the hands of Miss N. Gillingham, as the secretary would shortly be leaving the district for London. Nineteen new members were elected.—Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, Mrs. de Candole for presiding at the organ, and Mr. Clarke for having the bells in readiness.

THE SPIRE OF ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.

The Birmingham Parish Church Magazine for March contains the following paragraph among "Rector's Notes":—

"It is a great source of regret to the Rector and Wardens to have to make known the unwelcome fact that the interior of our noble spire is not in as good a condition as it ought to be, and that acting on professional advice, we cannot ring the bells till it is put in thorough order once again. The same kind of mischief which was remedied some five years ago, so far as the outside of the spire is concerned, has been at work on the inside, and it is plainly our duty to complete the work that was then taken in hand and to erect a scaffolding inside the spire, so that the cause of the mischief may be reached and dealt with. The work is in the very competent hands of Mr. Buckland, the Diocesan Surveyor, and of Messrs. Bridgeman, of Lichfield, who carried out the external work in 1913; and we hope before long that the welcome sound of our splendid peal of bells may eloquently prove that all is again in thorough order, and that so far as we can possibly secure it, the fabric of our church is in thorough good condition, and rendered absolutely safe for many a long year to come."

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Ashford District was held at Hythe on Saturday last, but March dealt out a sample of the proverbial lion which greatly militated against a large attendance as none but an enthusiast would brave such elements. Enough, however, turned up to ring touches in Grandsire, Stedman, and Plain Bob, and to coach a lady ringer in the elementary stages of the art, "Dora" eventually put an end to the proceedings. Private Runham, R.F.C., formerly of Reading, was the only visitor in khaki. The members hope to be favoured with better weather for the next meeting, at Tonterden, on Whit-Monday.

EARLY LONDON BELL FOUNDERS.

THE WYMBISH FAMILY AND OTHERS.

The ancient history of bell-founding is always a fascinating study to those who are interested in our art, and the following particulars about some of the earliest known bell founders of London, culled from the work published many years ago by Mr. J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, will, we are sure, be read with interest.

It is not until very near the close of the thirteenth century that any clear light is thrown on the bell founders of London. Prior to that date, we have here and there, in books dealing with London history—such as Stow's 'Annals,' the 'Liber Albus,' the 'Liber Costumarum,' and the Guildhall 'Letter Books,' so admirably epitomized by Mr. Riley in his 'Memorials of London Life,' and, above all, in the rolls of the Hustings Court—the names of citizens who may possibly have practised the trade of bell-founding, and who were almost invariably described as 'Potters.' It is safe to assert that the bell-founding trade was at that time strictly confined to one locality, namely, the extreme of the City, Aldgate and Portsoken Wards—the one inside and the other outside of the city walls.

A slight sketch of the geography may not be amiss. Leadenhall Street under that name did not then exist, Cornhill extending eastwards as far as St. Mary Axe. The church now called St. Andrew Undershafth was then known as St. Andrew-upon-Cornhill. The main thoroughfare thence eastward seems hardly to have any special name; if it had any, it was probably Allegate Street. It is called so in a deed of 1386. The 'street of St. Mary atte Naxe' is mentioned in a deed of 1335, the triangle formed by these last two streets and the city wall being almost entirely occupied by the Convent of Christ Church—the Priory of the Holy Trinity—whose prior was, by virtue of his position, Alderman of Portsoken Ward. Billiter (Bellyetere) Lane is first mentioned in 1310; Lymstrete in 1332.

The 'trade,' however, seem to have occupied chiefly the main street from St. Andrew's Church to that of St. Botolph-without-Aldgate, these two churches, but especially the latter, being pre-eminently the bell-founders' churches, as is proved by various wills.

One of the first names is to be found in 'Liber Antiquus,' at Guildhall. That book contains two different lists of the Sheriffs, in one of which the individual in question is called Benedictus Campanarius, in the other Beneit le Seynter. 'Campanarius' is, of course, bell-founder; 'Seynter' may be taken to be equivalent to girdler (ceinturier). Here the question arises, was he a bell-founder, with a name derived from another trade? or was he a girdler, the word 'campanarius' being a scribe's blunder in copying his surname, possibly Latinized into 'cinctuarius'? The former seems the more likely conclusion.

From the end of the thirteenth century we are able to trace a fairly clear chain of successful citizens who were, with more or less certainty, bell-founders. At this period we come across the family of the Wymbishes, taking their surname, doubtless, from the Essex village whence they sprang. Of these there were four—Michael, Richard, Ralph, and Walter—all 'potters,' and three of them undoubtedly bell-founders, their handiwork being still among us to testify thereto. Michael seems to be somewhat earlier in date than the rest. On the rolls of the Hustings Court, under date 1297, is a deed made between Michael le Poter and Adam de Wireles and Margaret his wife, daughter of the said Michael.

That the Michael of this deed was Michael de Wymbish we know from another deed enrolled in 1310, being a conveyance from 'Adam de Wyrle and Margaret his wife, daughter of Michael de Wymbish, later potter.' Michael's career was thus ended in 1310.

At Bradenham Bucks, are two bells by him, each bearing the inscription:—

MICHAEL : DE : VVYMBIS : ME : FECIT.

So far as is known these bells are the only specimens of his now in existence.

Richard de Wymbish was contemporary with Michael, but outlived him. The earliest mention of him in the Guildhall records is under date 1303. This name occurs several times on the Hustings rolls in the years 1307-1313 and 1315. It appears from these that his wife's name was Hilditha. Under the date 1312 there appears another mention of him in Mr. Riley's 'Memorials,' which is copied here, as it refers specially to the subject of bell-founding:

Richard de Wymbish, potter and citizen of London, came here before the Chamberlain on the Friday next after the Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist (25th April), in the fifth year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Edward, and acknowledged that he was bound to Sir Ralph, Prior of the Church of the Holy Trinity in London, and the Convent of that place to make one bell, good, entire and well-sounding, and as nearly in tune, to the utmost of his power, with the greater bell of the church aforesaid. As the said bell was to weigh 2,820 pounds, of good and befitting metal, every hundred-weight thereof containing 112 pounds; the same to be ready by the Feast known as 'St. Peter's Chains' (1st August), next ensuing without any further delay. And should he not do so then he agreed, etc., as proved by his recognizance.

The same Prior also agreed to re-deliver unto the said Richard the great bell which he had formerly made for the use of him and his Convent; and that without delay, as soon as the same Richard should commence founding the bell aforesaid, upon view thereof by the said Lord Prior, or of such of his people as he should appoint to be present thereat.

Afterwards, Alan de Middleton, Canon and Sacrist of the said house, came and acknowledged that the said Richard had fully satisfied them as to the work aforesaid; and, therefore, this recognizance was cancelled.

It is not uninteresting to remark, in reference to the above, that a namesake, Richard de Wymbish, was Prior of the Convent from 1316 to 1325. If, as we may fairly surmise he was Sub-Prior in 1312, it would seem as if his influence had been used for the benefit of a relation or a fellow-townsmen.

Be that as it may, Richard must have had a good business, from the fact that he used no less than four different sets of stamps. There are six of his bells now in existence. The third bell at Goring, Oxon, is inscribed:—

ORATE : PRO : PETRO : EXONIENSE :
EPISCOPO.

RICARD DE VVYMBIS : ME : FIST.

Peter de Quivil, the Bishop here alluded to, died in 1291, and, from the terms of the inscription, the bell would seem to have been cast during his lifetime. It is supposed to have been a gift to Goring Nunnery by Edmund, Earl of Cornwall (d. 1300), who was Lord of Wallingford and patron of the Convent. If this is correct, we may place Richard de Wymbish's date as 1290 to 1315 approximately.

The second bell at Great Bradley, Suffolk, is inscribed in large, handsome Lombardic lettering:—

RICARD : DE : VVYMBIS : ME : FECIT.

The 2nd at Burnham, Kent, is inscribed in yet a different lettering:—

RICHARD DE VVYMBIS ME FECIT.

The lettering used here, together with the curious floral initial stamp, came some years later into the hands successively of William Schep (1347-49), and William Revil (1356), London bell-founders.

The Priest's bell at Slapton, Northants, bears the legend:—

RICHARD DE VVYMBIS ME FESIT,

the initial stamp being the same as at Burnham. A bell at Berechurch, Essex, was formerly inscribed:—

RICARDVS DE WIMBIS ME FECIT

in different lettering still. This bell was recast some 40 years since. At Rawreth, in the same county, the 1st bell bears the legend, in the same alphabet as the Berechurch bell, and with the same initial cross:—

I A M T E M P V S E S T.

Ralph de Wymbish, potter, is mentioned in Mr. Riley's 'Memorials,' under the date 1308, as a bondsman or bailman for one Adam de Blakesdale, hakeneyman. It is not certain whether he is a bell-founder.

The fourth of this family, Walter, cannot be fixed in point of date. There is a Walter the potter mentioned in the Hustings rolls, in 1287-8; but it is doubtful if it can be the same. Seeing that he drops the 'de,' it would be safer to place him somewhat later than the other three. He did not, however, apparently succeed to any of their stamps, as the only bell now extant of his is inscribed in quite different letters. That bell is the treble at Kingston-by-Lewes, Sussex, lettered:—

WALTERVS WIMBIS ME FECIT.

It will be most convenient to mention here John Aleyn. He was apparently a successor to Walter Wymbish, for he uses the same lettering and cross, as appears from the first bell at Southease, Sussex, which bears the inscription:—

IOHANNES ALEYN ME FECIT.

There appears to be no trace of this citizen on the Hustings rolls, unless he be identical with John de Hadham, potter, who occurs there in the years 1309 and 1339; or John de Stowe, who is mentioned in 1341.

Geoffrey of Edelmeton (Edmonton) was also from the style of his lettering, of this date. In 1309 a citizen of this name is mentioned, but as he is described as a cutler, he can hardly be the man. He is, perhaps, much more identifiable with Geoffrey le Porter (doubtless a scribe's blunder for 'potter') named in connection with Richard Wymbish and other 'potters' in 1303, in the extract from Mr. Riley's 'Memorials.' At Billericay, in Essex, was a bell by him, bearing the inscription:—

GALFRIDUS DE HEDENTUN ME FECIT.

THE DANIEL PRENTICE FUND.

The following further contributions to the Daniel Prentice Fund are acknowledged: Mr. Lewis W. Wiffon, Wyke Regis, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Alfred Rose (per Mr. L. W. Wiffon), 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. C. Hunt, Beeston, Notts, 5s.; Mr. Arthur Knights, Chesterfield, 2s. 6d.; "Grandsire," 2s. 6d.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Saturday, Feb. 23rd, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1280 changes), in 44 mins.: G. T. Mitcheson (first quarter-peal of Major) 1. T. Miller 2. A. T. Scrivens 3. W. F. Webb 4. M. J. Morris 5. J. George 6. A. E. Norman (first quarter-peal of Major) 7. J. B. Collett (composer and conductor) 8.

BOSTON, Lincs.—On Sunday February 10th, at the Church of St. Nicholas, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. Coleman 1, Harold Palmer 2, A. Swain 3, Gnr. W. Welling 4, Harry Palmer (conductor) 5, J. Kirk 6.—On Sunday, Feb. 17th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, the band as above.

GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.—On Sunday, February 24th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: P. Almonds 1, Corpl. F. Souter 2, G. Jennings 3, E. Eady 4, J. Souter 5, W. J. Nevard (conductor) 6. Also 360 Plain Bob: J. Souter 1, Corpl. F. Souter 2, J. Bowell 3, E. Eady 4, W. J. Nevard (conductor) 5, A. Coles 6. After service, a touch of Kent Treble Bob. Also two courses Double Court Bob. The ringers hail from Tendring, Great Bentley, one local, Great Bromley, and Mistley. Rung as a welcome to Corpl. F. Souter, 2nd Essex Regiment, home on leave from France.

ACTON.—On Sunday evening, March 3rd, for service, at St. Mary's Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 46 mins.: Miss E. Jones (West Ealing) 1, E. Maurice Atkins (London, W.) 2, W. Hibbert (Caversham) 3, A. W. Davis (Shepherd's Bush) 4, W. H. Hollier (Chiswick) 5, W. Lawrence (West Ealing) 6, R. T. Hibbert (Caversham), conductor 7, C. Edwards (West Ealing) 8. First quarter-peal Stedman Triples by Miss Jones. Mr. Robert Holloway gave the visitors a welcome and kindly stood out.

HILLINGDON.—St. Andrew's.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evening song, Thurstan's quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: Miss G. Bateman (first quarter in the method) 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, W. H. Hewett (conductor) 3, W. Henley 4, J. J. Pratt 5, A. Mason 6, H. A. Chandler 7, T. Smith 8.

ISLEWORTH.—Middlesex County Association.—On Sunday, March 3rd, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), from Holts' Original, in 47 mins.: T. Beadle 1, C. Tricker 2, C. Edwards 3, W. H. Liddbetter 4, C. Bird 5, G. R. Fardon (conductor) 6, A. Beckensale 7, Percy Norton 8. Arranged for Mr. Norton, and was his first quarter-peal. This was the reopening of ringing for the evening service.

LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evening service, at the Parish Church of St. Nicholas, in 54 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), from Shipway: J. Megann 1, W. Fisher 2, G. R. Newton 3, Pte. A. W. Seviour, 8th Worcesters, 4, G. Fisher 5, Pte. F. S. Macey, M.T., A.S.C., 6, J. Elton 7, J. Martin 8, W. Davies (conductor) 9, J. Turner 10. Rung as a farewell compliment to Pte. A. W. Seviour, of Bristol, who has kindly assisted regularly in the Sunday ringing for several months past, and was about to leave Liverpool shortly. Pte. F. S. Macey, hails from Sittingbourne.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.—On Saturday, March 2nd, the following members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild attempted Thurstan's four-part peal of Stedman Triples, as a birthday compliment to the conductor, who would be 66 on March 4th (and who rang for the wedding of the late King Edward on March 10th, 1863), but the attempt unfortunately came to grief through a change course, and stand was called at the end of the 15th part, in 2hrs. 15 mins.: W. T. Tucker 1, G. Williams 2, W. Jones 3, Alf. Meares 4, W. G. Ryves 5, C. Goodenough 6, W. H. George (conductor) 7, E. Dumper 8.

SELBY.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evening service, at the Abbey Church, 1006 Grandsire Triples, from Holts' ten-part, in 41 mins., by: J. Jackson 1, H. Fairlam 2, E. Storr 3, A. Hall 4, F. Cryer 5, W. Hinton 6, Sergt. E. Morris (conductor) 7, G. Rippon 8.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Sunday morning, March 3rd, at St. Mary's Church, 504 Stedman Triples: also a short touch of Grandsire: Miss G. Bateman 1, W. Henley 2, Mrs. F. Hairs 3, T. Smith 4, G. T. Leader 5, G. H. Gutteridge 6, E. T. Hooper (conductor) 7, C. Farr 8.

YORK.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for morning service, at York Minster, 575 Grandsire Caters: Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. (conductor), 1, A. Haigh 2, F. Earnshaw 3, J. Thompson 4, G. Horner 5, E. Rickett 6, A. C. Fearnley 7, A. Hodgson 8, T. Haigh 9, A. Horner and W. Ayre 10.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Meeting at the "King of Denmark" tomorrow, Saturday, March 9th, at 6.30.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.* Mr. H. J. Bradley will be in attendance.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (12) available from 3 to 6.30 p.m. Important business to follow, which will be held in the Wostenholme Hall. A good attendance is desired.—Frank Willey (Vice-President), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Established 1824).—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, 9th March. Ringing will commence at 3.30 p.m. sharp till dusk. No. 6 Bus passes quite close to the Church. Business meeting to follow. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Radcliffe, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells available from 3.30, meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Woistencroft, Hon. Secretary.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1755).—The annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 16th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon Willink, Rector of Birmingham. The bells of the Cathedral (10) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 to 5. Dinner tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 3/- each. Owing to the food difficulties it is advisable for all visitors intending to be present to apply for tickets *not later than Tuesday, March 12th*. Remittance should be enclosed with application.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Holbeck, Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 7 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16th, at Writtle. Bells available 4 till 6. Business meeting in the tower after ringing.—F. W. Edwards, Hon. Secretary, Writtle.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horfield and Filton on Saturday, March 16th. Bells available at Filton at 3 p.m., service at 4.30 p.m. Ringing at Horfield at 6 p.m., followed by business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Sec., 15, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Heywood Parish Church on Saturday, March 16th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern and Eastern Districts.—A joint meeting will be held at Knebworth on Saturday, March 16th. The tower will be open during afternoon and until 7 o'clock. "War" tea will be provided at the "Lytton Arms," 5.30, no sugar. All members and friends will be made welcome.—F. R. Bacon, W. H. Lawrence, District Secretaries.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 21st for handbell practice, and on the 12th and 26th for general business, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Selby on March 23rd, 1918. Bells (10) all day. As the secretaryship of this district is about to change hands it is hoped a good number of the members will turn up. Tea at 5 o'clock, tickets (if applied for) 1/- each.—Thos. Smith, Hon. Dist. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting of this district will be held at SS. Peter and Paul, Swanscombe, on Saturday, March 23rd, 1918. Half rail fares up to 2/- allowed. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid on or before this meeting.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Emscote (Warwick) on Easter Monday. Bells available, Leamington (8) 11 a.m. till 12.30, Emscote (8) all day, St. Mary's, Warwick (10), 6 p.m. till 7.30 p.m. Committee meeting at Emscote at 2.30; service at All Saints', Emscote, 3 o'clock, followed by business meeting in Emscote Schools. Outstanding subscriptions should now be paid.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Beaconsfield on Easter Monday. Ringing, 2.30. Service at 5, preacher, the Bishop of Bucks. Tea, on rations, at 6 p.m., only for those who notify the Secretary. Business to follow, the Rev. Canon Drummond in the chair. Subscriptions for 1918 became due on 1st January last. High Wycombe tower open 11 to 1 o'clock for 12-bell practice.—W. H. Fussell, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The meeting of the above proposed for Boughton in February will not take place, as it appears to be inadvisable to hold it.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. Dist. Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 6th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

A TIME FOR ACTION.

A number of the associations, when war broke out, went temporarily into a state of suspended animation, but one by one they have emerged and are endeavouring now to continue their operations, on a limited scale perhaps, but, still, doing something. Only the Norwich Diocesan Association among the large organisations seems to have remained inactive. There may be special reasons for this, but when so many of the other important associations think it desirable to carry on, it is difficult to see why the Norwich Association still finds it is necessary to remain dormant. Even the Kent Association, which suspended its annual meetings for a time, while keeping in touch with its members through the district meetings, has decided to hold its annual gathering this year, and in every instance, so far as we know, where associations have continued their active work, results have justified the operations.

In the first shock of war all sorts of things happened to upset the course of our domestic arrangements, but we have now settled down, as it were, to the routine of war-time existence, with no false sentimentalism and with a due sense of our responsibilities. In that routine is a place for recreation, and for the maintenance, as far as practicable, of our social organisations. There seems every justification for carrying on the business of our ringing organisations, and with the limited opportunities at disposal, members are finding the meetings and united practices not only pleasant but helpful. A great deal of good work has been put in in several centres, where periodical gatherings for practice are organised, and wherever they have been initiated they have never failed to be repeated.

These united practices by members of neighbouring towers ought to be encouraged above all. District meetings can come only occasionally and can seldom be held at a place to suit everybody's convenience. If they are, then the individual opportunity for sharing in the ringing is all the smaller. But with the practice gatherings the meetings can be much more frequent, and the lesser numbers present give the individual a greater opportunity. They are the best encouragement that ringing can have, and it is a matter of surprise that the majority of the county and diocesan associations have not launched out on a bigger campaign on this sort. At any rate, they could take the matter in hand now, for the period of the year is before us when ringing can be carried on to a late hour and evening gatherings will be possible. With the expenditure of a little time and energy, every association could arrange a programme of these practices, which would spread a network over their whole area, and thus provide an effective means of keeping their members in touch with their organisation and each other.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE FRAMLAND SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 9, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM G. THORPE ... Treble	MARK BEND 5
REV. C. J. STURTON ... 2	WALTER JAMES 6
HARRY THORPE 3	R. HENRY BARTRAM ... 7
CPL. ERNEST BARTRAM, M.M. 4	JOHN W. KIRTON Tenor

Conducted by R. HENRY BARTRAM.

Rung to welcome the new Vicar, the Rev. F. Walford, to Bottesford.

SIX BELL PEAL.

LEONARD STANLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
(STROUD AND DISTRICT BRANCH)
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 2, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE PACKER Treble	WILLIAM HALE 4
CHARLES EAST 2	ALBERT WRIGHT 5
HENRY NEWMAN 3	FRANK COLE Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

This is the first peal rung on the bells.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.
ST MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, March 9, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT CITY CAFE, BELL RING,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

*JOHN B. COLLETT ... 1-2	†MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 5-6
WILLIAM KENT 3-4	†THOMAS J. BRATTON ... 7-8

Conducted by THOMAS J. BRATTON.

* First peal on handbells. † First peal with inside pair of bells.
† First peal on handbells as conductor. Mr. Bratton had not rung a peal on handbells since 1894—an interval of 24 years.

FORMER VICAR WELCOMED AS BISHOP.

On Friday, March 8th last, a Confirmation service was held in the Parish Church of Thornbury, Gloucestershire, conducted by a former Vicar, who was incumbent from 1886 to 1897, and is now Lord Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich. In order to have the pleasure of welcoming their late Vicar in his new office, the parishioners assembled in large numbers, and the spacious and beautiful church was well filled. The following ringers from Bristol were invited to assist in the ringing, viz.: Messrs. H. T. Howell, W. Lansdown, A. Maggs, W. J. Wilkins, C. H. Tomkins, and A. Reeves, and they were joined by Messrs. J. W. Poole and F. K. Howell, of Thornbury.

Before and after the service, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob, were rung.

Mr. F. H. Burchell, the Vicar's warden, invited the ringers to his house to partake of a sumptuous tea, which was much appreciated by all, and Mr. H. T. Howell, in well-chosen words, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Burchell for their kindness.

When tea was over, the ringers were agreeably surprised by a visit from the Bishop, who shook hands all round, and thanked the ringers for the pleasure they had given him by hearing the bells of Thornbury so nicely rung again.

SWINDON, WILTS. — On February 10th, at Christ Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: O. W. Layng 1, A. Lawrence (conductor) 2, J. H. Shepherd 3, E. W. Hyner 4, C. J. Gardiner 5, Corpl. G. I. Cook 6, E. Bishop 7, S. Palmer 8. Corpl. Cook, who belongs to the 21st London Regiment, hails from Ashstead.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

Eighty years old and still going strong; keen enough of sight and strong enough of arm to take your place regularly in ringing for Sunday service at St. Paul's Cathedral, and nimble enough still to tend the bells—Ted Horrex, the Exercise is proud of you! Metaphorically we would all grasp you by the hand; we do all offer our congratulations. You must be the "father" of the College Youths; if not the grandfather; and what changes you have seen in the "scrouffe"! Time seems to have dealt lightly with you, Ted (excuse the familiarity of a comparative youngster), and we hope he will continue to be as kind to you in the future. We don't expect to see you round at the "back end" now, as was your wont once upon a time—one of my earliest recollections of St. Paul's is seeing you at the tenor. Neither do we expect to find you again in such a length as 15,840 Treble Bob, as you were exactly fifty years ago. But I am sorry you could not ring an 80th birthday peal at St. Paul's. I am sure you would have done so had there not been a war on. It has disappointed us all that a broken rope should have spoiled your peal at Southwark. Never mind, Ted, there's a place waiting for you in the band that rings the Peace peal at the Cathedral, and that peal, I am sure, will be one of the happiest of your long life. Ted, I raise my glass to you!

It seems a long time to wait—32 years—to have the bubble of that tenor raising stunt at St. Paul's Cathedral publicly burst. I guess Trooper Jones knew all about it long ago, however. It was kind of those in the know at the time not to want to hurt his feelings, but I have no doubt somebody "broke it gently" to him. The wonder to me is that trying to pull up a bell of that weight didn't break his back at the time. I'm not fond of pulling up bells—it's too much like hard work, and work and I never did agree. By the way, I think I can tell Mr. Frank Dawe who pulled up Bow tenor. If I am not mistaken it was the present Master of the College Youths soon after the firm of Meers and Stainbank had rehung the bell. I don't think it took him long either. Certainly there was no one up on the frame to put a helping hand on the wheel. He need not be afraid that I shall be likely to try to emulate his example when I go to Bow. As a matter of fact I am spending my spare time inventing a machine for raising bells, so that by turning a switch all the lot will go up in peal. When I've done that, I propose to further improve the arrangements, so that John Carter's ringing machine can be attached, and, by pressing a button, the bells will go off into Stedman Cinques, and continue until the cows come home, or the machine busts.

Said Trooper Jones, "I'll make no bones of raising your big tenor; I'll get her up, before I sup, or die in the endeavour." So Trooper Jones, with all his bones, and brawn, and weight, and muscle

Pulled at that bell, with right good will, nor faltered in the tussle. But when he'd done, and thought he'd won the right to admiration And world-wide fame about his name was spread by publication: The story bold was then retold, and great the disappointment, For help above, with push and shove, a fly put in the ointment.

We all delight to honour great men, or their memories, and doubtless Birmingham ringers will not fail to "do their bit" in that direction to-morrow, when the Henry Johnson Commemoration takes place. Until the war interfered, the College Youths always celebrated the founding of their society by gathering round the festive board, but this annual feast is hardly likely to be renewed until peace once more prevails. There is, however, one event which I should like to see them honour, war or no war, and that is the one-hundredth anniversary of Henry Haley's birth, which will fall upon February 19th next year. Henry Haley was one of the really great men of the Exercise, as those who knew him best will be most ready to testify, and the centenary which will occur next year ought not to be passed over without some recognition. Now, you College Youths I've given you nearly twelve months' notice, so there's time to see about it. It may be that we shall be on very small rations by that time but even if we have to bring our own we ought to "foregather," do as much "ample justicing" as the Food Controller will allow, and talk about that wonderful man who holds a very cherished place in the memory of a rapidly diminishing band.

Old Ben's problem in my last notes, seems to have created interest and set many of my readers scratching their heads. The problem was a perfectly solvable one, and many, no doubt, worked out the answer. There were 72 stairs: 32 in one flight and 40 in the other. Another little problem that the old steepkeeper puzzled his ringing friends with was this: Said he: "I measured one of our bells the other day, and I found that the stay from the top of the stock was 18 inches less than the height of the bell and the stock together. If the stay had been two inches shorter it would have been half the

height of the stock and the bell, but if the bell had been two inches deeper it would have been the same depth as the stock and the stay together." Can my readers figure out the respective heights of the bell, the stock and the stay?

MILITARY MEDAL.

Corpl. E. Bartram, of Melton Mowbray, has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery and devotion to duty in France. He has just been home on leave, and was warmly welcomed by his colleagues of St. Mary's belfry, whose congratulations he received. On Sunday, March 3rd, ringing was arranged as a welcome to Corpl. Bartram, and for morning service, 360 Bob Minor with 6-8 covering was rung by W. Jaggard 1, T. H. Gillett 2, Corpl. Ernest Bartram, M.M., 3, C. Dalby 4, W. James 5, W. Chandler 6, R. H. Bartram 7, R. Freeman 8. For evening service, 518 Grandsire Triples on the back nine, with two bells covering: W. Jaggard 1, T. H. Gillett 2, R. Mount (Waltham) 3, Corpl. Ernest Bartram, M.M., 4, C. Dalby 5, W. James 6, J. Gilson 7, R. H. Bartram (conductor) 8, W. Chandler 9.

OXFORD GUILD.

MEETING AT HILLINGDON.

Of the various touches rung at a united practice, at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday last, nearly everyone was brought home. A first-rate start was made with a 287 Grandsire Caters, by: Miss Gladys Bateman 1, Miss Edith Jones 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, W. Lawrence 4, W. Shepherd (conductor) 5, W. Henley 6, E. F. Pike 7, A. Mason 8, H. H. Chandler 9, Pte. J. H. Cropley 10. In a second touch, Miss Winifred Cooper rang; and the Misses Feltham, Fuller, Gudgeon and Williams took part in Grandsire Triples. Two good touches of Stedman Caters followed, Mrs. F. Hairs taking a rope, and one of the "Bills" conducting. Miss Bateman rang her first touch of Kent Treble Bob Major like clockwork, and, together with Miss Jones helped to tap off some Stedman Caters in fine form. Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise were the next methods, the last named certainly deserving special mention. It was a good performance, with clean striking, and the tenor was rung excellently. The band was: G. H. Horton 1, G. M. Kilby 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, C. Dean (of Croydon) 4, E. F. Pike 5, A. Mason 6, W. Hewett 7, Wm. Henley 8.

When seven o'clock arrived, the good hostess of the "Red Lion Hotel" had (by previous arrangement) provided quite a "drawing-room" tea in a well-appointed and recently decorated apartment, with drapery hangings of a dainty and delicate hue, consequently as a special favour she asked that the "fragrant weed" might not be used in the room. The very best thanks is due to Mrs. F. Hairs for presiding at the tea, and to Mr. H. H. Chandler for his jovial reception. It is quite needless to add that the latter wore his usual beaming "Sussex" smile. Owing to an engagement, Mr. J. J. Pratt came as the "eleventh hour," but he was in time to have a pull.

W. L.

SUCCESSFUL GATHERING AT BLETCHLEY.

A ringing meeting of the North Bucks Branch was held at Bletchley on Saturday week in place of the usual quarterly meeting, which it had been proposed to hold at Old Bradwell, but which, owing to unforeseen circumstances, had to be abandoned. A ringing meeting was, therefore, arranged in its place, permission for the use of the bells at Bletchley being kindly given by the Vicar (Rev. F. W. Bennett). About 20 members attended, representing the following towers: Stony Stratford, Linslade, Newton Longville, Fenny Stratford, and the local ringers. Several members of the Bedfordshire Association from Woburn put in an appearance. Their presence was greatly welcomed, and they assisted towards making the meeting a success. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Major, were rung, the bells being kept going from 3.30 p.m. to 6 p.m., when, owing to "ringing restrictions," the meeting had to be brought to a close, much to the regret of all present. It is hoped, however, that another such gathering will be soon arranged, as undoubtedly it would revive the ringing spirit, and would assist considerably towards keeping the branch together while so many of its members are away serving their country.

RINGING AT ANSTON.

On the occasion of the dedication, on February 23rd, of a brass tablet to the memory of Major John Watson Richardson, who was killed in action, the bells of Anston, Notts, were rung muffled, the local men being assisted by Signaller Frank Stenton, and 1st Air Mechanic Edgar F. Stenton, who were home on leave. On the following day, for morning service, 720 of College Pleasure was rung by: H. Turner 1, W. Platts 2, F. Stenton 3, R. Smith 4, S. Smith 5, C. Fowler 6; and for evening service, 720 of the same method, with Stuart Smith treble, H. Turner 4th. The latter was rung as a farewell touch for Frank and Edgar F. Stenton, who were returning to the army on the following day, with the best wishes of their colleagues for a "good luck" and a safe return.

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

RAISING HEAVY BELLS.

Mr. L. Longley, of Worcester, writes that Worcester Cathedral tenor, weighing 50 cwt., was once raised single-handed by Mr. E. Davies. That was about 24 years ago, when the bell hung on a wooden stock.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, the Manchester Branch held the usual monthly meeting, a good muster of ringers turning up. The Rochdale and Bolton branches were largely represented, and ringing was indulged in in various methods from early in the afternoon till 7.30, when the business meeting took place.—Mr. James Shaw presided, and welcomed the visitors, who had turned up in such good numbers, and expressed hope that ere long they would again meet at Radcliffe under happier circumstances.

Reddish was chosen as the place for the next meeting, which is to be held on April 13th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, and also to the local company for having things ready.

FAMOUS PEALS.

INTERESTING RECORDS FROM THE PAST.

Some interesting anniversaries fall in this week. The 12th of March was the 160th anniversary of the first peal of Treble Bob Maximus. It was rung in the year 1758, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, by the College Youths. It is described on the tablet as "the greatest peal ever done before on twelve bells." The tenor was rung by Joseph Monk, and the peal was called by George Meakins.

The 13th of March is the anniversary of what was probably the first peal rung by the Eastern Scholars, for their peal-book in the British Museum records the following: "No 1.—Wednesday, the 13th March, 1733, was rung at the Parish Church of St. Dunstan-in-the-East, a peal of 5040 Grandsire Tribbles. The performers, Daniel Legg, tribble; Seymour Hussey, 2; Stephen Wilmshurst, 3; Phileas Mainwaring (called the bobs), 4; Jacob Hall, 5; James Potter, 6; Samuel Vaughan, 7; John Long, tenor. The time, 3 hours, 10 minutes."

On March 14th, 1727, the Society of London Scholars rang the first peal on the bells of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 6006 Grandsire Cinques, and on the following day this record, the longest peal of Grandsire Cinques rung up to that time, was beaten by the College Youths on the same bells, by a peal of 6314. Two famous names appear in that College Youths' hand: Benjamin Annable, who rang the 11th, and called the bobs; and Robert Catlin, the famous bell founder.

March 16th is the anniversary of a peal of Bob Major, rung in 1750 at St. Bride's, Fleet, Street and in which John Holt took part.

On the same date, in 1778, the then longest length of Treble Bob Maximus (6240 changes) was rung at St. Peter Mancroft, by Norwich members of the Royal Cumberland Youths.

PEAL BOARD AT PORTISHEAD.

LADIES' PEAL COMMEMORATED.

A meeting was held in St. Peter's Belfry, Portishead, on Saturday last, for the purpose of unveiling a peal tablet which has been presented to the belfry to record the peal of Grandsire Triples rung by a band of ladies on January 5th. The tablet, which is of oak, reads as follows:—

The Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers, St. Peter's.

A peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes), Thurstan's Five-Part was rung on these bells on January 5th, 1918, in 3 hrs. 10 mins.:

*Mrs. J. E. Staley	Treble	Mrs. H. S. Briggs	5
Miss D. Sage	2	Miss N. Gillingham	6
Miss A. Stokes	3	Miss E. M. Hole	7
†Miss M. C. N. Jukes	4	Miss E. K. Parker	Tenor

Conducted by Miss N. Gillingham.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. Rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Miss Maud Pigott of Smethwick, a highly esteemed member of the Ladies' Guild. All the ladies, with the exception of Miss Parker, are members of the Portishead band. Rev. H. W. Jukes, Rector; Rev. E. Robertson, Curate, Clergy.

Mr. R. J. Hudleston and Mr. R. Corp, Churchwardens. The Rev. H. W. Jukes unveiled the peal tablet, and said that it gave him great pleasure to perform the little ceremony. There had only been two peals rung by the Ladies' Guild, and both had taken place at Portishead. He thanked the ladies for their services in the belfry Sunday after Sunday. But for them the bells would not be rung for every Sunday service.

Miss Parker of Edmonton (the premier lady ringer of the world), and Mrs. Wilkins, of Bristol, were present, and to them the Rector extended a cordial welcome.

Mr. Corp spoke of the pleasure it was to listen to the bells ringing for the services on Sundays.

Mr. Gillingham (captain of the ringers) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector, and hoped that the next peal rung by ladies would not be for such a sad occasion as the two previous ones had been, viz., for the deaths of two highly esteemed members of the Guild.

The bells were rung to Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major, eight ladies taking part in a course of Stedman Triples.

EARLY LONDON BELL-FOUNDERS.

"POTTERS" OF THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY.

Among the old city records occur the names of various men "potters" of high standing in their craft, who probably carried on the work of bell founding after those whose names were mentioned in the article last week. There was one, Henry in the Lane, who hailed from Aldgate Ward and who may or may not have carried on bell founding as part of his business. But he was held in considerable repute in his trade, for in 1316, with Robert de Raughtone and others, he was appointed to report as to the fair quantity of alloy to be put into brass goods, complaints having arisen that "many persons who busy themselves both with buying and sellings pots of brass, and more especially one Aleyn de Sopere, buy in divers places pots of bad metal, and then put them on the fire so as to resemble pots that have been used, and are of old brass, and then they expose them for sale in West-chepe on Sunday, and other festival days, to the deception of all those who buy such pots; for the moment that they are put upon the fire and become exposed to great heat they come to nothing and melt. By which roguery and falsehood, the people are deceived, and the trade aforesaid is badly put in slander."

If Henry in the Lane was not a bell-founder, Peter de Weston, his kinsman, and the guardian of his son William, certainly was one. There was a bell (the third) at Fairstead, in Essex, bearing the inscription:—

VOCOR : IOHANNES
PETRVS DE WESTON : ME : FECIT.

This lettering passed into the hands of one William Revel. And in the adjoining parish of Great Waltham, the 8th bell was inscribed, with the same cross and lettering.

HOC : SIGNVM : SERVA : XPE : MARIA :
THOMA.

At Whitwell, in the Isle of Wight, is a bell inscribed:—

MIKAELIS CAMPANA FUGIANT
PULSANTE PROPHANA. P.W.

While at Appledram, Sussex, were the two bells inscribed in the same (fourteenth-century Lombardic) letterings:—

1. SANCTA MARIA ORA PRO NOBIS. P.W.
2. BENEDICTA SIT SANCTA TRINITAS.
P.W.

There is a bell with similar initials and lettering at Stowting, in Kent.

At one time these two bells were assigned to Peter de Weston; but the cross and lettering are not only different from that on his Essex bell, but of so very different a character that it is now doubtful. On the other hand, these bells are connected, by crosses and lettering, with other bells at Washington, Beeding and Yapton, Sussex; and Chale, Isle of Wight, which bear a founder's initial "R" on them; and Peter de Weston was, as we shall see, connected with more than one founder whose name began with that letter. He may, like Richard Wymbish, have had more than one alphabet.

The earliest mention found of him is in 1336. He must have been a citizen of good position. In the list of the members returned to the Common Council elected by the Wards, in the year 1347, his name stands at the head of the list for Portsoken Ward. His will is dated in August, and enrolled in October, 1347.

This document calls for but little remark. It is at least possible that the Richard of Essex therein named is Richard de Wymbish. But it establishes the date of another bell-founder, William Schep, evidently a tenant of Peter's. He was the son of Gilbert Schep, potter, and Susanna his wife, of the parish of St. Katherine Cree who is mentioned in deeds enrolled in 1314 and 1318.

William's tenancy had expired in March, 1348, as shown by the will of Matilda, Peter de Weston's widow, which bears that date. She bequeaths to her son Thomas all that tenement, "quod quondam fuit Willelmo Schep." The only bell cast by William that survived to modern times was the 2nd at Garboldisham, Norfolk, which was re-cast in January, 1884. The inscription on it was as follows:—

AD LAUDEM SANCTI : ANTONII
VVILLELMVS : SCHEP : ME : FECIT.

The medallion and lettering were those used by Richard Wymbish on the bell at Burnham, Kent, and Slapton, Northants. The lettering passed subsequently into the hands of William Revel. Wymbish's shop has three, Schep's only two "dots."

Thomas de Weston succeeded, it would seem, to his father's business, but for a very brief period, both he and his mother dying in 1349, the year of the awful "Black Death." No bell now existing can, however, be traced to his hands. His will and that of his mother, enrolled in the same year, present no point of interest, except that mentioned above.

The next link in the chain is one of Peter de Weston's executors, John de Romeneye, and, like him, one of the representatives of Portsoken in the Common Council of 1347, his name standing second on the list. One, John de Romeneye, a "blader" or corn merchant, is mentioned in the Issue rolls of the 1st Edward II. (1308). He would probably be father to the individual now under notice, whose

earliest mention on the Hastings rolls is 1331. If the hypothesis as to the group of Sussex bells mentioned above be correct, those bearing the letter "R" at Beeding, Washington, and Yapton, may be ascribed either to him or to William de Raughtone. John de Romeneye also died in 1349. He had a son Osbert, who would appear to have predeceased him, as there is no mention of him in the will.

His widow did not long survive him, her will being enrolled at Guildhall later on in the same year. The chantry which he founded and endowed at St. Botolph's, Aldgate, continued until the earlier years of Edward VI.'s reign, when, with others, it was suppressed and its revenues confiscated. In the Guildhall "Letter Book E," under date 1365, there is a note of the appointment of a chaplain to the chantry under the provisions of the founder's will by Adam de Bury, the then Mayor.

No bells are in existence bearing his name, and, therefore, he can only be put down hypothetically as a bell-founder. There are many fourteenth-century bells whose makers are as yet unidentified; and until every county has been systematically examined, and the results made known, it will be impossible to reach any finality of identification.

William de Raughton, son of Robert, who was mentioned above, was a stepson of Peter de Weston, whose will throws some light on his family surroundings, showing a distinct connection between the last five "potters." There are no bells bearing his name as far as is known. He died in 1357.

In connection with Roger de Kyrkeby, potter, one of the witnesses to the wills both of Peter de Weston and William de Raughton, it is interesting to note that at Gainford, near Darlington, there was a bell inscribed:—

HELP MARI QUOD ROGER OF KIRKEBY
having reference, however, not to the London "potter," but to a worthy clerical namesake, Vicar of Gainford from 1401 to 1412.

The mention, in rather a curious way, of William Ryvel or Revel, in this will establishes the date of that bell-founder. It is the only trace of him that can be found at Guildhall, but he is well known by his bells in the lettering of which he used three different alphabets. Firstly, the same letters as Peter de Weston had. In this lettering, the 3rd bell at St. Laurence, Norwich, is inscribed:—

VOCOR : IOHANNES
WELELMVS : REVEL : ME : FECIT.

Two other bells in the same lettering, one at a church in Kent, with the inscription:—

TEMPORA : : FVLGVRA : DVM :
FVLSO : CESSO : MARIA :

and one at Heckfield, Hants, inscribed:—

NOW : GOD : HELP : AND : HAVE : AL

may be either by Peter de Weston or William Revel.

(To be continued.)

HERTS ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of the Western Division of the Hertfordshire Association was held on Saturday, March 2nd, at King's Langley, by kind permission of the Rev. J. P. Haythornwaite, Vicar. Members attended from Tring, Oxhey, Watford, Aldenham and Bushey, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and Bob Major, were rung during the afternoon.—The Vicar visited the tower, and welcomed the visitors, remarking also how well the bells sounded. Twenty-four members sat down to a ration tea in the Church Room, kindly provided by Mr. Fuller.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. He said he hoped when next the Association came there there would be a band of ringers to meet them.

Three new members from Watford, two from Aldenham and three from Bushey were elected. Rickmansworth was chosen for the next meeting, the date to be left with secretaries to arrange.

Mr. E. Jones, of Watford, proposed a most hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and coming amongst the ringers.—Mr. Edwards also spoke of the kindness of the Vicar. He hoped those present would do their bit and try and attend the meetings and assist in the Sunday ringing. He hoped the young ones present would persevere and do nothing to bring dishonour on the noble Association which they were joining. Their old friend, Rifleman B. Prewitt, was home from France last week, and although he was unable to attend that meeting, he had told them he would pay for tea, so that Mr. Prewitt's thoughts were with them, and they thanked him very much for paying the expenses of the tea, and hoped for his speedy return home (applause).

Mr. Smith proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Fuller for catering, and a vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding was proposed by Mr. F. Brinklow, of Oxhey.—The Vicar said it gave him great pleasure to attend and meet such an enthusiastic band of ringers, and he hoped they would soon come there again.

BURY, LANCS.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evensong, 360 Bells Minor: Joe Bromley 1, W. Andrews 2, A. White 3, S. Greenhalgh 4, J. Ramshottom 5, Joe E. Sykes (conductor) 6.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1755).—The annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 16th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon Willink, Rector of Birmingham. The bells of the Cathedral (10) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 to 5. Dinner tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 3/- each. Owing to the food difficulties it is advisable for all visitors intending to be present to apply for tickets *not later than Tuesday, March 12th*. Remittance should be enclosed with application.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Holbeck, Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 7 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16th, at Writtle. Bells available 4 till 6. Business meeting in the tower after ringing.—F. W. Edwards, Hon. Secretary, Writtle.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horfield and Filton on Saturday, March 16th. Bells available at Filton at 3 p.m., service at 4.30 p.m. Ringing at Horfield at 6 p.m., followed by business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Heywood Parish Church on Saturday, March 16th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern and Eastern Districts.—A joint meeting will be held at Knebworth on Saturday, March 16th. The tower will be open during afternoon and until 7 o'clock. "War" tea will be provided at the "Lytton Arms," 5.30, no sugar. All members and friends will be made welcome.—F. R. Bacon, W. H. Lawrence, District Secretaries.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Wood Green on Saturday, March 16th. Ringing from 2.30 to 6 p.m., followed by short business meeting. All ringing friends welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Meetings for combined practice will be held on Saturday, March 16th, at St. Mary's, Farnham Royal. Bells ready 4 o'clock until seven. A motor bus leaving Slough Station about 2.50 for Beaconsfield passes close by the Church. Saturday, March 23rd.—Slough Parish

Church, ringing from 4 o'clock until 6.45. Ringing friends' help kindly solicited.—G. H. Gutteridge, Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 21st for handbell practice, and on the 26th for general business, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting of this district will be held at SS. Peter and Paul, Swanscombe, on Saturday, March 23rd, 1918. Half rail fares up to 2/- allowed. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid on or before this meeting.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Bagshot on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided.—S. J. Shepherd, Asst. Hon. Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, March 23rd. Ringing from 3.30. All ringing friends welcome. 1918 subscriptions now due.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Selby on March 23rd, 1918. Bells (10) all day. As the secretaryship of this district is about to change hands it is hoped a good number of the members will turn up. Tea at 5 o'clock, tickets (if applied for) 1/- each.—Thos. Smith, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Woodchurch on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells (6) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Emscote (Warwick) on Easter Monday. Bells available, Leamington (8) 11 a.m. till 12.30, Emscote (8) all day, St. Mary's, Warwick (10), 6 p.m. till 7.30 p.m. Committee meeting at Emscote at 2.30; service at All Saints', Emscote, 3 o'clock, followed by business meeting in Emscote Schools. Outstanding subscriptions should now be paid.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Beaconsfield on Easter Monday. Ringing, 2.30. Service at 5, preacher, the Bishop of Bucks. Tea, on rations, at 6 p.m., only for those who notify the Secretary. Business to follow, the Rev. Canon Drummond in the chair. Subscriptions for 1918 became due on 1st January last. High Wycombe tower open 11 to 1 o'clock for 12-bell practice.—W. H. Oram, Farnham Avenue, near Slough.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary notice.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 1st, 1918. The four towers will be open throughout the day. Early ringing can be had at the six-bell towers by writing to me a few days previously. Service at Cathedral 5 p.m., with address

by the Rev. Montague Hall, Rector of Bushey. Tea in the Abbey Institute 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. *To facilitate tea arrangements kindly notify to me if attending.*—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, Russell Avenue, St. Albans.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 1st, 1918. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea will be provided at the Angel Hotel, Sidbury, at 5.15 p.m., for all those who notify me before Wednesday, March 27th, 1918 (sugar cannot be provided). Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), Hallow (8), St. Helen's (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6); these bells will be available for short touches until 9 p.m. Subscriptions should be paid, expenses received, and reports obtained, in St. Helen's Church House between 12 and 1. Peal book on view.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Easter Monday, April 1st. The bells at St. Modwen's and St. Paul's will be available for ringing from 11 a.m. Tea (1/6 each) in St. Margaret's Schools (time to be announced later). Will those who intend to be present for tea notify Mr. J. H. Benstead, 69, Scalpcliffe Road, Burton-on-Trent, by the previous Thursday morning?—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting and 8-bell contest will be held at Earlsheaton on Monday, April 1st, 1918. The ballot for order of ringing will take place in the school at 11 a.m. Ringing to commence at 11.30 prompt. Tea will be provided for ringers at 1/- each who send in their names by Monday, March 25th.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Witham on Easter Monday, April 1st. Service, with address by the Rev. Canon Galpin, at 4 o'clock. Tea will be provided at the Church Room at 5 p.m. at 9d. each. Members must notify me not later than March 28th of their intention to be present for tea.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., The Street, Rayne.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—General meeting at Tonbridge on Easter Monday, April 1st. Committee meeting in vestry 11.30 a.m. Service (with address by the Vicar, Rev. Stuart H. Clark) at 12 noon. Business meeting in Parish Room 2 p.m. Nomination of candidates to represent the Association on the Central Council (to be signed by two members) should be sent to the Secretary before March 25th.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Canterbury.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

BIRTH.

GROOMBRIDGE.—On March 6th, 1918, at 127, Crayford Way, Crayford, Kent, to Mr. and Mrs. T. Groombridge, junr., a son.

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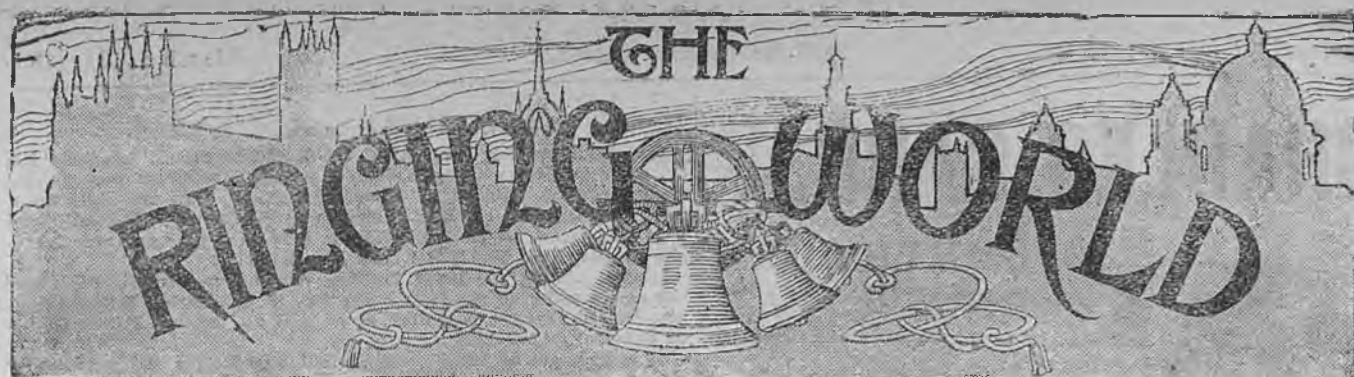
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Registered at the G.P.O. for
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Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1917
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

SURREY AND NORWICH.

Varying expressions of opinion have reached us with regard to our article on the extension of the sphere of activity of the Surrey Association to the South London district, and we feel that while our remarks have been accepted in the spirit in which they were intended by some, they have been misunderstood in other quarters. No one will deny that much good work has been done on the south side of the Thames by the old London societies, but we think it is equally undeniable that there is room for still further propaganda work in that area. We are glad to learn from a letter from the secretary of the Surrey Association that the matter is receiving the attention of that body, for we believe there is ample opportunity, without treading upon anybody's corns, to extend the usefulness of the Association northward in the county. If the question is approached in the right spirit, and we feel sure it would be, there is no reason why the London societies and the Surrey Association should not work hand in hand to advance the art of ringing. There are quite a number of towers which are outside the pale of any of the ringing organisations, and in the endeavour to bring these into one or other of the societies and to promote change-ringing within the belfries, there is ground for nothing but the friendliest rivalry.

Another recent comment of ours has brought several communications of approval, and that was the suggestion that the Norwich Association might well reconsider the decision not to hold any meetings in war time. As we pointed out in the previous article, there was every reason, when the war first came upon us, for abandoning ringing meetings, but now that the conflict is dragging into years and we know exactly where we are in regard to it, there seems no object in putting aside every kind of gathering unless it appertains to the war. There are obligations due from an association to its members, as well as from the members to their association, and an organisation which simply leaves its members to their own devices for years on end can scarcely be considered to be doing its best. The necessity for entirely suspended animation has scarcely, if ever, been warranted; but at this stage, we think, those members who are left in the belfries to carry on "till the boys come home" are entitled to some little help and encouragement from the association to which they owe allegiance. This, at any rate, is the feeling expressed in the private letters which have reached us from the Diocese of Norwich, and we hope that the Norwich Association Committee, which usually meets once a year, will on the next occasion consider whether it is not possible to reinstate, at least, the annual meeting of members. By so doing we believe they would be acting in accordance with the wishes of the majority of those now left behind.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch was held last Saturday at Heywood Parish Church, when 22 members were present from Heywood, Middleton, Milnrow, Newhey, Oldham, Todmorden, Ashton, Miles Platting, Huddersfield, and Ponderbury. The bells were kept going from 3 o'clock till 7.30, in touches of Stedman and Grand-sire Triples, Kent Treble Bob, and Bob Major.

In the evening the usual business meeting was transacted, under the chairmanship of the Rector (the Rev. J. H. Clarke, M.Sc.), and it was decided that the next meeting be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, April 13th.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Rector and wardens for the use of the tower and bells, and also to the local ringers for having everything in readiness. The Rector replied that it gave him great pleasure to welcome the members and friends of the branch to his church. He was only too sorry, that owing to the present food restrictions, it had been impossible to provide them with refreshments, but he trusted on some future occasion, when times were more normal, they might be more fittingly entertained.

Mr. John Millet proposed, and Mr. John Harrison seconded, that the Rector be elected an honorary life member of the Association, and this was unanimously carried.

Mr. Richard Thompson (of Newhey) was made a performing member of the Association.

A very enjoyable and harmonious meeting was then brought to a conclusion, with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for presiding.

The visitors desire to thank Mr. J. Harrison for his kindness in placing his house at their disposal for tea, and also for providing them with hot water.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Both 'welcome' and 'success' were written large on Saturday last, when twenty-two ringers met at Farnham Royal for a united practice. The Rev. A. Deacon cycled from Windsor with four of his pupils, the Misses Farr, Pottbury, Roe and Sword, and a Guild practice is certainly incomplete without the enthusiastic ladies, Mrs. F. Hairs, and the Misses Bateman, Cooper, Fuller, Gudgeon, and Williams, who all rang their very best. Touches in the following methods were brought round: Oxford Bob, conducted by J. J. Parker; Grand-sire by A. Mason and E. Hooper; and Stedman Triples by W. Lawrence; Double Norwich and Kent Treble Bob by W. Hewett, in which the following took part: J. Blackmore, A. Farr, Geo. H. Gutteridge, A. Leader and T. S. Smith.

It was nearly seven o'clock when the ringing ceased, and 'one of the Bells' in his quiet and matter-of-fact sort of a way, said, 'Come and have some tea with me.' Thus it was that the aforesaid enthusiastic ladies and four 'mere men' accepted his kind invitation, and they were received with a hearty welcome and hospitably entertained at the residence of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henley, to a tea that will take a bit of forgetting. A pleasant time was afterwards spent with the handbells, and touches in several methods were rung, a good 'first' being Grand-sire Caters. As time and tide—and trains—wait for no man, one of the ringers—who for 31 years has been a member of the Guild—thanked the good host and hostess. 'Good-night' was said, and all departed well pleased with the time spent.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

JOINT DISTRICT MEETING.

The joint meeting of the Northern and Eastern Districts was held at Knebworth on Saturday, when a goodly number attended from Hatfield, Hitchin, Tottenham, and Little Munden. The bells of St. Mary's Church were kindly placed at the disposal of the members, and ringing in various methods was accomplished from 3.30 till 7.30, with the exception of the interval for tea.

The business meeting was held afterwards, Mr. J. Dennis, the enthusiastic veteran, now in his 80th year, being unanimously elected to the chair.

Mr. Dennis is undoubtedly the oldest ringer in the Association, and many and varied stories he can relate in connection with his career in the parish of Knebworth. In spite of his years he is still hale and hearty, and takes as keen an interest as ever in his 'children'—the bells in the tower—and nothing gives him greater joy than hearing them ring.

THE DANIEL PRENTICE FUND.

A contribution of 8s. to this fund has been received from the Stowmarket Company, per Mr. E. E. Draper. Further donations will be gratefully acknowledged, and should be sent to Mr. W. Motts, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, March 10th, for evening service, 784 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Stuart 6, W. H. Dennison 7, J. Barrows (conductor) 8.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. SOUTHERN DIVISION.

On Saturday last, the annual meeting of the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Sheffield. By the kind permission of the Archdeacon, the bells of the Cathedral were at the disposal of the visitors from 3 o'clock to 6.30 p.m., and ringers were in great force from the following places: Doncaster, Bolsterstone, Wortley, Hoylandswaine, Thirsk, Barnsley, Rotherham, Worksop, Ilkeston, Treeton. Touches were rung in various methods, including Stedman Cinques, Treble Ten, Grandsire Caters and Superlative Surprise Major. During the ringing, many visitors, chiefly ladies, wended their way up the tower with curious thoughts and feelings, thinking and wondering what the bells were ringing for. While the ringing was in progress the Venerable Archdeacon (the Rev. H. Gresford Jones, M.A.) paid a visit to the ringing chamber, and welcomed the members of the Association to the Cathedral Church of the City. In a short speech, he urged ringers never to forget that they were giving their services to the Church of God, and rendering not only unto Him true and laudable service, but also a duty to the nation as citizens. He added that it would be a very happy time for us all when the bells would ring out for peace on the continent of Europe.

The Lord Mayor of the City of Sheffield (Alderman Cattell), who is a churchwarden at the Cathedral, also came into the ringing chamber, and after signing the visitors' book, and inspecting the peal book of the St. Peter's Amalgamated Society, extended a sincere and hearty welcome to all the members. He said he hoped the ringing would help forward the work of the "Cruiser Week," which was in full swing, with very gratifying results, and added that it would be joyful news when the bells proclaimed that the German tyrant and Potsdam bully was vanquished, and had been brought to his knees, pleading for peace and mercy for himself and his people.

The business meetings were afterwards held in the Ladies' Room at the Wostenholme Hall, when the officers for the ensuing terms were elected. Mr. G. Hawsworth, Ringing Master, presiding over the proceedings.

Mr. Frank Willey was unanimously elected to the post of vice-president and the committee were also returned to office for various terms. Mr. J. T. Rew and Mr. D. Brearley were elected to serve on the general committee.

It was suggested from the chair that Mr. F. Willey, the vice-president, be asked to carry on the work of the secretary for the ensuing year, or until such times as the honorary secretary is able to again take over the books, the secretary (pro tem.), Mr. L. Brightman, being dangerously ill.

One new member was elected, and Wath was proposed as the next meeting-place, in June.

A vote of thanks to the Archdeacon for the use of the bells, also for his address, his hearty welcome to the members, and for the wise words of counsel and advice, was passed.—A vote of thanks to the churchwardens and to the Cathedral company for their assistance in helping to make the meeting a success, was also carried, as well as a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding.—Mr. Hawsworth suitably replied, and thus ended another gathering which will remain a pleasant memory.

THE JOHNSON DINNER.

GREAT SUCCESS OF THE BIRMINGHAM GATHERING.

The Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner, held at Birmingham, on Saturday, was the greatest of all the long line of successes which have attended this gathering. Over 150 sat down to the dinner, and this number was largely augmented later for the musical programme and speeches—indeed many could not find a seat, and had to stand right through, but they were well content, for the evening was thoroughly enjoyable. The speeches were good, the Chairman (Canon Willink) and the Presiding Ringing Master of the Guild (Ald. J. S. Pritchett) being in great form. The music was most delightful, for the vocal part of the programme was largely filled by eight men of St. Martin's choir.

A further report will appear in our next issue.

THE YOUNGEST RINGER.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Would any reader of the "Ringing World" kindly inform me of the age of the youngest ringer. Our Vicar's youngest son whose age was six years last November, is able to stand on a box and ring with the other bells in rounds. He is at present too small to catch the sally, otherwise he can keep in time. He rang for his sister's wedding recently. He rings a bell (if it is possible to get Mr. Aldridge to help him) every day, besides pulling one at 12 o'clock and at both services on Sundays he comes to ring the "last bell," as he calls it, after ringing is finished, and can keep either of the first five going. This reflects great credit upon Messrs. Webb and Bennett for the way in which they rehung the bells some time ago.—Yours truly,
J. DOWER

Gosport, Oxon.

ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD, KENSINGTON.

A general meeting of the St. Mary Abbot's Guild was held in the belfry on the evening of March 4th, the Vicar and President of the Guild (the Rev. E. Marling Roberts, M.A.) in the chair.

After the usual business, including the election of officers, etc., Mr. W. E. Garrard gave a short report, in the course of which he reminded members of the loss sustained by the death of the late president—Prebendary Pennefather. He read a list of 15 members who had joined the forces, and touched upon the loss, by death, of six since the last general meeting, three years ago, three of these having died on active service.

Mr. A. B. Bennett, in thanking the Vicar and churchwardens for attending, expressed the pleasure felt by the members present in meeting their new President. — The President, in replying, said he hoped the time would soon come when the services of the Guild could once more be fully utilised. As he began to more fully appreciate the work done by his predecessor at St. Mary Abbot's the more he marvelled how it was all accomplished. None the less he hoped as time went on to come up into the belfry very frequently, a hope which met with the cordial approval of the meeting.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A small, but enjoyable meeting of the North and East District was held at Wood Green on Saturday last. The bells, a nice peal of six, with the tenor about 12 cwt., were used at intervals throughout the afternoon, to touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and Bob Minor, etc. The president took the chair at the business meeting, at which six new members were elected.—Votes of condolence were passed with the relatives of the late Messrs. R. H. Hayward and P. R. Hislop, and a hearty vote of thanks accorded the Vicar (the Rev. C. Midwinter) for the use of the bells.

DEATH OF A DONCASTER RINGER.

The band of St. George's Church, Doncaster, have lost an esteemed member by the death of Mr. G. Clow. The funeral took place on the 7th inst., and afterwards a half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 50 mins., by: A. Ashe 1, G. Clarke 2, J. Holmes 3, F. Asho 4, F. Newsome 5, F. Clarke 6, G. Halksworth 7, C. Clarke 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

OXTON, BIRKENHEAD.—Chester Diocesan Guild (Wirral Branch).—On Sunday, March 3rd, at St. Saviour's, Oxtion, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Martin 1, W. Battle 2, H. Brocklebank 3, J. Owens 4, W. Hughes 5, J. Evans 6, S. Barnes 7, H. Ludkin 8. Conducted by H. Ludkin. This is the longest touch in the method on the bells by the local band.—On Sunday, March 10th, 504 Grandsire Triples, for morning service: W. Battle 1, H. Brocklebank 2, J. Owen 3, H. Martin 4, W. Hughes 5, J. Evans 6, H. Ludkin 7, S. Moston 8. Conducted by W. Hughes. For evening service, 464 Plain Bob Major: W. Battle 1, H. Brocklebank 2, J. Owens 3, W. Hughes 4, H. Martin (conductor) 5, J. Evans 6, S. Moston 7, H. Ludkin 8.

GARGRAVE.—Yorkshire Association.—At St. Andrew's Church, on March 3rd, for evening service, a date touch (1918 changes) of Grandsire Triples: J. Wane 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, *Dr. Wales 3, C. Langstroth 4, J. McKell 5, *G. Wane 6, A. R. Jones (conductor) 7, H. Birtwhistle 8. Composed by G. R. Newton, Liverpool. * Longest length in any method.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for morning service, at the Cathedral, 503 of Grandsire Caters; and at St. Helen's Church, 350 of Triples: G. Hinton 1, J. H. Hill 2, W. Powell 3, W. Lewis 4, J. Brattell 5, J. Morris 6, L. Longney (conductor) 7, C. W. Jones 8, E. Watkins 9, W. Edgington 10.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Sunday, March 10th, at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: H. Dyas (first quarter-peal with a bob bell) 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, A. Diserens 3, A. H. Davis 4, H. T. Gowlett 5, H. N. Davis 6, W. A. Alps 7, C. Stephenson 8.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, March 10th, 1918, for Matins, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes), at St. Mary's Church, in 70 mins., by: J. Goodsell 1, C. Waghorn 2, W. H. Perry 3, J. Blake 4, T. Booth 5, Pte. G. Billeness (Bedford Regt.) 6, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 7, F. Chapman 8. Composed by G. R. Newton, of Liverpool.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.—For evening service, 720 Double Oxford: S. Game 1, B. Patmore 2, A. Lawrence 3, F. Williams 4, N. Patmore 5, W. H. Lawrence (conductor) 6.—On Feb. 24th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: S. Game 1, N. Patmore 2, F. Williams 3, C. Gale (late Yorks and Lancs Regt.) 4, A. Lawrence 5, W. H. Lawrence (conductor) 6.

STURRY, KENT.—On Sunday, Feb. 24th, for afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor: W. Goldfinch 1, F. Jones (conductor) 2, S. R. Jezard 3, W. Thompson 4, Gunner G. Chaplin, R.F.A. 5, E. Slingsby 6.

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SURREY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Sir, — The subject of your "editorial" and of Mr. Barnby's letter, relative to towers in South London, is being considered by the Executive of the Surrey Association, and the matter will probably be discussed at a future meeting. In a subsequent letter Mr. Barnby has addressed to me, he touches a very crucial point as to whether, if any action be taken, it be now or after the war.

On a broad survey of the matter it may at first sight seem an anomaly that the twelve-hell tower of St. Saviour's, the Cathedral Church of the greater part of the district now covered by the Association (with the Lord Bishop as President), together with some twenty other towers within (roughly) a five-mile radius of it south of the old county boundary, should be untouched either by the interests or activities of the Association; but it should be borne in mind that up to the founding of the Surrey Association, this district, with the rest of Surrey, save Croydon and Addington, was in the Diocese of Winchester. Then came transference in part (South London and Suburban Surrey) to Rochester; subsequently the creation of the Southwark Diocese, hence the curious boundary line of the Surrey Association in the past.

Not very long before the war the Association started a Southern District Association, with Reigate as a centre, and in a very short period this expansion proved a phenomenal success, some eleven towers, represented by 86 new members, being added in three years. This was followed by the formation of a Western District Association, with Kingston as the headquarters, but the growth in this direction was stopped abruptly by the war. The development of the Association in the South London District is destined to follow, and it is reasonable to suppose that this can be done in co-operation and complete harmony with the London Societies, all of whom are looked to for the reinforcement and aiding of neighbouring County Associations.

While the war is on, every Britisher is devoting every ounce of energy and every waking moment to fighting the Huns either on the battlefields or in the workshops and organisations at home, but when peace comes once more, the Surrey Association will take up the threads of progression which have been dropped perforce since August, 1914.

May I say that we greatly appreciate your correspondent's remarks in your issues of late on the subject, and take them as a sign of encouragement and goodwill to the Association, and those aspirations which its officers and members look forward to realising, as soon as the Boche has had his knock-out blow. May it be in 1918! — Yours faithfully,

CH. READING.

16th March 1918.

Assistant Hon. Sec.

THE SLIPS OF COMPOSERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was rather interested in your leading article on composers, and especially where you point out that the best and most painstaking of men may make mistakes. — I have had experience of how easy it is to overlook falseness in peals when you are dealing with problems outside the ordinary plans. Especially this was the case with Waterloo Reverse Boh Major. That is a first-class method, very musical, and most interesting to ring. The only reason why our band dropped it and took a sort of dislike to it was that the first peal we rang of it was false. And a splendidly rung peal it was. I took at the time every precaution I could think of to avoid mistakes, and I overlooked one thing so very obvious that I could have kicked myself when I found it out. Rather curiously, the point occurred to me during my sleep and woke me up. I got out of bed there and then, and proved the peal afresh; or rather I did not need to prove it. One look at the figures in the light of my fresh knowledge was enough. Our band rang another peal to replace the false one, but they would never start for another. And yet the method is fully worth ringing, and I can recommend it to any band that wants a change from the regular standard methods.—Yours, etc.,

France.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

RAISING OF HEAVY BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It is quite correct what Mr. Dawe says, and I have also several times pulled up St. Clement Danes' tenor (24½ cwt.) with one hand, the other being in my pocket, in the presence of a good many ringers who used to attend the St. James's Society meetings, when I was Master, about 1883 and 1884. No doubt Messrs. Dawe, Winney and Horrex can vouch for this, as they are the only old members left that I can remember who used to attend.—Yours truly

W. H. GEORGE.

GREENWICH.—At St. Alphege's Church, for morning service, on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop of Woolwich, on Sunday March 10th 1907 Grandsire Triples: C. Clark 1, H. Hawkins 2, Boer 3, J. J. Lamb 4, J. George Shade (conductor) 5, Pte. F. V. Ebberson, A.S.C. (of Fakenham) 6, T. Jakeman 7, D. Hedgson 8.

EARLY LONDON BELL-FOUNDERS.

MORE ABOUT THE CITY 'POTTERS.'

Among the London 'potters' of the fourteenth century, mentioned in our article last week, was William Revel, whose name is still to be found on a few bells.

Revel also came somehow into possession of Richard Wymbish's and Schep's letters, and we have in this alphabet, at Hassingham, Norfolk, a bell inscribed:—

W E L E L M V S : R E V E L : M E : F E C I T.

A third alphabet, much smaller, appears on the single bell at Longfield, Kent, inscribed:—

W E L E L M V S : R E V E L : M E : F E C I T

and on the only remaining bell at Rowdham, Norfolk, with a similar inscription to that on the Hassingham bell.

According to a MS. of about 1758, by a Kentish antiquary, Bryan Faussett, of Heppington, there was then at Stanford, Kent, a bell inscribed: "William Revel me fecit." This has since disappeared or been recast.

Stephen Norton "of Kent," flourished about this time. Mr. A. D. Tyssen has found him in the "Pedes Finium," under date 1364. It is doubtful whether he was a London founder, and no trace of him individually appears in Guildhall records. There are entries of men of the same surname, but of other trades, living about this time in the Parish of St. Botolph, Aldgate. He was buried at Maidstone, in the Church of All Hallows there, as is known from the will of John Mylesden (dated 1528). The name is certainly a Kentish one, and the will has been found of no less than three Stephen Nortons at Canterbury between 1500 and 1530. If he were not a London founder (as there is reason to think he was, from the finished character of his lettering), some, at all events, of his stamps came into the hands of a London founder in the following century. At Knave, in Kent, is a bell inscribed:—

S T E P H A N V S N O R T O N D E K E N T M E
F E C I T.

And at Chiselborough, Somerset, the third bell bears the inscription:—

C A R M I N E L E T A T U R P A V L V S C A M P A N A
V O C A T U R

and in addition, on the waist:—

S T E P H E N O R T O N O F K E T M E M A D E I
G O D E N T E T.

At Holy Cross, Canterbury, was formerly a bell by this founder, according to Mr. Bryan Faussett.

William Cosyn, potter and witness to the wills both of John Romeneye and William Raughton, next claims attention, as a possible bell-founder. He was a member of a family of good standing in the city. A William Cosyn (Sheriff in 1306) was one of the prominent citizens specially summoned in 1312 to consider certain royal letters. Edmund Cosyn was M.P. for the city in 1325-7. Many entries are found on the Hustings rolls of the last named William (and of his descendants), some relating to 'Cosyne's Lane' and 'Cosyn's quarf,' although the South Eastern Railway swallowed up the houses on the eastern side of it for their station at Cannon Street; the wharf was doubtless at the river end of it. He died probably in 1345, his will being enrolled in that year. He is described as "of Sutton," and was the owner of land in Surrey (notably at Mickleham), as well as in the City of London. He left several sons, one of them named William, who was a "potter," but there are no bells traceable to him.

About this time the term "potter" begins to die out from the Hustings Rolls, the trade apparently splitting up into "founders" and "braziers," the former, it would seem, consisting mainly of those whose work it was to cast, the latter, of those whose work was mainly with the hammer. The Founders Company received their ordinances (thereby gaining official recognition from the city) in 1365, John de Lincoln being the first master of the Guild, and Robert in the Lane, son or nephew of the Henry before mentioned, the second. The Braziers' Company's ordinances only date from 1416, although they were certainly in existence fifty years earlier, as they appear in a list of Guilds contributing towards the expenses of Edward III's French wars in 1363.

Robert Ryder, or Rydere, next claims attention. The first mention of him occurs in 1351, and he died probably in 1386, his will being dated in January of that year. His name is frequently found in the interval, he being sometimes styled "potter" and sometimes "brazier." Neither by cross, nor lettering is there traceable any connection with any other bell-founder. The bells by him are the 1st at Ford, Sussex, inscribed:—

R O B E R T V S R I D R E M E F E C I T,

and the 1st at Harley, Kent, with the almost similar inscription:—

R O B E R T V S R I D E R M E F E C I T.

It is possible to determine pretty nearly the site of his foundry. His will proves that he was of the parish of St. Andrew, Cornhill—the church now known as St. Andrew Undershaft. In 1405 a deed of conveyance was executed, from Robert Burford, citizen and bell-founder, to John atte Lee, citizen and candle-maker, of a house in this parish, abutting on the west of the house of Agnes atte Hale on the east and south of the house of the late Robert Rydere, and

on the north on the king's highway (of Aldgate Street). John atte Lee's will dated 1413, contains further references to this and adjoining property. Now the only part of the south side of Aldgate Street (the present Leadenhall Street), which lies in the parish of St. Andrew, extends eastwards from Lime Street for about two-thirds of the distance towards Billiter Street, and undoubtedly, by this means, it is possible to fix the site of Ryder's foundry.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

UNIQUE PERFORMANCE RECORDED.

A highly successful and happy gathering took place at Cranleigh on Saturday last, the occasion being the unveiling of a peal board recording a peal rung to honour the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Whittington. The occasion being favoured by brilliant spring weather, was attended by a numerous company, representing practically the whole of West Surrey, including Messrs. W. and F. Shepherd (Hersham), A. J. Bartlett (Chiddingfold), P. Doick (Pulborough, Sussex), Messrs. J. J. Jones (district secretary), Maurice Smither, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hazelden (Guildford), Messrs. W. Charman, Mr. and Mrs. Alwyn Charman, Mr. and Mrs. R. Whittington, and Mr. T. Streeter, of the local company, and last but by no means least, Sergt. R. Carrier, of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, now stationed at Witley Camp.

The proceedings, opened shortly after three, with a brilliant 504 Stedman Triples, by: F. Shepherd 1, Sergt. R. Carrier 2, R. Whittington 3, J. J. Jones 4, A. J. Bartlett 5, W. Shepherd 6, W. Charman (conductor) 7, C. Hazelden 8. While this was in progress there arrived Sir George Bonham, Bart., and Mr. A. Parsons, churchwardens; Mr. S. Rowland, a former churchwarden, who was responsible for the arrangements for hanging the two new bells some years ago; the Rector of Cranleigh (the Rev. P. Cunningham), with his little daughter.

The Rector, in introducing the object of the meeting, spoke of the growth which had taken place at Cranleigh in the practice of change ringing since the bells were increased from six to eight some years ago, growth which had resulted in the accomplishment of several peals in the past. The peal recorded on the board, which he had invited Sir George Bonham to unveil, and of which he (the Rector) had had a private view, was perhaps of unique interest, because it was the first peal ever rung for a silver wedding with both the husband and wife taking part in the ringing. It was also indirectly a record of long and faithful service on their part to the church. The Rector then asked Sir George Bonham to unveil the board.

Sir George Bonham, after an interesting speech, unveiled the board and the inscription was read by the Rector as follows:—

Winchester Diocesan Guild. — On December 1st, 1917, a peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes), Grove's variation of Parker's 12 part, was rung in this tower in 3 hrs. and 5 mins., by the ringers named below. The peal was rung to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Whittington, and is the first peal ever rung for that object with husband and wife taking part. This board was made and presented to the tower by Mr. William Whittington as a compliment to his brother and sister; the writing was subscribed for by the ringers of the peal: Percv Doick (Pulborough) 1, Mrs. R. Whittington 2, Charles Hazelden (Guildford) 3, Robert Whittington 4, Alwyn Charman 5, Arthur J. Bartlett (Chiddingfold) 6, William Charman (conductor) 7, Thomas Worsfold 8, Philip Cunningham, Rector; Sir George F. Bonham Bart., Arthur Parsons, Churchwardens.

The board is a magnificent specimen of ecclesiastical craftsmanship, made from solid oak, and beautifully carved. It was generally admired by the whole company.

A short touch of Grandsire Triples was then rung by the band as they stood in the peal, except the tenor which in the unavoidable absence of Mr. T. Worsfold, was rung by Mr. W. Shepherd. This was followed by other touches, after which the company adjourned to the home of Mr. W. Charman for tea. While the guests were seating themselves, Mr. Jones caused some consternation by announcing the arrival of the Food Controller. Judging from the appearance of the table it was evident that the new arrival would not be welcome. Tea was ably served by Mrs. Charman and her daughters, and afterwards ringing upon Mr. Whittington's splendid handbells and ringing 'chat' were the order of the evening. The train contingent having to leave early, Mr. R. Whittington voiced the thanks which those present felt were due to Mr. and Mrs. W. Charman for the efforts which they had made to enable the visitors to partake of tea together, and to the Rector for joining them.—The Rector, in reply, said that he felt that he himself should thank the company for allowing him to spend a pleasant evening with them. He could not adequately express his enjoyment of the beautiful exhibition which the ringers had given upon those lovely handbells. He further spoke of the time and trouble which ringers must take in order to become skilled in the art, and of the true brotherliness which its practice produced. He could not but feel that such skill could possibly be lost when we left this life. It would, of course, be passed on to others here, but he thought that even after this life, some use would be found in the life beyond for the skill developed here. The glorious things which men learn to do here would not be wasted, but would continue to be a joy in the life of the world to come.

A. C. H.

NOTICES.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—To avoid clashing with the Middlesex County meeting at Feltham, the combined practice at Slough will be postponed until after Easter.—G. H. Gutteridge, Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting of this district will be held at SS. Peter and Paul, Swanscombe, on Saturday, March 23rd, 1918. Half rail fares up to 2/- allowed. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid on or before this meeting.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bagshot on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells at 3 p.m. Cups of tea and bread will be provided. Members and visitors should bring other rations they require.—F. J. Shepherd, Dist. Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, March 23rd. Ringing from 3.30. All ringing friends welcome. 1918 subscriptions now due.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Selby on March 23rd, 1918. Bells (10) all day. As the secretaryship of this district is about to change hands it is hoped a good number of the members will turn up. Tea at 5 o'clock, tickets (if applied for) 1/- each.—Thos. Smith, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estb. 1637).—A meeting will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 26th, for general business, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—Alteration of date.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Woodchurch on Saturday, March 30th. Bells available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Emscote (Warwick) on Easter Monday. Bells available, Leamington (8) 11 a.m. till 12.30, Emscote (8) all day. St. Mary's, Warwick (10), 6 p.m. till 7.30 p.m. Committee meeting at Emscote at 2.30; service at All Saints', Emscote, 3 o'clock, followed by business meeting in Emscote Schools. Outstanding subscriptions should now be paid.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, Southport, on Easter Monday, April 1st. Bells ready at 2, service at 5, meeting at 5.30. Members intending being present please send word to Secs.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Witham on Easter Monday, April 1st. Service, with address by the Rev. Canon Galpin, at 4 o'clock. Tea will be provided at the Church Room at 5 p.m. at 9d. each. Members must notify me not later than March 28th of their intention to be present for tea.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., The Street, Rayne.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Beaconsfield on Easter Monday. Ringing, 2.30. Service at 5, preacher, the Bishop of Bucks. Tea, on rations, at 6 p.m., only for those who notify the Secretary. Business to follow, the Rev. Canon Drummond in the chair. Subscriptions for 1918 became due on 1st January last. High Wycombe tower open 11 to 1 o'clock for 12-bell practice.—W. H. Fussell, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary notice.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 1st, 1918. The four towers will be open throughout the day. Early ringing can be had at the six-bell towers by writing to me a few days previously. Service at Cathedral 5 p.m., with address by the Rev. Montague Hall, Rector of Bushey. Tea in the Abbey Institute 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. *To facilitate tea arrangements kindly notify to me if attending.*—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, Russell Avenue, St. Albans.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 1st, 1918. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea will be provided at the Angel Hotel, Sidbury, at 5.15 p.m., for all those who notify me before Wednesday, March 27th, 1918 (sugar cannot be provided). Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), Hallow (8), St. Helen's (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6); these bells will be available for short touches until 9 p.m. Subscriptions should be paid, expenses received, and reports obtained, in St. Helen's Church House between 12 and 1. Peal book on view.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Easter Monday, April 1st. The bells at St. Modwen's and St. Paul's will be available for ringing from 11 a.m. Tea (1/6 each) in St. Margaret's Schools (time to be announced later). Will those who intend to be present for tea notify Mr. J. H. Benstead, 69, Scalpcliffe Road, Burton-on-Trent, by the previous Thursday morning? Committee meeting at 3.45 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting and 8-bell contest will be held at Earlsheaton on Monday, April 1st 1918. The ballot for order of ringing will take place in the school at 11 a.m. Ringing to commence at 11.30 prompt. Tea will be provided for ringers at 1/- each who send in their names by Monday, March 25th.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—General meeting at Tonbridge on Easter Monday, April 1st. Committee meeting in vestry 11.30 a.m. Service (with address by the Vicar, Rev. Stuart H. Clark) at 12 noon. Business meeting in Parish Room 2 p.m. Nomination of candidates to represent the Association on the Central Council (to be signed by two members) should be sent to the Secretary before March 25th.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Canterbury.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Whiston, near Rotherham, on Easter Monday. Eight bells available all the afternoon. —Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at the Church House, Bedford, at 2.15 on Easter Monday. Committee meeting at 2 o'clock. The bells at St. Paul's will be available from 9 a.m., and the St. Peter's bells from 12.—A. Rust, Hon. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A special general meeting will be held on Monday in Easter week, April 1st, at the Parish Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Reigate, by permission of the Vicar, the Rev. F. C. Davies. The ten-bell tower will be available from 2 o'clock until dark. Service at 5 o'clock. Meeting at 5.45 in the Parish Hall, Lesburne Road, to elect a hon. treasurer in the place of the late Rev. A. J. W. Young. Tea will be served in the Parish Hall, Lesburne Road, at 5.45 (members 6d., visitors 1/-), to those who give me notice before Saturday.—Ch. Reading, Asst. Hon. Sec., Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting for combined practice will be held at Farnham on Saturday, April 6th, 1918. The bells (8) will be available from 6.30 p.m. till 8.45 p.m. All ringers will be welcome.—A. C. Hazelden, St. Michael's, Joseph Road, Guildford.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting and dedication and unveiling of the Spittle Memorial will be held at Dudley on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service and dedication in church at 4 o'clock, which will be conducted by the Rev. Canon Gray Maitland (President). Business meeting afterwards. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting, and it is to be hoped that all members will make an effort to attend.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Penn on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available at 3. Service in church, with address by Rev. R. N. Lawson, at 5.15. Tea (if possible) 1/-, in Parish Room at 6. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than April 2nd.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 21st annual general meeting will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, April 6th, 1918. The service will be held at 6 p.m., conducted by the Rev. H. Carrick (Vicar of St. John's). Tea will be arranged if the necessary commodities can be procured, but only for those who *notify by card* their intention to be present to Mr. W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow, *not later than March 30th.* At the business meeting the President will take the chair. The following towers will be open for ringing:—St. John's, Hillingdon, from 3 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, 4 to 5.30 p.m.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hon. Secs.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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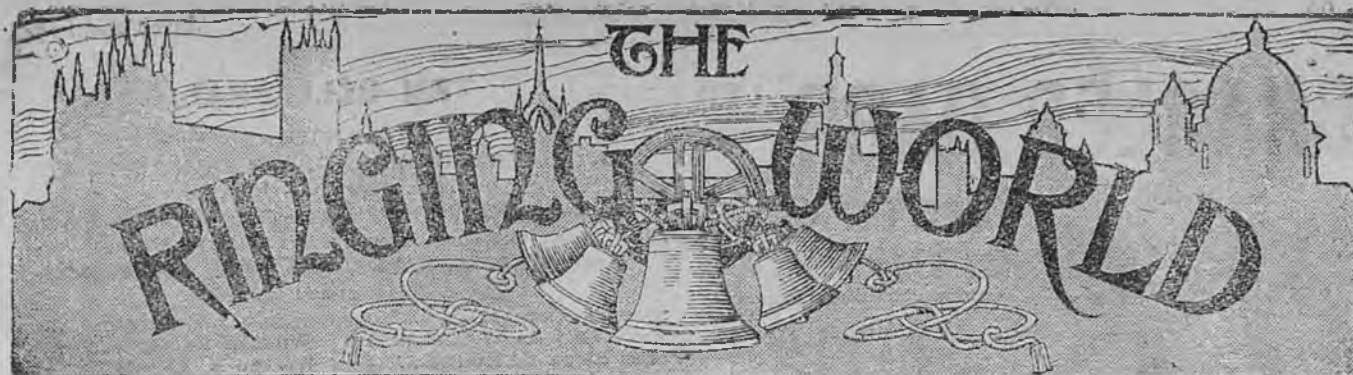


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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WOLFEON CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.
Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER

The success which attended the Henry Johnson Commemoration dinner at Birmingham on Saturday week was probably the greatest of any of the series which have been spread over the last thirty years. This success was the more conspicuous by reason of the conditions under which the proceedings were this year held. Not only was the dinner the fourth since the beginning of the war, and came at a moment of supreme crisis in the history of the country, but the limitations of travel and the restrictions upon catering were in themselves almost sufficient to jeopardise the success of any such undertaking upon a large scale. Yet it is on record that this year's gathering was attended by a larger company than any of the previous dinners, and the proceedings were never more enjoyable, if that be possible, than any that have gone before, for the principal speakers were in fine form, and the musical programme reached a high standard.

The whole proceedings were worthy of the event, and once more illustrated the capacity of the men of Birmingham to meet and overcome difficulties. They have seen no reason, despite the war, to abandon this annual event, which, after all, is a milestone in the onward march of ringing. And when the war is over it will doubtless be a matter of satisfaction to St. Martin's Guild to remember that throughout this period of great vicissitudes they did not fail, from year to year, to meet to honour the memory of one of the greatest intellects that ever adorned the Exercise.

It seems a pity that some effort should not be made to preserve more fully than it has ever yet been done the life story of some of these famous men of ringing. For instance, those who knew intimately Henry Johnson are growing rapidly fewer. When, with the passage of time, these men too shall have left us, there will be very little authentic information to be had concerning Johnson himself. Only such reminiscences as may be passed down from lip to lip—reminiscences which may gain or lose in exactitude by the retelling—will be left for us to judge the man by. In the same way the personal acquaintances of men like Haley, Cox, and other noteworthy personalities of the past, are rapidly diminishing in number. How valuable it would be for future generations of ringers if something in the nature of a detailed record of the work of these men and others like them, could be compiled and made available for reference in the future, to keep, as it were, personal touch with their lives, even though there is no one left who had enjoyed their acquaintance! There is a big scope here for anyone with literary taste and campanological enthusiasm, for much of the work of many masters of the art has been lost in the past for want of a competent biographer.

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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

OSAS EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
(ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD).

On Monday, March 18, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt., in E.

STEPHEN THOMAS Treble	WILLIAM H. THOMAS ... 6
RAYMOND JOHN WILKINS... 2	WILLIAM KNIGHT 7
MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... 3	ALFRED E. REEVES 8
CHARLES H. TOMKINS ... 4	GEORGE CONDICK, JUN. ... 9
RICHARD CLARK 5	WILLIAM A. CAVE Tenor

Composed by THE REV. H. LAW JAMES.

Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

Rung with bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. John Shopland, sexton of St. Stephen's for the past 20 years.

THE PEAL AT ST. STEPHEN'S, BRISTOL.

When the Rector of St. Stephen's (the Rev. E. J. Houghton) expressed his wish to the St. Stephen's Guild that full honours should be shown to the late sexton (Mr. John Shopland), the secretary (Mr. William Knight) acted with commendable promptitude, securing permission to ring through evensong on Monday in order that a peal might be attempted, and helping to get a band at short notice. This was not a difficult matter, for the Guild were as anxious to honour Mr. John Shopland as the Rector himself, for during all the time he had been sexton he had worked in harmony with the ringers and in few churches is this more necessary than St. Stephen's. There is no back entrance to the belfry; everyone must enter by the front gates and door, and cross the baptistry by the font, before ascending the belfry steps; but fair weather or foul, old 'Jack' was never heard to complain about the dirt the ringers left behind them, and, considering the amount of ringing done here in ordinary times, this must have been considerable. The hope of the Guild is that they will get on as well with his successor. The peal provided the opportunity for Miss Parker to ring her first peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, and for the rest of the band to ring a peal with this distinguished lady ringer.

At the funeral service, on the 18th, as the cortege was leaving the church, 188 Stedman Triples and a course of Cambridge Surprise Major with the bells muffled: A. H. Wilkins 1, R. J. Wilkins 2, R. Clark 3, W. H. Thomas 4, W. Knight 5, H. Pring 6, G. Condick 7, W. A. Cave 8.

STEDMAN MINOR.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The principle given as 'Stedman Minor' in your issue of the 8th is very clever. But it can hardly be called Stedman. I thought the Exercise was agreed that the defunct and illegitimate principle, known as Shipway's Principle, was the correct extension of Stedman to even numbers. Anyway, they will find the proof that it is in various back numbers. The principle given approximates to the legitimate method 'Double Stedman,' and might be fairly called the adoption of that method to a principle. I am afraid its practical use is rather endangered by the fact that the plain course is not a factor of 720.—Yours truly,

1/5th St. Lanes Regt., B.E.F.

Second-Lieut.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the South-Eastern District, held at Writtle on Saturday week, members attended from Boreham, and the local company. Second Corp. E. G. Buesden, of Canterbury, who is stationed in this district with the A.A. Section of R.E., was also present. The methods rung during the afternoon included Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Plain Bob, and Kent Treble Bob Major.

At the business meeting, which followed, presided over by the District Master, M. J. Marks, of Boreham, was elected a member. Boreham was selected as the place for the next meeting, to be held in June. It was decided that this should be an evening meeting.

GORING, OXON.—Recently, in the belfry of the Parish Church, on handbells, 360 Grandsire Doubles: Miss S. Tarrant 1, Leslie Haines 2, J. Bower 3—4, W. Napper (conductor) 5—6; and 120 Bob Doubles, Harold Hague ringing the treble, the rest as above. — On Sunday morning, for Divine service, 360 Bob Minor: L. Haines 1, J. Bower 2, W. Aldridge 3, J. Carter 4, W. Napper 5, G. Wilson (conductor) 6. For evening service, 360 in the same method, H. Hague ringing the treble. Credit must be given to the ringers of the treble, as they only commenced to ring a church bell in October last, the ages of L. Haines and H. Hague are respectively 13 and 14 years.

A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.**CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. CHALLIS WINNEY.**

At St. Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate, E.C., on Sunday evening, March 17th, for service, a quarter from Carter's Odd Bob peal of Stedman Triples was rung by eight members of the College Youths to celebrate the 60th birthday of Mr. Challis F. Winney, the ringers being: C. F. Winney (conductor) 1, G. R. Fardon 2, A. Disorens 3, Churchwarden T. Walker 4, E. F. Pike 5, W. A. Alps 6, T. H. Faffender 7, A. S. Pettitt 8. Time, 47 mins. Mr. Winney was the recipient of many hearty congratulations and good wishes.

Mr. Winney was born on March 17th, 1858, and became a ringer quite early in life. He has been a most valuable help to many, both on church bells and handbells, and in his distinguished ringing career has taken part in some difficult peals, as well as proving himself a brilliant conductor.

The occasion was of further interest, inasmuch as in addition to its being Mr. Winney's birthday, it was also the 44th anniversary of his old friend (Mr. W. A. Alps) being elected a College Youth, viz., on March 17th, 1874. Some 39 years ago Mr. Winney, in visiting Waltham Abbey, saw the youngster ringing Stedman 'double-handed,' and remarked at that time: 'I wonder if I shall be able to ring a pair inside in Stedman.' It is well known how he has distinguished himself in this particular method since then, and the service which he has rendered to ringing is much appreciated by his many friends.

Some time ago, Mr. Alps, in speaking at a meeting of the College Youths, said that perhaps the fact of their friend, Mr. Winney, being born in the year of the great Comet might account for his being such 'hot stuff' as a conductor, which caused much laughter. Although a very sharp Master at times, he has been of most valuable assistance to many members of the Exercise which he adorns.

The quarter-peal was also interesting, from the fact Mr. Churchwarden T. Walker took part in the ringing. He is a very active member of the Exercise, and during his year of office has always taken a keen interest in ringers generally. It is hoped he may be re-elected at the forthcoming Easter vestry. Mr. Walker takes an equally keen interest in other matters connected with his office as churchwarden.

RINGING NEWS OF 70 YEARS AGO.

Mr. E. Ridgeway, of Leek, writes: On looking through the 'Local Intelligence Columns' of two old Leeds papers, bearing the date July 4th, 1848, I came across the following items which I thought might be of interest to ringers of to-day. The following is from the 'Leeds Intelligencer':—

'False report about the ringing of the bells at Pontefract Parish Church.—We have received the following letter in answer to one which was copied from the "Cambridge Advertiser" into last week's "Intelligencer":—

'Dear Sir,—In your valuable journal of Saturday last, you have an article in reference to the winnings of Mr. Gully's horses, Pyrrhus and Mendicant, in the Derby and Oaks races. It is made to appear that the bells of the Parish Church at Pontefract were rung until every rope was broken. I have the pleasure to inform you that such was not the case, as they are in good order, and quite whole; and also that the ringers have the possession of the keys of the bell chamber, and, as soon as the minister and the churchwarden were aware what the ringing was for, immediately caused them to cease, being fully convinced that a building consecrated to the service of God, was never intended as an instrument to celebrate the success of any gentleman in the winning of races; and as to the treating in every public-house, I have not heard that any money was given in Pontefract for such a purpose. Trusting you will give this a place in your journal.

I remain, dear Sir, yours most respectfully,

MATTHEW DAWSON, Churchwarden.

Another letter also appears, but would be too lengthy for your limited space.

Under the same heading appears the following:—

'Leeds Parish Church Clock.—We were last night informed that this useful clock ceased to strike yesterday, in consequence of the want of a new rope. We are requested to call the attention of the public to this fact and to say that unless some £3 is raised by voluntary subscription (the churchwardens having no funds) the inhabitants will be deprived of hearing the welcome sound of the clock in future.'

In the local news column of the 'Leeds Mercury,' bearing the same date, appears the following:—

'Holmfirth.—We hear that a trial of skill in the art of change ringing will take place on the bells of Holmfirth Church, on Monday, July 27th, 1846.

Yours respectfully,

E. A. RIDGEWAY, Leek.

DALTON-EN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, March 17th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Smart 2, J. Huddleston 3, T. Watson (conductor) 4, W. H. Dannison 5, J. Burrows 6.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**WESTERN DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.**

The annual meeting of the Western District was held at Holbeck, on Saturday week, when 40 members were present from Guiseley, Shipley, Tong, Pudsey, Hunslet, Earlsheaton, Leeds Parish Church, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Burley, Bolton, Halifax, Lightcliffe, Holbeck St. Francis, and the local company; the visitors included the following soldiers home on leave, Sgt. Jackson, of Guiseley; Pto. Simpson, of Shipley; Pto. J. McHale, of Holbeck St. Francis, and Lance-Corpl. Cundale, of the local band; also Mr. C. C. Mayna of Beaconsfield (Bucks). The ring of eight were well utilised until dusk in touches of Bob Minor and Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major.

Members and friends sat down to tea in the school, cups of tea being provided at a small cost, and the visitors bringing their own eatables.

The business meeting was held in the evening. Mr. G. B. Bolland presided, supported by the Rev. C. C. Marshall (President of the Association), the Rev. Thom. Handley (curate-in-charge of Holbeck), Mr. J. Cotterell (hon. treasurer), Mr. P. J. Johnson (Ringing Master), etc.

Mr. G. B. Bolland was re-elected vice-president of the district for the next three years, on the proposition of the Rev. C. C. Marshall, seconded by Mr. H. Smith.

The election of committeemen was then proceeded with, the chairman briefly explaining the alteration in rule upon this point. Previously nine had been elected annually, but in future three would be elected each year to serve for three years, one out of these to sit on the General Committee of the Association, and to bring this about it was necessary to elect now three for three years, three for two years, and three for one year. Messrs. Herbert Dransfield (Earlsheaton), Smith (Leeds Parish Church), and Gill (Bolton) were elected for three years; Lawson (Lightcliffe), Peel (Birstal), and Bancroft (Keighley) for two years; F. Dixon (Guiseley), Broadley (Shipley), and Hardcastle (Bradford) for one year. Of these Messrs. Dransfield, Lawson and Dixon were chosen to serve on the General Committee.

The place for the June meeting was brought forward, the Chairman announcing that the Vicar of Northwram would welcome the Association there. This was put to the meeting, and unanimously carried.

A vote of thanks to the Church authorities was passed, on the proposition of Mr. Johnson seconded by Mr. Gill.—The Rev. Thomas Handley, in replying, said how pleased he was to welcome the ringers to Holbeck, and how the sound of the bells had inspired him as he came along that evening. He also referred to the stronger relationship which existed now between the belfry and the east end of the church, and said that of recent years the ringers had become great church workers. In conclusion, he said he hoped the Association would pay another visit to Holbeck.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall, in proposing a vote of thanks to the local company, referred to the present difficulties in providing for a meeting, and said he hoped that other companies would try to follow that day's example as regards the tea.—This was seconded by Mr. Cotterell, and carried; Mr. G. A. Jowett, of the local company, suitably responding.

In the absence of Mr. Williams (who was suffering from a severe cold), the Rev. C. C. Marshall said a few words on behalf of the sub-committee about the emblems. They had received the proofs (which were on view in the room), and the bulk would be ready in a few days, and on arrival would be sent out to the district secretaries for distribution; also photos of the Snowden Memorial tablet will shortly be sent to the different towers, and he believed by now the tablet had been fixed in Ilkley Church.

A vote of thanks was passed to the secretary for his services and this concluded the business. Afterwards the handbells were then brought in use, touches and courses of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Caters and Cinques, Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal, and Stedman Triples being successfully brought round, terminating a very pleasant meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

NORTHAMPTON.—Central Northants Association.—At All Saints' Church on Sunday, Feb. 3rd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Blundell 1, A. P. Hensman 2, S. J. Lawrence 3, R. Rollings 4, F. Hopper 5, H. Rainbow 6, W. Farer (conductor) 7. Driver W. G. Farer 8. Arranged for Driver W. G. Farer, who was home on leave from France.—On Sunday, March 3rd, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major: Lance-Corpl. J. C. Dean 1, A. P. Hensman 2, T. Law 3, F. Hopper 4, S. J. Lawrence 5, H. Rainbow 6, H. Blundell 7, W. Farer (conductor) 8. Arranged for Lance-Corpl. J. C. Dean, who was home on leave from Italy.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At St. John's Church, on Sunday morning, March 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandire Triples, in 43 mins.: T. Eustachy 1, W. J. Jeffries 2, E. J. Pannett 3, Pto. F. S. Bacon 4, Pto. C. V. Ebberson (Wakenham, Norfolk) 5, J. Law 6, E. B. Crowder (conductor) 7, A. E. Reuningham 8.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION.

GREAT SUCCESS OF THE BIRMINGHAM DINNER.

The 30th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner, notwithstanding the fact that it fell in the fourth year of the Great War, at a time when cheap railway tickets are but a memory of the past, and travelling facilities no longer facilitate travelling, when food is scarce, and prices are high, proved to be the greatest success of the whole series. This popular function and it certainly gets more popular as the years go by, was held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 16th, and the large number present amply justified the decision of the members of St. Martin's Guild to carry on if possible without breaking the sequence of these commemorations, even if it comes in the end to a 'cold collation'!

As it was quite a good war-time dinner was served consisting of soup, roast beef, boiled mutton, various vegetables, sweets, cheese and celery. No one could claim to have been overloaded, and those present were enjoined to note the quotation appearing on the menu under 'joins' which read as follows: 'It is not the quantity of the meat, but the cheerfulness of the guests which makes the feast.'

Undoubtedly the magnetic personality of the chairman Canon Willink was responsible in a great measure for the record attendance, and Birmingham ringers count themselves most lucky in having, in the person of the Rector of Birmingham, a man of great breadth of vision, of obvious sincerity, one who has shown in countless ways that he is a real friend of ringers. Truly it is not for nothing that he is called the 'Guild's Own Rector.'

One hundred and fifty-five persons including about three dozen ladies, sat down to dinner, and afterwards this number was largely augmented by those who came to hear the speeches and enjoy the musical items.

The Chairman was supported by the Guild's Presiding Ringing Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Taylor, Mr. J. J. Kendall, churchwarden of St. Martin's; Dr. Mulins and Mr. Woolleton, churchwardens of St. Phillips'; Messrs. Ediss, Parsons, Mason Heaton, Tilley and Tunstall. Officers of the Guild present were Vice-Presidents J. Carter, W. H. Godden and W. Kent; J. H. Groves, Deputy Ringing Master; Thomas Russam and Charles Dickens, trustees; J. E. Wells and G. F. Swann, auditors; Albert Walker and Wm. Short, past Masters; and A. Paddon Smith, hon. secretary.

Apologies were received from the Rev. G. E. Badger, Canon Reader-Smith, Messrs. J. H. Shepherd, J. S. Goldsmith, W. Cheshire, F. E. Dawe, and J. C. Achurch.

THE PROGRAMME.

A pleasing feature of the gathering was the presence of Messrs. Barr, Bayliss, Bennett, Chapman, Gorman, Hale, Matthews and Reid, of St. Martin's choir, who rendered in grand style the glee, 'Comrades in Arms,' followed by 'The Long Day Closes' as an encore. Mr. Bennett also sang a song, 'The Ringers,' a most appropriate and comical turn which caused much amusement. Messrs. Barr and Reid sang 'The Sailor's Grave' and 'I fear no foe' respectively, both items being much appreciated. Mr. Harry Withers again excelled himself tapping (or rather playing) a good course of Steedman Cinques on his dulcimer, this being the first time he has done it in public. It is probably the most difficult thing Mr. Withers is called upon to do, owing to the fact that it is impossible to pick a ring of twelve on the dulcimer without having to cross the 'bridge' in the centre. What this means when he has two bells dodging together, one of which is at the top of the left-hand side and the other at the bottom of the right-hand side, we will leave the reader to imagine. And remember that while he is doing this the other ten have got to be 'rung' as well. Whew! However, he got through all right, and a thunder of applause greeted the run home. He also delighted his audience with a musical selection. Another first-class turn was put up by Mr. J. Jones and Master Rosa Laban, who played the 'Hungarian Rhapsody' as a duet on the violin and piano in a masterly manner.

Mr. Frank Bank's party was responsible for an instrumental trio, and Mr. Tom Russam's daughter, Mrs. Davies, was as good as ever at a position she has occupied with success on several of these occasions, and which is looked upon now as hers by right.

In accordance with old-established custom a course of Steedman Cinques on handbells followed the toast of 'The Memory,' the performers being Messrs. Perrons, Russam, Walker, Groves, Swann and Neal.

During the afternoon the bells of the Cathedral and Bishop Ryder's were made use of, although it cannot be said that they made up for 'the twelve' St. Martin's, of course, not being available at present.

Canon Willink proposed the toast of 'The King,' remarking upon his Majesty's devotion to duty, and saying that we were indeed a favoured nation in these days of many changes and such extraordinary surprises in the political world. In these days, when crowns were falling to right and left, our king stood higher in the estimation of his people than any other king had done before, and they were thankful that the holder of the office of the kingship of our land was such a king as he is.

A verse of the National Anthem was sung with great heartiness.

CHURCH AND STATE.

Dr. Malins submitted 'Church and State.' He said it was two years since he had the pleasure of addressing them on an occasion similar to the one which they celebrated that evening. Then they accorded him a very kindly welcome, and he desired now to offer them thanks for the repetition of that invitation not only for the thoughtfulness, but for the assurance that it brought to his mind of the interest of their art in the affairs of the Church. If they looked back in the annals of the country, they would find the Church existed long before the State. In their locality there was a Bishop of Worcester in 689, whereas the first King of England, Egbert, did not reign until 807. They were told by many people in the present day that the close alliance between the Church and State must cease, that the Church must now be disestablished and disendowed and the proceeds given over to secular purposes; that religion should not be connected with the State in any form; that the State should go its own way and the Church its own, that, generally, it should be left to take care of itself. They said they wanted the wholly free exercise of liberty of conscience, and that this conducted to the best interests of Church, State, and individual. But it was not always so. They were living in the middle of a great war, in which their minds were fully occupied, and the outlook was still obscure. When they turned back to their own country they found that it was necessary to have the best support from all classes of the State, so that the two together act distinctly better in conjunction than by themselves. It was a deeply important point, that the Church, which had been preserved for so many ages past, should be allowed to have a voice in this matter. They were on the eve of great changes. The future would bring changes and reform in politics, religion, in State, society, and all conditions around them, and it would be for them to take their own individual parts willingly in the interests of the country. Continuing, Dr. Malins said their excellent friend, Mr. Smith, than whom could he find no more zealous a secretary of the bell ringers of that city had said something about the bells of St. Phillip's not being in action. When the members of that Guild gave the public the satisfaction of ringing the bells of St. Phillip's, a gentleman living not a hundred miles away, said, 'Dear me, what is the matter? how beautiful are the bells!' That man was a repentant sinner, for not long ago he used to pour out his wrath on those who set the bells in motion, and threatened to obtain an injunction. The bells had always given joy and satisfaction to the people who had heard them. They expressed consolation and jubilant feelings, and he could only say to them all: 'Go forth with manly hearts, ring out false pride, ring in the love of truth and right, ring in the love of communion with God' (applause).

The toast was enthusiastically honoured.

HENRY JOHNSON.

Mr. W. H. Godden proposed 'The memory of the late Henry Johnson.' He was sure, he said that Henry Johnson would have been delighted to be at such a gathering as that. The little he (the speaker) had to say about him that night could be summed up in the very apt quotation their secretary has placed at the foot of the toast—'So famous, so excellent in the art.' He (Mr. Godden) never knew Henry Johnson at the end of a rope. There were a few there who did, but they got less and less every year. He hoped that gathering would always be held, and held in his honour and he asked them to rise and drink in silence to the memory of a great and good man, the late Henry Johnson.

At this point, the Rector asked leave to vacate the chair for a little while, as he had to meet the headmaster of Malvern College who was arriving by train in a few minutes. This gentleman was to be his guest over the week-end, and was preaching in the Parish Church on Sunday evening. He would return to the gathering in a few minutes, and would bring his friend with him (loud cheers). He would ask Mr. Taylor to take the chair during his absence.

ALDERMAN PRITCHETT'S REVIEW.

Alderman Pritchett was once more in reminiscent and facetious mood when he proposed: 'Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild.' He said: I don't know whether you read the notices on the toast list; if so, you observe the one annexed for this toast is:—

'Look; he's winding up the watch of his wit;
By-and-by it will strike.'

This is rather inappropriate, because I overwound the watch last time, and I have not been able to get it repaired, as watchmakers are very scarce (loud laughter). I have made feeble attempts in previous years to cover a lot of ground in a short time, and so I will begin with the graver topics and proceed to the more lively ones. First, we have to record the loss of three gallant fellows, who have given their lives for us and for their country during the past year: George Parsons, of Erdington; H. Howells, of Smethwick; and Frank Withers, of Selly Oak. I have often rung with Frank Withers, and I said all I have to say about him in 'The Ringing World' a few weeks ago. His loss is indeed a severe one. Last year I had a companion to go home with, but this time I have to go alone, for I have lost my old friend, William Palmer. He was a man who had his faults, but he

was a most enthusiastic ringer, most faithful to the Church, and we shall miss him.

Passing from those who have gone we come to those who are absent, and I am sorry to say our venerable Vice-President, Mr. Faux, who was 81 years of age on March 1st, is in a very critical state of health. We hope he will be spared for some years yet. I should not like to forget our old friend, Jimmy Jones. We have had many a laugh at his expense, but he can only just hobble round his house now, so that I don't think we shall ever see him here again. We are glad, however, to see many of the old veterans here to-night. Mr. Rock Small comes up smiling once more. We heartily congratulate him on ringing a peal a few weeks ago, and hope he will live to ring many more (cheers). I am very glad to see Mr. John Carter. I understand he is very busy making munitions, and, incidentally, investing very considerably in War Bonds (laughter). There is another old veteran we are delighted to see here, Mr. John Buffery. I should like to ask him if he can remember coming to see me at Oxford 13 years ago (Oh!), and whether he remembers the pigeon pie, and that glorious silver tankard of extra strong old ale (laughter), which he drank off, saying he thought it was soda water! (loud laughter). I hope he will pardon my mentioning it, but there was to have been some ringing after lunch, and we had to look out a substitute and get a local ringer (loud laughter, and cries of 'I say, Johnny!') Extra strong old ale is very scarce nowadays, but I hope he will have an opportunity of drinking a little yet before he finally departs (Mr. Buffery echoed the hope amidst much laughter). I am glad to see Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, who are heartily welcome. We are glad Mr. Taylor has been able to get a supply of petrol to get here, and I believe he told several policemen on the way that he was on war duties. I hope he will get back safely. Another gentleman I should like to mention because he has been in very indifferent health for the past two years, is Mr. Geoffrey Martineau, of Solihull. We wish him every success with his lady ringers, of whom some six or seven are present to-night (cheers). There are 19 of our old fellow ringers and companions serving their King and country in various fields. We wish them a happy return, and the sooner they come back the better (hear, hear). I think I might mention the absence of Mr. James George. I don't know the reason, but although he is not here to-night he is represented by four of his lady ringers (cheers), and I can assure you it is very pleasant to visit Bishop Ryder's Church and see these ladies struggling with the bell ropes (laughter). I am sure they will ultimately be a success. One of them here to-night welcomes her husband from the front shortly, and I hope he is safe and sound. We congratulate her on that fact. Before leaving Mr. George, I may say he wrote me a short time ago, and said he was suffering from influenza, and had lately lost his landlady, and was in consequence in low spirits. At any rate, although absent, we should like to congratulate him on having completed 605 peals.

GUILD PERFORMANCES.

With regard to achievements, during the past year there have been few, but a peal of Stedman Cinques was rung at St. Martin's Church on Boxing Day. We are glad to hear from the Rector to-night that there is nothing seriously the matter with the steeple, and that whatever it is, it shall be put right immediately (cheers). I hope we shall hear more peals during the coming year, but I trust there will be no muffled peals (hear, hear). The handbell ringing has gone on splendidly during the past year, and I am quite right in saying, thanks to Messrs. Groves and Walker in particular, that St. Martin's Guild would head the list of all in the country for such peals. Sir Arthur Heywood, had he been alive, would have been greatly delighted. He used to appreciate Stedman Cinques on handbells. I find that in the Birmingham Public Library there are no ringing journals, and I intend, as chairman of the committee of the library, to have as complete a set of ringing books as I can get together (cheers), in particular 'The Bell News' and 'Ringing World.' We have not yet advertised, but we shall be very pleased to purchase them at a fair price, and I give you the first offer. This toast list, added Alderman Pritchett, which is the work of our energetic and indefatigable secretary, is a work of art. It shows the greatest ingenuity and perseverance, and I intend depositing this toast list that I have in my hand in the local collection in the Reference Library, so that it can be preserved for all time, as a memento of this gathering (loud cheers). I congratulate Mr. Smith on this record gathering, there are 155 present, the largest we have ever had, due in a great measure to the ladies, who are coming amongst us in increasing numbers. The more they come the merrier: we are delighted to see them, and we hope there will be still more. Ladies are coming into their own in every direction. They have got the vote, and there is no reason why they should not compete in the belfries with the men. There is nothing by which I can express the great indebtedness of the Guild to Mr. Paddon Smith, and particularly for the splendid manner in which he has organised this magnificent gathering.

The toast was received with musical honours, and Mr. Paddon Smith in reply, thanked the company for the way in which they had received his name in connection with the toast.

(To be continued.)

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Emscote (Warwick) on Easter Monday. Bells available, Leamington (8) 11 a.m. till 12.30, Emscote (8) all day, St. Mary's, Warwick (10), 6 p.m. till 7.30 p.m. Committee meeting at Emscote at 2.30; service at All Saints', Emscote, 3 o'clock, followed by business meeting in Emscote Schools. Outstanding subscriptions should now be paid.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, Southport, on Easter Monday, April 1st. Bells ready at 2, service at 5, meeting at 5.30. Members intending being present please send word to Secs.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Witham on Easter Monday, April 1st. Service, with address by the Rev. Canon Galpin, at 4 o'clock. Tea will be provided at the Church Room at 5 p.m. at 9d. each.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., The Street, Rayne.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Beaconsfield on Easter Monday. Ringing, 2.30. Service at 5, preacher, the Bishop of Bucks. Tea, on rations, at 6 p.m., only for those who notify the Secretary. Business to follow, the Rev. Canon Drummond in the chair. Subscriptions for 1918 became due on 1st January last. High Wycombe tower open 11 to 1 o'clock for 12-bell practice.—W. H. Fussell, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary notice.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 1st, 1918. The four towers will be open throughout the day. Early ringing can be had at the six-bell towers by writing to me a few days previously. Service at Cathedral 5 p.m., with address by the Rev. Montague Hall, Rector of Bushey. Tea in the Abbey Institute 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. *To facilitate tea arrangements kindly notify to me if attending.*—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, Russell Avenue, St. Albans.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Easter Monday, April 1st. The bells at St. Modwen's and St. Paul's will be available for ringing from 11 a.m. Tea (1/6 each) in St. Margaret's Schools. Committee meeting at 3.45 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting and 8-bell contest will be held at Earlsheaton on Monday, April 1st, 1918. The ballot for order of ringing will take place in the school at 11 a.m. Ringing to commence at 11.30 prompt.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Whiston, near Rotherham, on Easter Monday. Eight bells available all the afternoon.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 1st, 1918. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea will be provided at the Angel Hotel, Sidbury, at 5.15 p.m. Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), Hallow (8), St. Helen's (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6); these bells will be available for short touches until 9 p.m. Subscriptions should be paid, expenses received, and reports obtained, in St. Helen's Church House between 12 and 1. Peal book on view.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheeppcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at the Church House, Bedford, at 2.15 on Easter Monday. Committee meeting at 2 o'clock. The bells at St. Paul's will be available from 9 a.m., and the St. Peter's bells from 12.—A. Rust, Hon. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A special general meeting will be held on Monday in Easter week, April 1st, at the Parish Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Reigate, by permission of the Vicar, the Rev. F. C. Davies. The ten-bell tower will be available from 2 o'clock until dark. Service at 5 o'clock. Meeting at 5.45 in the Parish Hall, Lesburne Road, to elect a hon. treasurer in the place of the late Rev. A. J. W. Young. Tea will be served in the Parish Hall, Lesburne Road, at 5.45 (members 6d., visitors 1/-), to those who give me notice before Saturday.—Ch. Reading, Asst. Hon. Sec., Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—General meeting at Tonbridge on Easter Monday, April 1st. Committee meeting in Vestry 11.30 a.m. Service (with address by the Vicar, Rev. Stuart H. Clark) at 12 noon. Business meeting in Parish Room 2 p.m. Travelling expenses up to 2/6 will be paid to members after the service. Towers open for ringing—Tonbridge (8), Marden (8); and in the afternoon, Speldhurst (8), Hadlow (8), Shipbourne (6), and East Peckham (6).—Fred. J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Canterbury.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Slough Parish Church bells (8) will be available for ringing on Easter Monday morning from 10 o'clock until 11.15. Afterwards Farnham Royal (8) from 11.30 until 1 o'clock, previous to the annual meeting at Beaconsfield.—G. H. Gutteridge, Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on April 4th and 18th, and for general business on the 9th and 23rd, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, April 6th, 1918. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting for combined practice will be held at Farnham on Saturday, April 6th, 1918. The bells (8) will be available from 6.30 p.m. till 8.45 p.m. All ringers will be welcome.—A. C. Hazelden, St. Michael's, Joseph Road, Guildford.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting and dedication and unveiling of the Spittle Memorial will be held at Dudley on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service and dedication in church at 4 o'clock, which will be conducted by the Rev. Canon Gray Maitland (President). Tea will be provided by the Ringing Master (Harry Mason, Esq.) for those who notify me not later than Tuesday, April 2nd. Business meeting afterwards. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting, and it is to be hoped that all members will make an effort to attend.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The committee meeting usually held in April will not be "called" this year, but if possible it will be arranged to meet before the annual general meeting on the same date, notice of which will be duly given.—Richard T. Hibbert, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Penn on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available at 3. Service in church, with address by Rev. R. N. Lawson, at 5.15. Tea (if possible) 1/-, in Parish Room at 6. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than April 2nd.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 21st annual general meeting will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, April 6th, 1918. The service will be held at 6 p.m., conducted by the Rev. H. Carrick (Vicar of St. John's). Tea will be arranged if the necessary commodities can be procured, but only for those who *notify by card* their intention to be present to Mr. W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow, *not later than March 30th*. At the business meeting the President will take the chair. The following towers will be open for ringing:—St. John's, Hillingdon, from 3 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, 4 to 5.30 p.m.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hon. Secs.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this Society will be held at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, on Saturday, April 6th. Bells will be available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. The business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall at 7 p.m., when the nomination and election of officers will take place. A good attendance is desired.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth's, Reddish, on Saturday, April 13th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth on Saturday, April 13th. Bells will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. till dark. Business meeting will be held in the Church House at 5.30 p.m. Subscriptions for 1918 were due January 1st.—William Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, APRIL 5th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

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Gentlemen.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorized by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

RINGING BOOKS IN LIBRARIES.

The announcement made at the Johnson Dinner by Alderman J. S. Pritchett that he intended, as chairman of the Birmingham Public Library Committee, to obtain for that library as complete a set of ringing books and periodicals as he can get together, was naturally received with enthusiasm at such a gathering of ringers. The statement will, however, have been noted with interest far beyond the limits of Birmingham, for there is nowhere that we know of, with the possible exception of the British Museum itself, where anything like a collection of books relating to ringing exists in a public library. For the most part, ringers have to depend upon their own personal collections of such volumes, and, naturally, the limits of opportunity to add to such collections, as well as restrictions of purse, make it impossible for any but a very few to get together even a moderate number of volumes dealing with bells and bell ringing.

The absence of such books from our public libraries is due in the main to the fact that the subject is so little known outside the ringing fraternity, and consequently they would interest only a comparatively small circle, and yet it seems only right that the literature connected with such an essentially English art should find a place on the shelves of some of the principal libraries in the land. In the district of Birmingham there happen to be a large number of ringers who would doubtless take advantage of the opportunity from time to time to utilise such volumes for the purposes of reference if they are at hand, and it is fortunate that they have at their head a gentleman who is in a position to carry out the suggestion that he has made. Alderman Pritchett's connection with ringing places him in a unique position to enable him to make the best choice.

Later on some other large towns may perhaps be induced to take the same step with regard to putting ringing literature into their public libraries, but there is already open to ringers in most districts a means of setting up a useful and comprehensive library of books on bells and bell ringers. We have referred to this matter before, and pointed out what has been done in this direction by the Hertford County Association. Individual county or diocesan societies have the means of setting up most useful and instructive collections of this kind, which can be made available for the use of any of their members. The Hertford Association has a very considerable library, of which in normal times a great deal of use is made, and what Hertfordshire has done other associations can do. It may not be quite so convenient as being able to go to a public library and take a book from the shelves, but an association library does get over a great many obstacles which otherwise exist in bringing the books and the readers together.

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THOS. WM. ROBBINS ... Tenor

Conducted by SERGEANT ERNEST MORRIS, A.S.C.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of all those who have fallen in the great war.

This peal is the first ever rung on these bells, and in this method by all except the conductor, who belongs to Leicester.

WRITTLE RINGERS' LOSS.

It is with regret we have to report the death, at the age of 54, of Mr. Fredk. Edwards for 26 years tenor ringer at Writtle. Deceased was taken ill about six weeks ago, and passed away on March 22nd. He was buried on the 27th inst., the coffin being conveyed from his home by six of his fellow ringers, who acted as bearers. The bells were rung at each service on Palm Sunday, half-muffled, to his memory: 504 Stedman Triples, for morning service; 420 for evening service in the same method, by: R. Wood 1, F. W. Edwards 2, G. W. Sorrell 3, F. G. Radley 4, T. Lincoln 5, A. Head 6, W. Lincoln (conductor) 7, W. E. Emery 8.

Deceased had rung eight peals all on the tenor, one each of Darlaston, Oxford and Court Bob and Union Triples, and four of Stedman Triples.

Among the wreaths was one from the ringers in the form of a bell, 'With sincere sympathy from the Writtle company of change ringers, for 26 years a comrade in the tower.'

The whole pull and stand was rung shortly after the funeral. This is the second ringer lost to the band within a year by death. John Poole, for many years treble man, was torpedoed in the Transylvania in the Mediterranean last May. These two were the most regular attendants. The former always 'toll'd in' after ringing, and the latter was organ blower.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

Owing to the recent events in France, it was felt that it would be far from appropriate for the bells to be rung on Easter Monday, and, therefore, the President, after consultation with the hon. secretary, decided to postpone the meeting of the Midland Counties Association meeting at Burton-on-Trent. It is hoped it may not be long before arrangements can be made to hold the meeting, and that the members may have the pleasure of visiting Burton-on-Trent.

THE SPITTLE MEMORIAL.

There is likely to be a large gathering of Midland ringers at Dudley to-morrow, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Dudley and district, when the memorial erected to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle will be unveiled. The service and dedication will take place at 4 o'clock, the bells being available at 3 p.m. The Ringing Master (Harry Mason, Esq.) is kindly providing tea.

HELP FOR MRS. A. W. GRIMES.

Five bound volumes of 'The Ringing World' for the years 1911-12-13 are to be disposed of on behalf of Mrs. A. W. Grimes, the volumes having been the property of the late Mr. Alf. Grimes. Tickets will be 6d. each, and may be obtained of Messrs. A. A. Hughes, W. Pye, C. F. Winney, W. Hewett, A. S. Pettett, T. Walker, R. Sanders, T. H. Taffender, and W. T. Cockerill. The closing date is May 30th.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Feb. 3rd, for morning service, 720 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For evening service, 1008 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Stuart 6, W. H. Dennison 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. This is the longest touch of Major for the two ladies.

TODMORDEN.—At the Unitarian Church, on Saturday, March 9th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes), in 1 hr. 14 mins: B. Midgley 1, Corpl. H. Whitehead, R.A.M.C., 2, H. Greenwood 3, H. Sutcliffe 4, F. Fielden 5, H. Davenport 6, J. Richards (conductor) 7, S. Hartley 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to B. Midgley on his attaining 63 years; also to the ringer of the second, who was home on leave from France.

OLD LONDON BELL FOUNDERS.

We come now to a couple of bell founders whose dates are only approximately ascertainable. They are connected with one another by cross and lettering. The first of these is William Rofforde, known to us only by the 4th at West Mill, Herts, inscribed:—

WILLELMVS ROFFORDE ME FECIT.

The cross used is a well-known one, but as it passed through more than one owner's hands it is difficult to apportion the founding of the many extant bells which bear it. The other founder is Derby. Four bells exist bearing his name, two of them being in Norfolk, one at New Houghton, inscribed:—

SANCTE PETRE ORA PRO NOBIS DERBY
FECIT ISTA.

One at Burnham Deepdale, bearing:—

AVE MARIA GRACIA PLENA DNS NIMVS
TECV MDERBY.

Then there is the third at Ampton, Suffolk, inscribed:—

SANCTE ANDREA ORA PRO NOBIS DERBY
and the 4th at Chippenham, Cambs, which has—

SANCTA MARGARETA ORA PRO NOBIS
DERBY.

The lettering and cross are those used by Rofforde, the stop, however, is different. This last fact probably goes to prove that Derby is later in date than Rofforde. He also makes use of a certain 'Royal leads' on his bells.

The documentary evidence as to these two men is scanty. First as to Rofforde. There was a Philip de Ufford, a 'potter' in the early years of the 14th century, and in an MS. volume belonging to Sir George Webbe Dasent, relating to the Fraternity and Guild of St. Peter-upon-Cornhill, he is mentioned as a benefactor, and his will dated 1321, is given. He is called in one place Philip de Ufford, and in another Philip de Rafford. One can understand how the R came to be inserted colloquially, and it might have stuck, and the worthy potter's descendants' surname been permanently altered. In the will of William Burford, he bequeaths £100 to endow two chantry priests at St. Botolph's, Aldgate, to say masses for the souls of himself, his parents, his first wife—of 'John Rufford'—and all the faithful departed.

Now as to Derby. William Cosyn, by his will, appointed his friend Henry Derby his executor. William Burford, just named, in his will leaves a legacy of forty shillings to Mary, the wife of Henry Derby.

Putting these detailed scraps of evidence together it may probably be assumed that William Rofforde, possibly a son of Philip de Ufford, flourished about the middle of the fourteenth century, that his stamps passed into the possession of Henry Derby (who as a member of one of the twelve great companies, would certainly describe himself as such rather than by the trade he actually followed); and that this Henry Derby was a bell founder, and the maker of the bells just described. It is, however, only right to add that Dr. Sharpe formerly record keeper at Guildhall—one of the very highest authorities in such matters—did not agree with this surmise as to Henry Derby.

He was of opinion that at the date of these two men a man was obliged to belong to the Guild that governed the trade to which he belonged. This, of course, was so in theory, but the obligation was one which the smaller guilds were powerless to enforce against 'the twelve,' although they often tried to. Again, there was no special Guild for bell founders: they were apparently usually either 'founders' or 'braziers'; and some might well have belonged to so kindred a Guild as that of the 'ironmongers.'

We next come to two undoubted bell founders—father and son—William and Robert Burford. The father, William, already mentioned, is the first (leaving the somewhat doubtful Benedictus of 1216 on one side) to call himself a bell founder *pur et simple*. 'Civis et Botzeler' his will styles him. There are, however, as yet no bells discovered bearing his name, and consequently we are unable to identify the particular stamps and lettering used by him and his son. With respect to their family connections, the Burfords would seem to have been scions of a well-to-do city family. John de Burford, Sheriff in 1304 was one of the eminent citizens to whom Edward II., in 1312, sent letters, personally, touching the safe keeping of the city. He was 'one of the good folks of Soper's Lane, of the trade of pepperers' (the precursors of the present Grocers' Company), who applied for an ordinance for the government of that trade in 1316. He married Rosiam daughter and one of the two co-heiresses of a prominent citizen of the day—Thomas Romain or Romayne, Sheriff 1291, Mayor, 1309. The other co-heiress, Margaret, married William de Weston, of Albury, Surrey, a family to which Peter de Weston before mentioned, may have belonged.

John de Burford died in 1329, leaving his widow surviving, and four children, Thomas, James, Margaret and Katherine. He gave by his will large pious and charitable bequests: among the rest, lands and money to endow a chantry in the parish of St. Thomas Apostle, in the City of London.

William Burford's will, dated and proved in 1390, leaves his trade utensils to his son Robert, who continued the business for eight or twenty years, dying in 1418. As with the father so with the son—so far as is at present known no bells exist bearing his name—and thus

the identification of his stamps and lettering is impossible, and we are obliged to leave the story half untold, which is a matter of regret.

His bequests show him to have been a wealthy man. It would further appear from the will that he died childless, and so the bell foundry came to an end, or passed into other hands.

(To be continued.)

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

YORKTOWN DISTRICT MEETING.

Favoured by fine weather, a successful meeting of the Yorktown District of the Winchester Guild was held at Bagshot on Saturday week, ringers attending from Aldershot, Cranleigh, Hersham, Yorktown, Guildford, Sandhurst, and Farnborough, in addition to the local band. The bells were set going at 3 p.m. in the various methods, a noteworthy feature being the confidence with which the ladies rang their bells, due, no doubt, to the fact that they were all ringers' wives, as they included Mrs. Whittington, Mrs. Hazelden and Mrs. W. Shepherd. Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. J. Ford, M.A.), the Guild form being used.

Tea looked as though, for the first time in the history of the Yorktown District, it would be conspicuous by its absence, and, as a safeguard, rations were brought by the ringers to ward off the pangs of thirst and hunger, but thanks to the kindness of Mr. F. Nye and Mrs. Nye, tea was provided at their house. It was voted a welcome surprise, and was done full justice to. Appreciation was expressed at the fact that the Food Controller did not pay a surprise visit, but some little concern was caused by the announcement that one of the ringers present was on the Bagshot Food Control Committee, but any fears on this point were allayed when it was realised he was 'in the swim.'

The Vicar took the chair at the business meeting which followed, and was supported by Messrs. G. Miles (secretary), F. J. Shepherd (acting secretary), T. W. Fairey (peal recorder), W. Shepherd (Ringing Master), and others. The accounts for 1917, showing a balance in hand of £2 11s., as against £2 9s. for 1916, were adopted, and, after the official agenda had been disposed of, Mr. Whittington voiced the appreciation of those present for the welcome extended to the Guild that day, to the Vicar, and to Mr. and Mrs. Nye in particular for their trouble and kindness, which had done much to make the meeting such a success.—This was seconded by 'Father' Shepherd, and carried unanimously, after which tune ringing took place by the Hersham handbell ringers, followed by a course of Grandsire Triples by Mrs. Hazelden and the three male Shepherds. A further move was made to the tower, more ringing taking place up to 9 p.m.

The numerous friends of Mr. George Miles will be pleased to hear that, in all probability, he will shortly obtain his army discharge, in which event he will be welcomed back to harness. Sympathy was expressed with him in his recent sad loss.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

A meeting of Portsmouth District was held at West Meon on Saturday last, but could scarce be called successful. By kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. Beardsall), the bells were available from 2.30 p.m., but owing to the change of date from Monday to Saturday, and the delay which arose in consequence, public notice of the meeting could not be advertised, and out of the eleven towers notified by post, only three were represented. One ringer turned up from Wickham, and all credit was due to him for cycling in such weather, and there were also present four ringers and three probationers from Portsmouth. These were assisted by Mr. Gregory, of the local band, and for the most part the visitors had to be content with ringing rounds and call changes. One pleasing feature, however, was that one of the probationers rang his first 120 of Grandsire Doubles, on the treble, that being the last touch of the day.

At the subsequent meeting which was attended by three of the ringers and two probationers (the others having gone to find tea), it was decided to hold no more quarterly meetings until such time as those who propose and support their being held, do at least something towards making them a success by their attendance.

Three probationers were elected from Wickham, and Mr. Gregory was asked to thank the Vicar, on behalf of the ringers for the use of the bells.

DEATH OF A YORKSHIRE SECRETARY.

After a long and painful illness, borne with Christian fortitude and patience, Mr. Leonard Brightman, of 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham, has passed away from tuberculosis, at the age of 24 years. Deceased was a member of the Rotherham Parish Church company, and was greatly esteemed by all who knew him. At the outbreak of the war, when the secretary of the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association was called to the colours, the deceased most willingly took up the duties of secretary (pro tem), and faithfully discharged his duties. His genial manner and forbearance won him the goodwill and admiration of all with whom he came in contact, and his death is greatly regretted by a large circle of friends.

THE JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

(Continued from page 101.)

In responding to the toast of Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild, Mr. A. Paddon Smith said: A gentleman asked me why so many ladies came to the dinner now and I ventured to suggest that they came because they enjoyed themselves (hear, hear). But he would have none of it. He said they came out of mere curiosity (No, no), but I don't believe it.

In conclusion, Mr. Smith read the following letter which he had received from Mr. F. E. Dawe: I have purposely delayed writing to you until the last moment, for although it has been my intention to be present at the 'Johnson Celebration Dinner' to-morrow, I now find it will be quite impossible for me to do so. This is doubly disappointing to me as it happens to be my birthday! Of course, on the first 'Crash of Arms,' 3½ years ago, most bell ringing and its attendant meetings and banquets seemed to cease automatically, but I certainly think it has been a splendid move on the part of St. Martin's Guild, to adhere to such a time-honoured and beneficial event and thus keep the 'game alive' for the benefit of those, who like myself, are too old to be packed off to all parts of the globe! My opinion is, that the 'Johnson Celebration Dinner' has always been the most representative gathering of change ringers held each successive year, in any part of the country! Therefore, you have my every good wish for a most enjoyable and successful gathering, and, as its chairman of six years ago, will you please convey my kindest regards to all my old friends present, and regrets at being deprived of the pleasure of once more being amongst them? As you well know, I was very personally acquainted with dear old Henry Johnson, and only wish that my knowledge of all the good points connected with the long career of that truly wonderful man, were as well known to such an able elocutionist as your present chairman, Canon Willink, for in his hands I am sure the meeting would greatly benefit by all the pleasing reminiscences so well remembered and appreciated.

At this point the Rector returned, bringing his friend with him, whom he introduced to the company.

KINDRED SOCIETIES.

Mr. A. E. Parsons, in proposing the toast of 'Kindred Ringing Societies,' said this list of toasts had been presented with little variation for 30 years in succession by distinguished ringers and visitors, who had dwelt at considerable length on them, and some of whom are no longer in the flesh, yet although the toasts appear again and again, they gave them unbounded pleasure. "We have heard very much, he said, of the effect the war has had on different spheres of life. We see great changes, but I am proud to say it needed no war to close the ranks of the various ringing societies who are represented here to-night (hear, hear). There was no serious difference between them. There certainly has been competition but it has been rivalry in an absolutely pure spirit, and without a tittle of animosity. The cleverly chosen quotation which is given with this toast—'May'st thou prove prosperous'—practically expresses all I wish to say. We and all those who represent the ringing societies thank the St. Martin's Guild for inviting us as usual, and I hope we shall be spared many more years to meet again, but in peace" (hear, hear).

Coupled with the toast was the name of Mr. Herbert Knight, secretary of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, who, in reply, said it was the greatest pleasure to be among that company, and it would no doubt be better if they could all intermingle more frequently than they did at present. Unfortunately, present circumstances did not permit, but they hoped a happier time would come and bring happier results.

Mr. A. P. Smith proposed 'The Ringing World,' and recalled the quotation on the toast list 'Stick to your journal.' He said they understood the difficulties of paper and labour, and even if the price goes up again, it was their duty to buy this paper. It would be impossible to conduct their activities without it, and he was sure it would take not half, but quite seven-eighths, of the pleasure out of their Exercise if they had no paper at all. He had there a 10s. note sent by one of their members in the trenches, and it was a direct result of a recent article in 'The Ringing World' about the spire of St. Martin's Church. Mr. Smith then read a letter he had received from Mr. J. Frank Smallwood, expressing concern at the news that St. Martin's bells could not be rung again until the spire had been repaired, and enclosing 10s. as a subscription towards the cost of the necessary repairs (loud cheers greeted the reading of the letter). That, added Mr. Smith, was one of the advantages they obtain from publicity. It was a very minor point, but it showed the importance of keeping their journal going.

THE RECTOR OF BIRMINGHAM.

Alderman Pritchett next submitted 'The Health of the Chairman. In the wonderful collection of mottoes and quotations on the programme there was none more appropriate than this one:—

Of very reverend reputation, Sir,

Of credit infinite, highly beloved,

Second to none that lives here in the cit'

and he proposed to make that his text for a few moments: 'Very reverend.' Our Chairman, he said, is a canon, so he is not very

reverend (laughter), because he is not a Dean, but that he will become one we have no doubt (cheers). With regard to 'reputation.' We don't trouble about that, we know him personally. 'Credit infinite'—As to that I should like to refer to his banker before I express my opinion (loud laughter). 'Highly beloved'—Undoubtedly, 'Second to none'—Quite true. The Rector of Birmingham is first of the citizens, his office is most ancient. There has been a rector in Birmingham from time immemorial. Compared with his office, (that of mayor, alderman or councillor, is a thing of yesterday. I believe there was a time when Birmingham was governed by a bailiff and an ale taster (loud laughter). They are comparatively modern institutions in comparison with that of rector. He is the person of the place, or its Latin 'persona,' which means 'person.' He is the person in the place second to none. I was going to say, long may he live here, but he may think I am standing in his way, if I do, at any rate I hope his thoughts will always live in this city (cheers). I need add nothing more except to thank him for his presence here to-night and for the great measure in which he adds to the pleasure of this gathering.

The toast was received with musical honours.

Canon Willink, who was enthusiastically received, said: I rise with a very great deal of real pleasure to acknowledge the more than kind words that Alderman Pritchett has used, and the warm and kindly way in which you have received them. It is a real pleasure to be here among you on this annual gathering (cheers). I feel much sympathy with our brothers standing along the wall and it reminds me of wallflowers, but the very fact that you are here, willing to stand, is a tribute to the interest you feel in the evening. It has been a capital gathering. We have had a good warm time, and a dinner which in these times is perfectly satisfactory, and the arrangements have been admirably carried out. We welcome the great body of ladies as ringers, it is a symptom of the days in which we live, what they will be in the full development of time no mere man will venture to prophesy, but I know they will adorn the Exercise (hear, hear). My wife and daughters are very sorry they are unable to be present this evening, as they have been in the past. It is with no mere assumption of goodwill, but very real and genuine pleasure that I tell you this is the pleasantest evening I have spent for a whole year, and I thank you very much. I hope in the years to come not 30 or 31, even, but up to 40 years, memorial dinners, coupled with the name of Henry Johnson, will be held.

The enjoyable proceedings then concluded with the National Anthem.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting, held at Feltham on Saturday week, Superlative Surprise was rung; and in addition there was a 'pleasant surprise,' for it was quite like old times to see and to ring with, Major J. H. B. Hesse, who bears traces of his 2½ years arduous duties on the Continent. A London friend, Mr. H. Passmore, spent a long time with the party, and conducted a fine touch of Double Norwich. Among those also present were H. C. Chandler (hon. secretary) F. W. Richardson, and C. Dean. The ladies who rang were: Mrs. Frank Hairs (Superlative and Stedman) Miss Gladys Bateman (Stedman and Kent Treble Bob), and the Misses E. Fuller, F. Gudgeon, and N. Williams (Grandsire).

The breaking of a rope was taken as a signal for the interval for tea, and each one had to forage on their own. By all accounts, some were not very successful; but one merry party of eleven, including the ladies and T. S. Smith (of Slough), managed to 'strike oil.' 'Nibs' and a plucky lady cyclist from Hillingdon rendered great help, and a jolly time was spent.

On the return to the belfry a brief meeting was held, the District Master, Mr. T. Beadle, presiding. Hoston was suggested for the next visit, and approved.—A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar (the Rev. F. J. Browell, M.A.), for the use of the bells. A touch of 252 Stedman proved a fitting termination, rung on handbells, by: G. M. Kirby 1—2 Mrs. F. Hairs 3—4, W. Hewett 5—6, H. Passmore (conductor) 7—8.

W. L.

DEATH OF A BOTTESFORD (LEICESTERSHIRE) RINGER.

There passed away last week, after nearly a year's suffering, from lung trouble and pleurisy, Reuben Bend, who for many years past had been a member of the Parish Church company of change ringers at Bottesford, Leicestershire. The deceased, who was of a kindly and unassuming disposition, will be greatly missed by his fellow ringers in the Bottesford belfry, as he was one who could always be relied upon to be present both at practice and service ringing, and was a safe ringer in the Plain Bob and Grandsire methods. He had taken part in a few peals, including Bob Minor and Grandsire Triples for the Framland Society.

After the funeral, the bells of the Parish Church were rung, muffled, in two touches of Grandsire Triples by the following old friends of deceased: T. Rawdin 1, Rev. C. J. Sturton 2, D. Gilden 3, F. Turner 4, M. Bend 5, J. W. Kirton 6, A. Mackears 7, H. Thorby 8.

This is the second ringer that the Bottesford company have lost within a year, their captain, Mr. Sam Baker, having been killed last spring in an accident on the railway. Both of the above ringers were esteemed servants of the G.N. Railway Company.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, April 6th, 1918. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting and dedication and unveiling of the Spittle Memorial will be held at Dudley on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service and dedication in church at 4 o'clock, which will be conducted by the Rev. Canon Gray Maitland (President). Tea will be provided by the Ringing Master (Harry Mason, Esq.). Business meeting afterwards. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting, and it is to be hoped that all members will make an effort to attend.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The committee meeting usually held in April will not be "called" this year, but if possible it will be arranged to meet before the annual general meeting on the same date, notice of which will be duly given.—Richard T. Hibbert, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Penn on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available at 3. Service in church, with address by Rev. R. N. Lawson, at 5.15. Tea (if possible) 1/-, in Parish Room at 6.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 21st annual general meeting will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, April 6th, 1918. The service will be held at 6 p.m., conducted by the Rev. H. Carrick (Vicar of St. John's). Tea will be arranged if the necessary commodities can be procured. At the business meeting the President will take the chair. The following towers will be open for ringing:—St. John's, Hillingdon, from 3 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, 4 to 5.30 p.m.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hon. Secs.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this Society will be held at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, on Saturday, April 6th. Bells will be available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. The business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall at 7 p.m., when the nomination and election of officers will take place. A good attendance is desired.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth's, Reddish, on Saturday, April 13th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 13th, at Rochdale Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting at 6. Subscriptions are due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth on Saturday, April 13th. Bells will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. till dark. Business meeting will be held in the Church House at 5.30 p.m. Subscriptions for 1918 were due January 1st.—William Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Colne on Saturday, April 13th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Time of meeting as usual.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Peterston-super-Ely on Saturday, April 13th, at 4.30. Bells (6) available all the afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of the above district will take place at Leeds on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. A short service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45, business meeting after. The Secretary would be glad to know not later than Monday, April 8th, of any ringers intending to be present.—Stephen Hayzelden, Dist. Secretary, Lower Street, East Farleigh.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Haslemere on Saturday, April 13th, 1918. Bells (8) available from 3.30 till 9 p.m. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea 9d. each, will be provided at 6, but members must bring their own sugar. Subscriptions should be paid at the meeting. A cycle tour round Farnham and neighbourhood is being arranged for Whit Monday. Full particulars later on.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on April 18th, and for general business on the 9th and 23rd, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1755).—Quarterly meeting at Aston on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (10) available from 4 o'clock. Business meeting in belfry at 6 o'clock.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Offenham on Saturday, April 20th, 1918. Service in church at 5 p.m. Tea will be arranged if possible, names to be sent me by the Wednesday previous at latest. The bells (6) will be available afternoon and evening.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

COACHBUILDERS, WHEELWRIGHTS AND WOODWORKERS wanted on Government work.—Apply Wilton Carriage Co., 107, Waddon New Road, Croydon.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

HORBURY, YORKS.—At SS. Peter and Leonard's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, March 3rd, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): G. Hunt 1, E. Brooke 2, G. F. Pickles 3, J. Smith 4, G. Barstow 5, H. Rowley (conductor) 6, R. Thickett 7, J. Woffenden 8.—On Sunday, March 17th, for evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): J. Woffenden 1, E. Brooke 2, G. F. Pickles 3, G. Hunt 4, G. Barstow 5, H. Rowley (conductor) 6, J. Smith 7, R. Thickett 8.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday evening March 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Brown 1, W. Lawrence 2, Miss Jones 3, C. Edwards 4, J. W. Fruin 5, Robt. Holloway 6, A. W. Davis (conductor) 7, A. E. Smith 8.

BOSTON, Lincs.—On Sunday, March 10th, at the Church of St. Nicholas, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: J. Coleman 1, Harold Palmer (conductor) 2, A. Swain 3, Harry Palmer 4, Gnr. W. Welling 5, J. Kirk 6.—On Sunday, March 17th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor: J. Coleman 1, Harold Palmer 2, A. Swain 3, Gnr. W. Welling 4, Harry Palmer (conductor) 5, J. Kirk 6.

GREENWICH.—On Sunday, 10th March, on the occasion of the unveiling by the Bishop of Woolwich of a memorial tablet to the late Vicar (the Rev. S. M. Bardsley), 1007 Grandsire Triples: C. T. Clark 1, H. A. Hawking 2, J. J. Lamb 3, A. S. Beer 4, I. G. Shade (conductor) 5, C. V. Ebberson, A.S.C. (Blackheath) 6, T. Jakeman 7, D. Hodgson 8. The ringer of 1, 2 and 8 belong to Cubitt Town.

CREWE.—Chester Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, March 10th, at Christ Church, for evening service, 540 Bob Royal: W. Edge 1, W. T. Holding 2, H. Overton 3, R. Langford 4, A. Crawley 5, R. D. Langford 6, G. Crawley 7, J. Dentith 8, G. Harding 9, R. T. Holding (conductor) 10.—On Sunday, March 17th, for evening service, 828 Grandsire Caters: T. Moore (longest length) 1, G. Crawley 2, R. Langford 3, G. Harding 4, W. T. Holding 5, A. Crawley 6, R. D. Langford 7, J. Dentith 8, R. T. Holding (conductor) 9, H. Overton 10.

NORTON, STAFFS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, March 10th, for evensong, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob Minor: H. Wibberley (first 720) 1, W. B. Lawrence 2, G. E. Lawrence 3, E. E. Johnson 4, F. T. Dawson (conductor) 5, J. F. Ryles 6.—On Monday, March 18th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: H. Wibberley 1, G. E. Lawrence 2, J. E. Wheelodon 3, E. E. Johnson 4, F. T. Dawson (conductor) 5, W. P. Deane 6.

WHITEFIELD, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, March 10th, for evensong, 180 Bob Minor: F. Bradshaw 1, Joe Broadley 2, S. Morris 3, Ben Thorp (conductor) 4, W. Chambers 5, Joe E. Sykes 6. 630 Grandsire Triples: Pte. W. Siddal 1, S. Morris 2, Joe Broadley 3, Ben Thorp (conductor) 4, M. Morris 5, W. Chambers 6, F. Bradshaw 7, Joe E. Sykes 8. Rung for W. Siddal, home on leave, after nearly three years in France.

ERITH, KENT.—At the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), with the bells, half-muffled, in 43 mins., by the following: F. J. Cullum, junr., 1, H. Holden 2, F. J. Cullum, senr., 3, A. E. Newick 4, P. J. Spice 5, I. Emery 6, T. Groombridge, senr., 7, A. J. Morton 8. It had been previously arranged to start for a farewell peal to F. J. Cullum, junr., who is entering the navy, but had to be suspended owing to a memorial service for the churchwarden's son Mr. B. Whiting, who was killed.

BRISTOL.—The following touches were rung during a week-end leave to Bristol of C.Q.M.S. W. A. Cave, who was very pleased to be with his old friends of the St. Stephen's Guild once more. On handbells, 1395 Stedman Caters: R. J. Wilkins 1—2, Miss Edith K. Parker 3—4, G. Condict, junr., 5—6, J. A. Burford 7—8, W. A. Cave (conductor) 9—10. 1044 Stedman Cinquses: A. E. Reeves 1—2, Miss Edith R. Parker 3—4, R. J. Wilkins 5—6, G. Condict, junr., 7—8, J. A. Burford 9—10, W. A. Cave (conductor) 11—12. Also a course of Plain Bob Maximus with the same hand. On tower bells, for service, a course each of London Surprise Major, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples (for a visitor from Cranleigh, Surrey), and three courses of Cambridge Surprise Royal.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Friday evening, March 15th, for a Confirmation service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss W. M. Cooper 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, A. Lender 3, F. Smith (Messrs. J. Warner and Son) 4, G. T. Leader 5, W. Henley (conductor) 6, F. T. Hooper 7, F. Purdue 8.

BARNES, SURREY.—On March 17th, at St. Mary's Church, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, A. Outmore 2, W. H. Stevens 3, Pte. R. Mackrill 4, H. Cook 5, E. A. Reeve 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, H. Dyas 8.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Sunday, March 17th, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, J. Mead 3, F. Whitehead (first touch of Stedman) 4, F. Hedgea 5, E. Marks 6, H. Sear (conductor) 7, T. Best 8.

DENTON, MANCHESTER.—At St. Anne's Church, on March 17th, for evensong, 720 Plain Bob Minor: A. E. Marshall 1, F. Overton (Grimsby), first on an inside bell, 2, J. Pollard 3, D. Wilks 4, S. Bloomfield (Grimsby) 5, J. E. Hackingbottom (conductor) 6.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, APRIL 12th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorized by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BLOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

PEALS IN 1917.

The Analysis of Peals rung during the year 1917, compiled by the Committee of the Central Council, is published on another page of this issue, and the statistics speak eloquently of the cumulative effect which the war is having upon ringing. It is true that the figures refer only to peal ringing—the phase of the art which ringers have voluntarily stifled—but it is indicative also, we think, of the gradual curtailment of ringing in every direction by the withdrawal of men from the belfries for service in the Forces of the Crown, and by the general absorption of those who remain in national occupations which are growing in importance day by day. Although in a large number of places strenuous efforts are being made, and, be it added, with a great deal of success, to fill the vacancies to keep the bells ringing in fulfilment of their primary purposes, there is a gradually diminishing force carrying on the work. It is evident in the number of peals in the year 1917, as well as in the falling off in the complexity of the methods rung, and it is also to be found, by the observant onlooker, in the meetings held and in the general trend of the service ringing.

The most striking fact about the analysis is that the number of peals rung during 1917 was the lowest for any year since tabulated records have been kept, and these go back for nearly forty years, viz., to 1881. In those early days handbell peal ringing was very little practised, and when we remember that out of the 130 peals rung in 1917, 37 were "in hand," it seems more than likely that the balance of 93, which were rung on tower bells, is the lowest, perhaps, for 60 or 70 years. The explanations, of course, are totally different, and in that respect there can be no comparison between the figures of the present time and, say, those of half a century ago. The one thing that we can console ourselves with is the fact that, given the opportunity, the recovery from the present low ebb will doubtless be extremely rapid.

A perusal of the analysis table will show that it has fallen to the Yorkshire Association to ring most peals on tower bells, while the skilful band at Birmingham has placed the St. Martin's Guild easily in the forefront for handbell ringing, their seven peals of Stedman Cinques, two peals of Stedman Caters, two peals of Treble Ten, and one peal of Major "in hand" being a capital performance in these difficult days. The College Youths also did particularly well with handbells. But the falling off of peals generally on tower bells is as noticeable in the quality of the methods rung as in the quantity, and could hardly be better exemplified than by the fact that during the year one solitary peal of Double Norwich was recorded, and the sole representative of all the Surprise methods was a single peal of Superlative.

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The CHURCHWARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDNUMS,
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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, April 4, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At CITY CAFE, BULL RING,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5100 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 size in B Flat.

FRANK W. PERRENS ... 1—2	JAMES E. GROVES... .. 7—8
THOMAS RUSSAM 3—4	GEORGE F. SWANN ... 9—10
ALBERT WALKER 5—6	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 11—12

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

This is the conductor's 100th peal on twelve bells, 50 of them being as conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PENDLETON, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, March 26, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

FRANK SMITH Treble	JAS. LOWE 5
WM. WASHBROOK, JUN. ... 2	SERG. WILLIAMS ... 6
JAS. SHAW 3	JAS. W. WASHBROOK, SEN. 7
GEO. TURNER 4	AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Joseph Ridyard, of Worsley, Vice-President of the Lancashire Association. Sgt. Williams belongs to the Leicester Regiment.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 1, 1918, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

JOHN BLAKE Treble	WILLIAM H. HOAD ... 5
WILLIAM H. LAMBERT ... 2	OLDER WAGHORN ... 6
ALBERT E. EDWARDS ... 3	TRAYTON BOOTH ... 7
WALTER H. PERRY ... 4	LOUIS FRENCH... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER and
Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

* First peal in the method with a bob bell. This was Mr. L. French's first peal, and great credit was due to him for the excellent way he rang the tenor, he being 68 years of age and having only recently taken up change ringing after a lapse of several years. He first learnt to ring in 1868. Messrs. Blake and Waghorn were elected members of the Association previous to starting for peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, April 5, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. T. COCKERILL, CLAPHAM, S.W.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

ALFRED B. PECK 1—2	CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 7—8
HERBERT LANGDON ... 3—4	HARRY R. PASMORE ... 9—10
WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 5—6	THOMAS LANGDON ... 11—12

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY, and
Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

Umpire: EDWIN HORREX.

THE LATE MR. J. RIDYARD.

The late Mr. Joseph Ridyard, Worsley, whose death we recorded last week, leaves a widow and five children (three sons and two daughters), the eldest son is serving in Palestine, and the second son in Italy.

Mr. James George, in a letter expressing his great regret at the death of his old friend, Mr. Ridyard, and his sincere sympathy with the bereaved family, points out that the late Mr. Ridyard did not ring in the record peal of 12240 Kent Maximus, at Ashton-under-Lyne, on April 17th, 1917, to which Mr. George rang a tenor.

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HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING OF ST. ALBANS.

The general circumstances now prevailing resulted in a smaller attendance than usual at the annual festival of the Hertford County Association at St. Albans, on Easter Monday. During the day ringing was indulged in at the various bellfries in the city, and at five o'clock the members assembled for evensong in the choir of St. Albans Cathedral and Abbey Church, where the Dean of St. Albans (the Very Rev. G. W. Blenkins) officiated, assisted by the Rev. Canon Papillon and the Rev. E. H. Evans. The lessons were read by Canon Papillon and the Dean, and Easter hymns were sung.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. G. M. Hall, of Bushey, who took as his text Exodus xv. 1 and 20.

After the service tea was served at the Abbey Institute, and was followed by the annual business meeting. In the absence of active service in France of the President (the Rev. B. Tyrwhitt Drake), the Dean of St. Albans presided with the support of Canon Papillon, the Rev. G. M. Hall, Mr. E. P. Debenham (hon. treasurer), Mr. G. W. Cartmel (hon. secretary), Mr. W. T. Cocherill (secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths), and Mr. M. O. Mitchell (London). Ringers were also present from St. Albans Cathedral, St. Peter's (St. Albans), Southgate, Walthamstow, Giron, Harpenden, Great Binstead Little Munden, Bushey, Tring, Ware, North Mimms, Hatfield, Stanmore, Aldenham, St. Michael's (St. Albans), Watford, etc.

OVER 100 MEMBERS SERVING.

The Dean called attention to the fact that more than a hundred members of the Association were 'doing their bit' for King and country, and for the cause of God. Their thoughts would be with their brothers at the front, and though the bells of the Abbey tower had been dumb since last August—as some of them had discovered that day when they tried to ring the tenor, he could not help feeling this was a thing which they might in a sense be proud of. The present strength of the Abbey band was two; ten of their members had enlisted to serve their country. Though he regretted that the music of the Abbey bells was not heard, it was a grand thing to feel that those who generally rang there for worship were helping to 'ring out the false, and ring in the true,' to ring in the Christ which is to be by doing their part for the country in this momentous war (hear, hear).

The Secretary proposed the following resolution, copies of which he had had printed upon postcards, and suggested that members of towers present should send copies to their fellows on active service at the front: 'That this meeting, in sending hearty greetings to all members, acknowledges with deep gratitude the services you are rendering to your King and country in defence of the Empire. We trust that in the good Providence of God you will enjoy the full assurance of His promise, "Lo, I am with you all the days," and that you may be granted a safe return.'

The secretary added he had heard that day that Mr. B. Prewett, their auditor, of the Rifle Brigade, had been wounded in the knee, and passed.

Mr. E. P. Debenham seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried.

Mr. E. P. Debenham proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. G. M. Hall for his sermon. The name of Hall, he said, had been associated with the Bushey bells for many years, and when he had been to Bushey he had heard a great deal of the Rev. Montague Hall, and of his sympathy with the art of change ringing. He trusted the Hertford County Association would have the pleasure of his honorary membership for many years (applause).

Mr. J. C. Mitchell seconded the vote of thanks, and the Rev. G. M. Hall, replying, said it was always a pleasure to him to be with the ringers.

ELECTIONS.

The following were elected honorary members: The Rev. J. J. Ambrose (Rector of Hatfield), Rev. G. C. Ward (Vicar of Lemsford), Sir Wm. Leise, Mr. H. F. Seymour, Potteries; Mr. A. C. Clarion, K.C., North Mimms—all proposed by Mr. W. Nash; Mr. R. T. Kent, St. Albans, the Rev. Mitchell Carruthers (Rector of Little Munden), and Mr. L. Wilkinson, Bushey.

The following were elected ringing members: Mr. G. A. Spencer, Mr. George Willmott Debenham (son of the hon. treasurer), Miss M. Bitchelor, Miss F. Harding, Mr. F. Keen (Tring), Mr. H. Speakman (Aldenham), Messrs. Sidney Carter, Reginald Jones and W. A. Whitehall (Little Munden), Miss Eileen Shannon, Miss Molly Kunsch, Miss Sybil Wilson, and Mr. E. J. Gillett (Harpenden).

The hon. treasurer presented the balance sheet, showing that the year ended with a balance of £10 0s. 4d. and the receipts during the year brought the total to £25 9s. 10d. A sum of £5 5s. had been deposited in the Savings Bank, and there was a balance in hand of £7 6s. 3d. The reserve fund amounted to £15 18s. 7d. and in addition the association held £15 15s. 9d. 6 per cent. War Stock.

This balance sheet was passed.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The secretary presented his annual report, which was adopted.

Canon Papillon proposed the election of the Rev. C. F. Aycock, Vicar

of Watford, as the new President of the Association, vice the Rev. B. Tyrwhitt-Drake, the motion being seconded by Mr. Edwards.

Mr. E. P. Debenham was re-elected honorary treasurer, on the motion of Mr. W. Hughes, seconded by Mr. H. Lewis.

To the position of hon. secretary, Mr. G. W. Cartmel was again re-elected, on the proposition of the Dean, who spoke in terms of gratitude and praise of the work accomplished by Mr. Cartmel for many years.

To this proposition the meeting heartily assented, and Mr. Cartmel, in acknowledgment, thanked the members, and said he did not intend to 'set his bell' unless the members ordered him to do so. He also acknowledged his indebtedness to the district secretaries and members for their support. He said the work of the secretaryship was a great pleasure to him.

Mr. E. D. Livermore was elected hon. librarian, in place of the late Lieut. Kirby. Mr. B. Prewett was re-elected hon. auditor, and the hon. district secretaries were elected as follows: Northern, Eastern and Western, and St. Albans Divisions: Messrs. F. R. Bacon, W. H. Lawrence, P. Smith, F. Edwards and W. Nash respectively.

Replying to a vote of thanks to himself and the Vicars of St. Albans Churches for the use of their bells, the Dean of St. Albans said if, please God, peace should be granted to us, they might rely upon the help of other hands in order that the bells of the Cathedral might not be silent in the day of victory.

Mr. E. P. Debenham offered a word of welcome to Mr. Will Howard, a member of St. Peter's band at St. Albans, upon his return from Australia.

Mr. J. C. Mitchell expressed the thanks of the members to Mr. G. W. Cartmel for his services as secretary during the past year.

This expression was endorsed by Mr. W. H. Lawrence, who said none of the members wished for a change of secretary, as they could find nobody to take more interest in the Association than Mr. Cartmel.

Mr. Lewis also supported the expression of thanks, and the proceedings terminated, touches in various methods being rung by members before separating.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Warwickshire Guild, held at Emscote, Warwick, on Easter Monday, was, despite the handicap of the present conditions in many ways one of the most enjoyable yet held by the Guild. The cancellation of the Easter holidays by the Ministry of Munitions caused the absence of many regular attendants, amongst whom may be mentioned the hon. secretary (Mr. J. H. White), for whom Mr. O. J. Hunt, of Coventry, deputised. Owing to the present crisis on the Western front, permission to use the bells at St. Mary's, Warwick, had been withdrawn, but full use was made during the day of the towers of the Parish Churches of Leamington and Emscote.

The Guild service was held in Emscote Church, and an address by the Vicar, the Rev. J. E. Beibitz, was much appreciated by the members present.

The general meeting was afterwards held in the Schools, presided over by the President (the Rev. H. C. A. Back), supported by the Ringing Master (Mr. Jas. George), and members from Allesley, Coventry, Emscote and Nuneaton.

The secretary's report of the work of the past year and the statement of accounts showed that, despite the abnormal conditions prevailing, steady progress was still being made. Three members of the Guild, including the late secretary, Mr. G. H. Kettle, have made the supreme sacrifice for their country during the past year, the members present standing for a moment at the mention of their names.

Mr. C. Freeman, of Coventry, raised the question of a memorial to the late secretary, and it was decided to invite opinions on the matter from the various towers in union with the Guild.

Four new members were elected, including Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., of King's Norton, and Miss M. Clarke a promising lady ringer from Nuneaton.

Owing to the difficulties caused by the food restrictions no catering arrangements had been made by the Guilds, but through the generosity of the Ringing Master (Mr. Jas. George), a sumptuous tea was provided, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for his kindness.

A feature of the meeting was the universally good striking which prevailed throughout the day and the variety of methods rung, consisting of Grand sire and Sledman Triples, Plain Bob Forward and Duffell Major, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise.

The next quarterly meeting was fixed to be held at Berkawell, in July.

THE DANIEL PRENTICE FUND.

Mr. Daniel Prentice, of Ipswich, wishes to return his most hearty thanks to those ringers who so kindly responded to the appeal made on his behalf, and which amounted to £4 12s. 6d.

Further contributions to the fund should be sent to Mr. William Motts, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.

RECORDS FOR THE CATHEDRAL BELFRY.

There was an interesting ceremony in the belfry of St. Nicholas' Cathedral at 9.45 a.m. on Palm Sunday, when, by invitation of the Guild, Mrs. W. Lister Newcombe (who, it will be remembered, with her husband, gave the two trebles to make the peal of twelve in the tower at Easter, 1914) kindly unveiled a handsome solid oak peal board measuring 6 feet 6 inches by 5 feet. It is a fine specimen of ecclesiastical architecture, and was kindly designed by Mr. W. Lister Newcombe, who is reputed to be one of the foremost architects in the North, if not in the country. It is placed on the east wall of the belfry in a conspicuous position, and the design, marksmanship and beauty of the lettering was much admired by ringers and lay alike.

The Vicar (the Rev. Canon G. E. Newson, M.A.) was present, and read a short belfry service. There were present, besides the ringers, Canon and Miss Kempson, the Rev. J. B. Ferry, of Lincoln, brother of the hon. secretary of the Guild, Mr. E. E. Ferry; Mr. Churchwarden Robinson, Mr. Coultis, who was responsible for the lettering of the board, and Mrs. Coultis; Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Goffon, of Whitley Bay; Mr. John Stuart, of Gateshead St. Mary's; Mr. R. Thompson, the Cathedral vergier and others.

Mr. J. W. Parker, of Sunderland sent his regrets for inability to attend, and in his letter enclosed a handsome donation to the expense of the board, and enclosed a most valuable gift in the shape of a handsomely bound book, in calf leather, of touches and peals in his own handwriting, and all of his own composition. These are in various methods extending from Plain Bob to Cambridge and London Surprise, from Triples to Cinques, with an instructive chapter on notation and methods of conducting.

The book is dedicated, as he most modestly puts it 'to the Newcastle Cathedral Guild of Change Ringers, to the members of which the author is indebted for many opportunities of advancement in the ringers' art.' The touches and peals, especially those in Stedman and Erin, Original and Double Norwich, are most original and clever in their construction, and the book has but to be seen to be thoroughly appreciated by any conductor. It runs to 206 pages, closely written.

The Ringing Master (Mr. C. L. Routledge) introduced Mrs. Newcombe, and explained shortly the meaning and uses of these records in a belfry.

Mrs. Newcombe unveiled the board with a pious wish that the bells would soon ring out a message of peace for the whole world.—A vote of thanks was accorded to her, and in replying on behalf of his wife, Mr. Newcombe said the board was a beautifully finished example of the cabinet makers' art and the lettering was something that any artist might be proud of. He said that he and Mrs. Newcombe were always pleased and proud to do anything for the old Cathedral, within the sound of whose bells they had both been brought up.

A short touch of Erin Cinques was then rung before the visitors departed, followed by a longer service touch. The board is the gift of those whose names are inscribed thereon, and it is through the kindly and enthusiastic efforts of Mr. Asa Holmes, a prominent member of the Guild, that the work has been carried through.

The board is in two large panels, headed by 'Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers'. The first panel records the first peal on the old ten bells and is as follows:—

On Monday, December 26th, 1892, in 3 hours and 42 minutes,
was rung in this belfry a Peal of
5040 Changes of Kent Treble Bob Royal.
Tenor 37½ cwt.

Charles L. Routledge	...	...	...	Treble
Robert C. Hudson	...	...	...	2
Ernest E. Bewick	...	...	...	3
Thomas T. Goffon	...	...	...	4
Robert S. Story	...	...	...	5
Alfred F. Hillier	...	...	...	6
Francis Tees	...	...	...	7
William Story	...	...	...	8
William Holmes	...	...	...	9
Fredk. J. Harrison	...	...	...	Tenor

Composed and conducted by Wm. Holmes.

First peal on ten bells by the Association, and by all except Mr. Holmes, and first peal on these new bells. The first half was rung in the 'Titum' position. A. T. Lloyd, Vicar. A. J. Robinson, T. Blenkinsop, H. Thompson, A. H. Dickinson, Wardens.

The second panel runs:—

As a solemn tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the great war, a muffled peal of 5007 changes of Stedman Cinques was rung on these bells on Monday, January 3rd, 1916, in 3 hours and 57 minutes. Then follow the names of the ringers with the record that: This is the first peal rung on the twelve bells, which were augmented from the old peal of ten bells by the addition of two trebles, the gift of Mr. W. Lister Newcombe and Isobelle his wife, of this city.

The first peal of Cinques by the Association.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1917.

Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

TOWER BELLS.

HAND BELLS.

Associations.	Tower Bells.										Handbells.																	
	Major.					Minor.					Total on Tower Bells.	Major.					Minor.					Total on Handbells.	Grand Total.					
	Stedman Cinques.	Treble Bob	Plain Bob	Others.	Superlative	Double Norwich	Treble Bob	Plain Bob	Triples.	Grandsire		Stedman Cinques.	Treble Bob	Plain Bob	Others.	Treble Bob	Plain Bob	Triples.	Grandsire									
Anc. Soc. College Youths									1																			
Bath and Wells																												
Central Northants																												
Chester Diocesan																												
Dudley and District																												
Ely Diocesan																												
Gloucester and Bristol																												
Hereford Diocesan																												
Kent County																												
Lancashire																												
Lincoln Diocesan																												
Llandaff Diocesan																												
London County																												
Middlesex County																												
Midland Counties																												
North Notts																												
Norwich Diocesan																												
Oxford Diocesan																												
Royal Cumberland Youths																												
St. Martin's Guild																												
Salop Archdiocesan																												
Stafford Archdiocesan																												
Sussex County																												
Warwickshire																												
Winchester Diocesan																												
Worcestershire and Dist.																												
Yorkshire																												
Independent Societies																												
TOTALS	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	12	8	14	32	11	7	98	8	4	2	5	4	1	5	1	7	37	130			

The two peals attributable to Independent Societies were rung in the following counties: Lancashire, 1; Salop, 1.

The 21 peals of Treble Bob were rung as follows: In the Kent Variation Royal 5, Major 16.

The 33 peals of Grandsire Triples may be classified under the following compositions: Holt's Original, 3; Holt's ten-part, 6; Parker's twelve-part and variations, 11; Parker's six-part, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies' ten-part, 3; Carter's peals, 4; Taylor's peals, 2; Day's six-part, 1; Bruerton's twelve-part, 1; Biddlestone's peal, 1.

The 19 peals of Stedman Triples were: Thurstan's one-part, 2; Thurstan's four-part, 12; Carter's No. 35, 1; Carter's Odd Bob, 4.

The 12 peals in Plain Methods comprised the following: Bob Royal, 3; Bob Major, 9.

The seven peals of Doubles may be divided among the following Associations:—

Association	1 Method	3 Methods
Bath and Wells	2	—
Hereford	1	—
Llandaff	1	—
Worcestershire and Districts	1	1
Independent Societies	1	—
	6	1—Total 7

The number of peals rung on tower bells was 93, and on handbells 37. Owing to the continuance of the war, there has been a further drop in the number of peals rung in 1917, as compared with 217 in 1916: 219 in 1915; 1415 in 1914; and 2,359 in 1913.

The peals rung month by month in 1916 and 1917 are appended for purposes of comparison:—

1916	1917	1916	1917
January .. 20	7	July .. 15	5
February .. 16	7	August .. 14	12
March .. 13	8	September .. 11	12
April .. 20	13	October .. 6	10
May .. 11	8	November .. 14	14
June .. 17	9	December .. 15	25
Jan to June 142	52	July to Dec. 75	78

Total for 1916, 217; total for 1917, 130, being a decrease of 87.

The total number of peals, whether on tower bells or on handbells, rung year by year since 1881, is as follows:—

1881...156	1889...797	1897...905	1905...1519	1913...2359
1882...214	1890...699	1898...1002	1906...1313	1914...1415
1883...330	1891...878	1899...912	1907...1339	1915...259
1884...419	1892...802	1900...924	1908...1474	1916...217
1885...500	1893...705	1901...1194	1909...1628	1917...130
1886...556	1894...859	1902...1313	1910...1725	
1887...616	1895...766	1903...1469	1911...1739	
1888...759	1896...791	1904...1512	1912...2329	

Grand Total, 38,584.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1917.

The number of peals rung in 1917 is, as might be expected, still less than in 1916, and, indeed, has dropped well below the total of 1881. The Yorkshire Association has rung the greatest number of peals on tower bells, viz., 12; while the St. Martin's Guild heads the list of handbell peals, also with 12, of which seven were of Stedman Cinques. The Ancient Society of College Youths placed nine peals on handbells to their credit, and the Lancashire and Worcestershire Associations each rang eight peals on tower bells.

By comparing these figures with those of the 1913 analysis, some small idea will be obtained of the effect of the war upon peal ringing. 94 peals were recorded during 1917 on tower bells, but one of these, a peal of Stedman Caters at Aston rung by the St. Martin's Guild in honour of the 'Old Contemptibles' and the success in Palestine, unfortunately turned out to be false. The remaining 93 peals were rung in 75 different towers. Crayford, Earlsheaton and Lavenham supplied three peals each, 12 other towers two each, and 60 towers contributed one peal each. The 75 towers are situated in 23 counties: Staffordshire (10 peals), Lancashire (9) and Yorkshire (9) each supplied 8 towers towards the total; Gloucestershire (8 peals), Salop (7) and Worcestershire (7), six towers; Warwickshire (7 peals), five towers; Kent (6 peals), four towers; Bucks (3 peals), three towers; Leicestershire, London and Suffolk (4 peals each), Glamorgan, Middlesex, Somerset and Surrey (2 each), two towers; one peal in one tower was rung in the Counties of Cheshire, Essex, Hants, Monmouth, Northants, Sussex, and the Isle of Wight.

Fifty ringers took part in their first peal, including five ladies; four rang a first peal away from the tenor; three their first with a bob bell, and seven their first as conductor. Mr. Mitchell, of Barnwood (Glos.),

rang two peals at the age of 82, one on his birthday; and Mr. W. Rock Small achieved two peals in honour of his 78th birthday. A 600th peal (Mr. J. George) and a 500th peal (Mr. E. Barnett, senr.) are recorded. For one peal of Minor at Stanton (Glos.), it is stated that the ringers cycled a total of 143 miles.

Muffled peals (mostly as a tribute to the memory of local heroes who have made the supreme sacrifice) were 32; seven peals were rung to celebrate successes in the war: first on the bells, 2; first since augmentation, 2; first since rehanging, 1; 29 on various special occasions (Church festivals, welcome, farewells, etc.), and for the remaining 20 no reason is stated.

The conductors of four peals and over are as follows: J. E. Groves (handbells 5) 9 peals; S. H. Symonds (H.B. 3) 6; G. F. Swann (H.B. 4) 5; C. R. Lilley, A. Walker (H.B. 4), C. F. Winney (H.B. 4), and E. Wightman (H.B. 4), 4 peals. There were 5 conductors of 3 peals, 11 of 2 peals, and 56 of one peal. One peal was rung without the services of a conductor, a peal of Stedman Triples by the College Youths, on handbells, at Clapham. One lady, Miss E. K. Parker, appears amongst the conductors. We have ventured to dispense with the apportionment of points this year.

E. W. CARPENTER, Thriplow, Cambs.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, 11, Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent.

ARTHUR T. KING, 1, Southsea Terrace, Southsea.

GEORGE WILLIAMS, West End, near Southampton.

CHURCH BELLS FOR GUNS.

CARDINAL'S PROTEST AGAINST ENEMY VANDALISM.

The sacrilege of the Germans in carrying away the famous bells from the churches of Belgium now seems complete, and a protest has been issued by Cardinal Mercier against the requisition by the Germans of bells for munitions and organs from Belgian churches. This protest forms a most touching document. 'The taking away of our bells is sacrilege,' says Cardinal Mercier. 'The bell announced your confirmation, your first communion, your marriage, and it weeps over your dead. It associates its prayer with all great memories, happy or unhappy of our country.'

'We should betray our Church and our country if we were cowardly enough to witness, without an act of public reprobation, the taking away of this metal, which the enemy will convert into engines of destruction turned against the heroes who are sacrificing themselves for us.'

The Cardinal points out that, according to the 46th and 52nd Articles of the Hague Convention, which were signed by Germany, only those requisitions can be claimed by an army of occupation which are necessary to it, and that religious convictions and public worship must be respected. He adds:—

'In the name of the liberty of the Church, in the name of the sanctity of Catholic worship, in the name of international law, we condemn and reprove the seizure of the bells and organs of our churches. We forbid our clergy and the faithful of our diocese to help in removing them: we refuse to accept the price of the sacred objects which are torn from us by force.

'Strengthened by an unconquerable hope, we await the hour of our God.'

M. Emile Cammaerts the famous Belgian poet, in a letter to the 'Spectator,' writes it must be admitted that they (the Germans) kept the stroke for the last.

'The Church was the last refuge of patriotism. Tunes utter no words. The familiar ringing of the bells and the playing of the National Anthem on the organ were the last comfort left to the people, their last breath of freedom, the only voice through which the country's soul could still defy the enemy.

'It must be stifled and the pipes and bells will be sent to Essen, perhaps to be converted into one of those long-range guns which are bombarding Paris.

'For centuries they rang on every occasion, in the hours of danger and tragedy, in hours of joy, for so many mournings, for so many feasts, that they seemed to carry in the resonant bronze the very heart of generations.

'They must be thrown to-day in Germany's melting-pot, and their golden song which floated over the peaceful meadows of Flanders and to the cool and shady streets of quiet towns will become the rough bark of the guns.'

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Owing to the developments at the Front, the Surrey meeting on Easter Monday was, with regret, abandoned at short notice, and it was impossible to advertise the fact. Those who made the journey, and are entitled to claim for expenses should communicate with the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Ch. Reading, Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

100 PEALS ON TWELVE BELLS.

With the peal of Cinques rung on handbells at Birmingham, on Thursday week, Mr. James E. Groves reached his century of twelve bell peals, a record almost unique. Of this 100, Mr. Groves has conducted 50, and the century is made up of Stedman Cinques 92, conducted 49; Erin Cinques 1, conducted 1; Grand sire Cinques 3; Grand sire Maximus 1; Forward Maximus 1; Treble Bob Maximus 2.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The committee meeting usually held in April will not be 'called' this year, but if possible it will be arranged to meet before the annual general meeting on the same date, notice of which will be duly given.—Richard T. Hibbert, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth's, Reddish, on Saturday, April 13th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 13th, at Rochdale Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting at 6. Subscriptions are due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth on Saturday, April 13th. Bells will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. till dark. Business meeting will be held in the Church House at 5.30 p.m. Subscriptions for 1918 were due January 1st.—William Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Colne on Saturday, April 13th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Time of meeting as usual.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Peterston-super-Ely on Saturday, April 13th, at 4.30. Bells (6) available all the afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of the above district will take place at Leeds on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. A short service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.15, business meeting after.—Stephen Hayzelden, Dist. Secretary, Lower Street, East Farleigh.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tea at Glass's Restaurant at 4.30; meeting to follow.—R. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Alveston on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Ship Inn at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. Members intending to be present at tea will oblige by advising me not later than April 9th.—W. Stafford, Hon. Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol, E.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on April 18th, and for general business on the 23rd, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A special meeting of this Society will be held at Burley on Saturday, April 20th. Bells will be available from 3.30 until dusk. The meeting will be held at 6.30 p.m. in the Parochial Hall to discuss the future of the Society. All members interested in the welfare of this Society are asked to be present.—William Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1755).—Quarterly meeting at Aston on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (10) available from 4 o'clock. Business meeting in belfry at 6 o'clock. Tea will be provided free for those who signify their intention, not later than the 17th inst., to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Offenham on Saturday, April 20th, 1918. Service in church at 5 p.m. Tea will be arranged if possible, names to be sent me by the Wednesday previous at latest. The bells (6) will be available afternoon and evening.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH.

WINNING NUMBERS, MRS. PALMER'S BENEFIT.

April 1st, 1918.

1—11680	13—11759	25—1397	37—3022
2—9248	14—13483	26—11980	38—12702
3—1563	15—9399	27—9325	39—12221
4—9442	16—5663	28—12880	40—14298
5—13901	17—12301	29—2040	41—5791
6—13335	18—2480	30—4702	42—13487
7—7860	19—8029	31—13380	43—1388
8—8902	20—8930	32—14154	44—8641
9—11188	21—2239	33—3061	45—11922
10—13912	22—2181	34—11692	
11—2949	23—2354	35—9423	
12—12759	24—5392	36—13009	

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Prizes to be claimed in 14 days or forfeited.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

COACHBUILDERS, WHEELWRIGHTS AND WOODWORKERS wanted on Government work.—Apply Wilton Carriage Co., 107, Waddon New Road, Croydon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Liverpool Diocesan Guild Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Christ Church, Southport, on Easter Monday. There was a good attendance, members present including representatives from Walton, Pendleton, Crosby, Liverpool, Bolton, Garston, Bebington, Oxtown and Southport. The methods rung were Stedman Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major. A service in church was conducted by the Rev. E. C. Collier (clerical secretary of the Guild), who also gave a short address.

A business meeting was subsequently presided over by Canon Inskip, Vicar of Christ Church. Tea was kindly provided by the Vicar and wardens, to whom a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. W. Hughes (ringing secretary).

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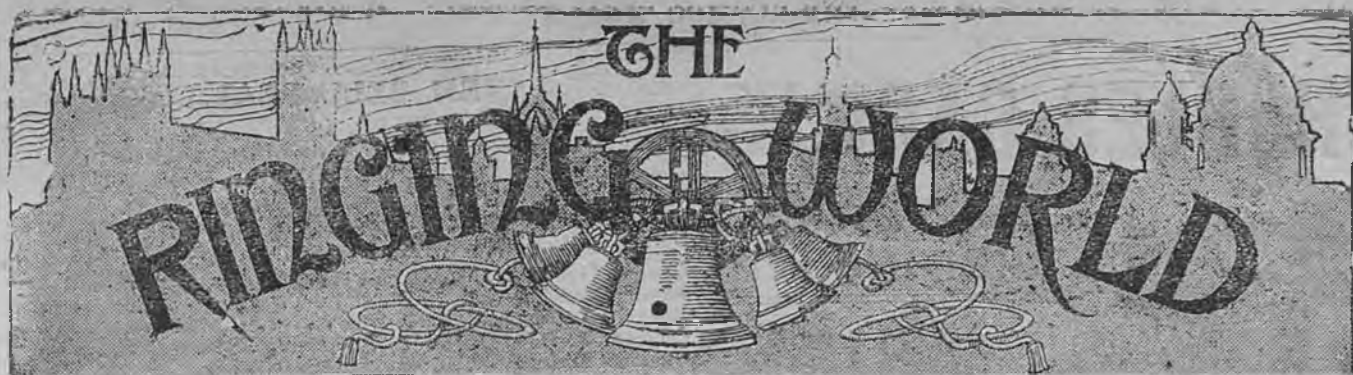
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FRIDAY, APRIL 19th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 2d.

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CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 owt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEUK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Our recent articles with reference to the inactivity of the Norwich Diocesan Association have called forth a rejoinder from the Hon. Secretary on behalf of the Committee. The case for the Committee has been very temperately put, and the spirit of our reply will, we sincerely hope, be taken as the same spirit which underlies the Secretary's letter. Let us say at once, however, that in our opinion the arguments put forward by the Committee can scarcely be considered strong enough to justify their past three and a half years of inaction. There is nothing in the difficulties enumerated in the letter which do not apply equally to other associations which could be mentioned, yet these other organisations have kept their machinery going, have not only held annual meetings, but very successful district meetings as well.

It is not necessary to go over in detail all the points raised in Mr. Borrett's letter, but to take one or two of the arguments. We have studied the railway map of Norfolk and Suffolk, and cannot find that in respect to their railway communications that these counties are in any worse state than some other districts, such as, for instance, Lincolnshire, nor, for example, are they any worse off than Wilts and Dorsetshire, where the Salisbury Guild continue a very successful wartime activity. But allowing for the fact that railway communication is difficult, these are days when a great many men depend upon the cycle and not the railway as a means of locomotion, and a journey, say, of ten or even fifteen miles from home on a bicycle is not a serious undertaking even for a half-day. The questions of loss of time and cost of travelling enter into the difficulties of all associations, and are not peculiar to Norwich, and honestly we do not think that half-day district meetings in certain areas would offer insuperable obstacles.

The Committee, however, point out that they have given permission for district meetings to be held, and add that no district has taken upon itself to make any arrangements of this kind. In view of pre-war experience this, perhaps, is not very surprising, especially when it is remembered that the Committee itself has done little or nothing. Districts, like individuals, require encouragement, and we are afraid that this has been somewhat conspicuous by its absence in the Norwich Association. We are glad to read, however, that an attempt is to be made to hold a general meeting of the Association on Whit Monday, and if it takes place at a convenient centre, there is no doubt that the experience of the Norwich Association will be the same as that of other similarly placed societies—a gathering necessarily smaller than in pre-war days, but none the less successful.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.**

WALLABLE IRON BRACKETS;
BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE

**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Oshingford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCH WARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, report and tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer.**

40, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 188, Keeton's Road, Bormondsey.

Makers to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc. etc.

TEN BELL PEAL.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, April 6, 1918, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

GEORGE HOLLIS Treble	FRANK JACOBS 6
SAMUEL WESLEY 2	JOHN FLINT 7
WILLIAM LAMBERT 3	ALBERT H. WARD 8
CHARLES E. HART 4	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 9
CHARLES DRAPER 5	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Rung in honour of the induction of the Rev. Canon F. L. Shaw to the living of Chesterfield, which took place on April 2nd. At the conclusion of the peal Canon Shaw visited the belfry, thanked the band for ringing the peal, and promised a tablet to commemorate the peal.

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Bob Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

DEPTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 11, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lb.

JOSEPH LAW Treble	GEORGE DURLING 5
EDWIN J. PANNETT 2	WILLIAM A. MARTIN 6
FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON 3	ERNEST B. CROWDER 7
WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN 4	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES Tenor

Composed by H. E. TUCKER.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. This peal was rung as a compliment to Mr. J. Law, on his 76th birthday, and to Mr. F. W. Richardson, on his 38th birthday. Pte. W. E. Maulden, A.S.C., stationed at Lee, Kent, hails from Framlingham, Suffolk.

SIX BELL PEAL.

WHISTON, NEAR ROTHERHAM, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 13, 1918, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, London Scholars' Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, Kent, Oxford.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

DAVID BREARLEY Treble	CHAS. FOWLER 4
JOHN R. BREARLEY 2	GEORGE HILL 5
HENRY STENTON 3	OLIVER CAWOOD Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE HILL.

First peal of minor on the bells, and first peal for the Association by the ringers of the 3rd and 4th. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the treble and 4th.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Bath and Wells Association was held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday last, when members were present from Bridgewater, Burnham, Bristol, Huntspill, Nailsea, Taunton St. James', Weston-super-Mare, Wilton, and Worle. Tea, which was kindly given by a lady, was partaken of at Glass's Restaurant, after which the business meeting was held, the Rev. C. C. Parker, Master of the Association, presiding.

Seventeen new members were elected.

The annual meeting will be held this year at Taunton early in July.

Mr. Maddock asked the correspondents of towers, when any of their members left and went to other parishes, to communicate with the correspondent of the tower where they went to reside, in order that they might not be lost to the Association.

The Master proposed a vote of thanks to Prob. Norton Thompson for the use of the bells and for arranging the service, and to the Rev. Williams for taking the service in his absence.—The Rev. Williams responded, after which the service was held.

During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung on the bells.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**ANNUAL MEETING.**

The annual meeting of the Worcestershire Association was held at Worcester on Easter Monday, the programme being similar to that of other years. The attendance, considering the fact that so many are away in the forces or on Government work, and the difficulties of railway travelling, was very good and most representative.

The business meeting was held in the Cathedral Chapter House, the chair being taken by the President (the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, Dean).

The balance sheet, which was printed in the annual report issued that day, showed the total funds to be £77 14s. 4d. £30 of which was invested in the five per cent. War Loan, and the £30 previously invested in the 4½ per cent. Loan, having been transferred to the five per cent., thereby increasing its value to £31 11s. 6d.

The arrangements for the annual peal were left in the hands of Mr. H. Middleton, and Worcester was again selected for the next annual meeting.

Considerable discussion took place in regard to a proposal to raise the subscription of performing members from 1s. 6d. to 2s., in view of the increased cost of management due to the rise in prices. The matter was brought forward by the Master; but an amendment, moved by Mr. Pigott, to the effect that the time had not come for any alteration in this respect was carried almost unanimously, it being generally thought that, if necessary, the expenses could be curtailed either in regard to the allowance for tea or for delegates' expenses.

All the officers were re-elected including the Central Council representatives and the auditors the only alteration made being among the honorary members, the Rev. Canon Price, Rector of St. Helen's, Worcester, being elected in place of the Rev. J. E. MacRae.

The meeting closed with a general vote of thanks, moved by the Rev. J. F. Hastings, and as there was time to spare before the service, the Dean very kindly explained some of the new stained glass windows, lately put in in the cloisters, and which illustrate some early events in the history of Worcester.

Preceding the meeting, the Dean presented, on behalf of the Chapter and the Cathedral Guild, a handsome gold watch to Mr. W. H. Johnson, in recognition of his services as secretary of this Guild for the past 25 years.

After the meeting, the usual service in the Cathedral was attended by all, the Dean giving a special address at the close. Tea was served at the Angel Hotel, and although sugar is not allowed to be provided, a considerable number were not going to have their tea without, and various small boxes, etc., soon made their appearance.

Thanks to the kindness of the various clergy, all the bells in the city were available, the use of those at the Cathedral only being limited to one hour, and although several had to leave early in the evening, owing to the train services, full advantage was taken of the opportunity. Altogether a successful and enjoyable day was spent.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Guildford District was held at Haslemere, on Saturday last, and was attended by ringers from Cranleigh, Chiddingfold, Aldershot, Guildford, Godalming, and the local band, whilst visitors were also present from Hersham, Sandhurst, and Oatlands Park. Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. Wragge), who gave an interesting address. Tea was held in the School Hall.

Three new members were elected at the meeting, and a proposed joint meeting of the Yorktown and Guildford districts was decided to be held at Esher and Cobham on Saturday, May 4th. The handy peal of eight were rung muffled, owing to a funeral.

THE MEETING AT WEST MEON.**To the Editor.**

Dear Sir,—I was sorry to see the remark made by your correspondent re resolution passed at above meeting (in your last issue), as I cannot believe it represents by any means the feeling of the majority of members of the Portsmouth district.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

West End, near Southampton.

Hon. General Secretary

LADY RINGER'S WEDDING.**PRESENTATION AT NOTTINGHAM.**

An interesting little ceremony took place on Sunday evening, April 7th, in St. Peter's belfry, Nottingham, after ringing for evening service.—The Ringing Master (Mr. H. R. Cobbin), on behalf of the band, presented a solid silver bell-shaped inkstand suitably inscribed to Mrs. Lee on the occasion of her recent marriage. In making the presentation, Mr. Cobbin wished her every happiness and prosperity, and made mention of the fact that Mrs. Lee had rung with St. Peter's band for many years past. He expressed the hope, that pending her husband's return—he now being on active service—she would continue to come amongst them, where she was always so welcome.

Prior to the presentation, a well-struck touch of 1386 Grandsire Triples was rung by: Mrs. Lee 1, H. R. Cobbin 2, E. Hughes 3, T. H. Kirkby 4, F. J. Tite 5, A. Barrett 6, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 7, E. Wallace 8.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**CONTEST AT EARLSHEATON.**

The quarterly meeting and eight-bell contest was held at Earlsheaton on Easter Monday, when the bells and the school were kindly placed at the disposal of members by the Vicar. Six companies entered for the contest, but only five turned up, each set ringing 1,216 changes—Kent Treble Bob Major, preceded by three leads for practice. The judges for the day were Messrs. Goodall and W. Idle, of Earlsheaton. During the afternoon tea was served to about 100 visitors and friends.

The general meeting was held in the school at the close of the ringing, the President (Mr. Cotterell) being in the chair, supported by the Vicar and the society's officers. No invitation being forthcoming for the next contest, it was decided to leave the secretary to make arrangements.

A hearty vote of thanks to the local company and to the ladies for the way they had catered for the visitors was accorded.

The judges' decision was announced as follows: Almondbury, 185 faults; Birstall, 343 faults; Calverley, 246 faults; Halifax, 426 faults; Shipley, 306 faults.

Almondbury were, therefore, declared the winners.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for his presence and for the use of his bells.

The Vicar, in reply, said how pleased he was to see the members, and the people of the parish had been looking forward to the contest for many weeks. Although he did not understand ringing from the scientific side, he knew when the bells were rung properly, and he thought there had been some splendid ringing during the day. He had great pleasure in presenting the cup to Almondbury, but was sure his own ringers would have a good try to bring the cup back to Earlsheaton at the next contest.

A vote of thanks to the judges and the president brought the meeting to a close.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

The quarterly meeting held at Penn, on Saturday week, was, under the circumstances, fairly well attended. The fact that a neighbouring Guild was holding its annual gathering, with the additional interesting feature of unveiling a tablet recording a peal rung in memory of a well-known figure, tended in a measure to lessen the success of the former.

At the service, the Rev. R. N. Lawson (himself a promising ringer) gave an interesting address, taking for his text, 'The objects of the Society.' A war-time tea was provided in the Parish Room, which proved to be very acceptable. It was agreed to re-commence combined practices (fortnightly), to take place in the following order: May 4th, at St. Luke's, Wolverhampton; May 18th, Penn; June 1st, Tettenhall; June 15th, Willenhall; all at 4 p.m.

The annual meeting, as previously arranged, is to take place at Penkridge on June 29th.—On the motion of Mr. Bradney, and seconded by Mr. D. Jones, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. R. N. Lawson for his address, (which was described by the proposer as 'something out of the ordinary'), and to the ladies for catering and administering to the hungry.

It is noteworthy that no less than five lady ringers were present from St. Luke's, Wolverhampton; though having had but a few weeks' tuition some are 'shaping' well, and promise to be soon filling the gaps made by their male friends, who have received the call to arms.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of the Central Division of the Sussex Association was held at Cuckfield on Easter Monday, over 40 being present, a notable feature of the occasion being the number of new members elected. Ringing commenced shortly after 12 o'clock, and continued until 4, when a short service was held, at which an address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon C. W. G. Wilson). Afterwards those present assembled at the Church Hall for tea, light refreshments having been provided for those present by the Vicar.

The usual business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding, and extending a kindly welcome to the Association. No fewer than thirty new members were elected, including the Vicar as a life member.

The following divisional officers were elected: Mr. A. D. Stone (hon. secretary), Messrs. R. J. Dawe, E. C. Merritt and F. Protherough (hon. mittee).

A vote of thanks was then passed to the Vicar for his kindly welcome, his encouraging address, and for providing refreshment.

The tower was again visited until 8 o'clock, when the bells were lowered. The methods rung ranged from Grandsire Doubles to Simsbury, Cambridge and London Surprise, on this capital peal of eight by Meads and Stainbank. The following towers were represented: Brighton (St. Peter's), Burgess Hill, Balcombe, Bolney, Crawley, Ditchling, Hove, Hovepierpoint, Keymer, Little Horsted, Seaford, Shoreham and the local branch.

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of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.**

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to hands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Dear Sir,—At a meeting of the committee of the above Association, held on Easter Monday, I was instructed to reply to those parts of your Editorial notes of March 15th and 22nd, which particularly referred to us. This I gladly do, as it may enlighten some of your readers who do not realise the difficulties we labour under in this part of England.

Chief, of course, is the geographical difficulty, and if any stranger to these parts will study a map of Norfolk and Suffolk, together with a Great Eastern time-table, he will soon see how great this difficulty is. Our ground is nearly all agricultural, which means a widely scattered population, towns few and far between, and railway communication of the most meagre description. Half-day meetings are an impossibility for these reasons. I know of cases where members are eight miles from a station, and have to leave home at 5 a.m. to attend a meeting. Their return journey would be started at between 4 and 5 p.m., so as to allow them to sleep in their own beds that same night. We sometimes read in your notices of meetings, 'Bells ready at 3 p.m.,' and again, 'Bells raised at 5 p.m.' Ringers in these districts should count their blessings! Such notices were never applicable to this part of the world.

Then, too, I wonder if ringers in more favoured districts ever think what it may cost one of our members to attend a meeting. A day's work lost, railway fare anything up to 7s. or 8s., a dinner, and a cup of tea, and any incidentals. And—be it remembered—people are not earning anything like the wages here as in other parts.

The difficulties named we have had always with us and when to this was added increased railway fares, with a reduced train service, our committee felt that general meetings of the Association had no chance of success. The matter was discussed at great length two years ago, and it was pointed out to members, by circular, that under Rule 11, district secretaries could arrange meetings in their districts, where local conditions and circumstances were favourable, and that this policy was recommended by the committee.

So far as I am aware, not a single meeting of this kind has been held, and it would, therefore, appear local conditions and circumstances are not favourable. The matter was again under consideration at the meeting on Easter Monday, and although it was thought the past policy still the best, yet we decided to hold a general meeting on Whit-Monday next, at as convenient a centre as possible, and, all being well, we shall see how the experiment turns out.

Another trouble we have is that some of our clergy will not allow their bells to be rung except for services. A meeting is not possible, for instance, in Norwich for this reason, and there are other places I know of in like case.

I could also mention other things which work against us but the Defence of the Realm regulations forbid it, and, perhaps, I have already said enough to show that our particular bit of the country is not the most favoured just now. Our members, and you, too, sir, may rest assured our committee is alive to its responsibilities. Apologising for the length of this letter.—Yours truly

CHAS. E. BORRETT.

Norwich.

Secretary

BELGIUM'S LOST BELLS.

A SUGGESTION TO THE RINGERS OF ENGLAND.

Dear Sir,—Your article on 'Church Bells for Guns' touches a question which I had intended to raise at the Central Council meeting last year, if it had been held. Notice had been given to the honorary secretary of a motion that the Council should inaugurate a fund to be contributed by the ringers of England and their friends to replace some of the bells, if possible a whole carillon, which had been stolen or destroyed by the Germans. My idea was that any money so collected should be invested in War Loan till after the conclusion of peace so that it might assist in the meantime in the prosecution of the war.

When the Council meeting was postponed, I made arrangements to consult Mr. Davies during a brief holiday in England, and he suggested that I should write to you, outlining the proposal. In the event of no adverse comment from your readers, we thought it might be possible to form a small committee, representing various districts, to proceed with the matter, and report to the Council this year. That the project has not gone further has been my fault. Shortly after seeing Mr. Davies, I was obliged to make a hurried return across the border on account of labour difficulties: for the last ten months, I have seen no chance of proceeding without taking up time which would be better spent in the manufacture of various materials urgently required for the war.

In the near future I hope if you will allow me the space to write to you again on the same subject. The publication of Cardinal Mercier's letter makes the present time a suitable one to test the feelings of ringers of this country as to whether they would like to assist the other country of bells to repair the damage which has been done.

Through the courtesy of a Belgian friend, I have been lent by the Belgian Government a set of lantern slides, made from official photographs of some of the ruined churches, and these will be available for use in connection with any appeal which it may be decided to make to ringers of their friends.

Waygatheshaw, Carlisle, Scotland.

E. H. LEWIS.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT HILLINGDON.

The twenty-first annual general meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday week, and despite the inclement weather, which no doubt kept many away, was a highly successful gathering, about sixty members attending. Thanks to Mr. W. Honor (steepkeeper), the ring of ten was in first-rate going order, and was kept going in variety of methods until service time, touches of Stedman and Grand sire Caters, Treble Ten, and Grand sire Triples being rung.

Service was held at 6 p.m., and was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. M. Carrick, M.A.). A pleasing feature was the attendance of ten of the choir boys, who were supplemented by six of the visiting ringers who are choristers, viz.: Messrs. W. Elson, W. Lawrence, A. Mason, J. R. Sharnan, W. Shepherd and J. Bruce Williamson, who responded to an invitation given in the belfry by the organist, Miss D. G. Feltham, to don cassocks and surplices and assist. Talise's Festal Responses were used, the 'Magnificat' was sung to Smart, the 'Nunc Dimittis' to Feltham (that grand composition with the opening chords in the minor key and concluding in the major). The hymns sung were: 'Christ the Lord is Risen,' 'On the Resurrection Morning,' and the ringers' hymn, 'Unchanging God who livest.' These were very heartily sung. In the course of the service the names on the Guild roll of honour were read out, and the departed remembered in the prayers. The lesson was taken from John xv., and an excellent address was delivered by the Vicar, based upon the words, 'Woe is unto me if I preach not the Gospel.' I Corinthians ix. 16. In the course of his sermon, he said he counted it a great privilege to be able to speak to a band of brothers, met to ask God's blessing upon their sacred work, which by their rules was one of the chief objects of their Association. The text, which was inscribed upon the great bell at St. Paul's Cathedral he was going to give them as a motto to carry away in their thoughts of that service. There was a great responsibility, for the bells preached the Gospel. Let them take care that they rang out that great message in their lives and showed it in their outward acts. Never let it be said of any of them, 'Though I call I preach not the Gospel.'

The service was a most uplifting one, and concluded with the National Anthem.

Subsequently the members adjourned to the school room, where, thanks to the energies of Miss N. G. Williams, and her loyal band of lady helpers, including Miss A. Carrick and Miss D. G. Feltham, a splendid tea had been prepared, and was greatly enjoyed by all.

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

At the business meeting which followed the chair was taken by the President (Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O.), who was supported by the hon. treasurer (Mr. F. A. Milne), Major J. H. B. Hesse (vice-president), the Rev. R. M. Carrick, Messrs. W. Pye (Master), T. Beadle (S. and W. District Master), H. C. Chandler, and W. H. Oram (hon. secretaries).

The report and balance sheet for 1917 were presented, the latter showing a further reduction in subscriptions and an increased expenditure.

The report included the following: The close of another year of war finds us with the ranks of our ringers still further lessened by the calls made upon men of military age to take their part in fighting for their King and Country. The older men left behind continue to strive manfully to keep the bells going for Sunday services, in spite of the absence of their comrades at the front, but the conditions naturally vary in different belfries. In some cases the services of ladies have been encouraged and welcomed by enlightened Rectors and Vicars, while, in others, there has been distinct discouragement for reasons that are not readily apparent, and perhaps it may be truly said for no reason at all. Be this as it may, wherever the services of lady ringers have been available, they have shown themselves to be reliable. They can be depended on to be both punctual and regular, and are quick in solving the difficulties of those intricacies of ringing which require intelligence and skill. Men have always had a fascination for their art, and lady ringers have shown that they are equally fascinated, and, if we may venture to say so without offence, far more persevering than men. Both, however, are at present under a great disadvantage. The opportunities for united practice are almost at a standstill everywhere, owing to the exigencies of the Defence of the Realm Act; but the time will come, and, as we hope, at no distant date when all obstacles will be removed, and we shall be welcoming our brave men back again, and be ringing out notes of joy and victory in the places of notes of sadness and farewell. With the continuance of hostilities and further depletion among the ranks of ringers, the Association's work for the year was again limited. Of peals rung we can only claim four, which probably is the lowest ever recorded: two were rung on tower bells as a tribute to departed members and two on handbells.

The number of quarter-peals reported were 34. It is with pleasure we offer our congratulations to four members, on accomplishing noteworthy achievements: Mr. James George, who has passed 600 peals; and Mr. E. Barnett, senr., on completing 500; Mr. J. E. Miller, one of our auditors, on the completion of 25 years as a ringer at South-

gate; and to the Master of the Association, Mr. W. Pye on his splendid effort of raising £68 for the widow of the late Mr. Alf. Grimes (a true example of the brotherhood among ringers).

The membership of the Association is now 714. New members elected during the year were 32 in number, while death and other causes removed the names of 18. Of the new members elected ten were ladies, which is a pleasing feature of the South and West District. In issuing our new report we have started a roll of honour giving the names of those who have laid down their lives in the war. Our war roll now numbers 200. Though far from home, many have the Association still at heart (as their letters show), and we desire to extend them our best wishes for safety and good health, with the hope that their return home may be expedited. During the year 1917 our Association has lost by death 15. Some having reached the allotted span passed away, leaving records for future generations of ringers to honour and revere, while others with splendid promise gave their lives on the battlefield. May they rest in peace. To all their relatives we extend our heartfelt sympathy and condolence.

BELL RESTORATION.

Turning to the matter of bell restoration, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank report that they have completed the rechanging, etc., of the peal of ten at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, E.C. They have also rehung the 7th with new gudgeons and bearings at St. Bololph, Bishopsgate, and have in hand the rehanging of the peal of eight at St. Stephen, Rochester Row, Westminster. The bells are to be quarter-turned, the frame strengthened, the peal rehung with new gudgeons and bearings, and the tenor to be fitted with a new iron headstock. Messrs. John Warner have no restorations to report for 1917, but hope at the conclusion of hostilities to again play a leading part in bell founding and repairing.

In concluding another report we are able to say we have weathered the storm with our finances and in spite of increased expenses and a smaller income show a satisfactory account of the year's working. We would appeal to all members at home to do their best to keep things going, especially to those whose subscriptions may have slipped their memory. The payment of a small subscription is not an onerous duty, but it is a necessary one to enable us to pay our way. Many Associations are helped largely by honorary members, and though any that come our way are always welcome, we do not lay ourselves out to press for them. If, however, the humbler subscriptions are withheld members are directly damaging our health and wealth. We do not expect our comrades at the front to be mindful of the elusive shilling, and are quite content if we are able to show as hitherto, a balance on the right side. It is only fair to acknowledge with many thanks the continuance of voluntary extra subscriptions from those at home, which have helped so much in the success that we have met with in our endeavours to pay our way. Once more we desire to acknowledge with gratitude the work of our joint honorary secretaries during the year. While we naturally look forward to the safe return of Mr. C. T. Coles, whom we all gratefully remember for his good work, we are bound to add a word of recognition for the excellent services of Mr. Oram, whose zeal and ability in carrying on the work of the Association during the absence of Mr. Coles is beyond all praise.

The President, in moving the adoption of the report and balance sheet, reviewed the proceedings at some length, referring to the difficulties under which the work had been continued.—The motion was seconded by Mr. J. Weghorne and carried.

Three new members were elected, viz.: The Rev. R. M. Carrick, M.A., as a life honorary member, and Miss Carrick and Miss N. Honor, of St. John's, Hillingdon, as ringing members.

The whole of the officers were re-elected en bloc, and after several suggestions had been made as to the place of the next annual meeting, it was left with the secretaries to make all arrangements.

The meeting concluded with hearty votes of thanks to the Rev. R. M. Carrick for his kind welcome for the service and for the use of the bells; to the choir for their help at the service; to Mr. W. Honor, the steepkeeper, for having everything in readiness; and to the Misses N. G. Williams, Carrick, and Feltham for so successfully carrying out the tea arrangements.

At the close of the meeting, handbell ringing was indulged in, and a faultless course of Stedman Cinques was rung by: Mrs. F. Hairs 1-2, W. S. Wise 3-4, G. R. Pye 5-6, Wm. Pye 7-8, W. Shepherd 9-10, G. H. Horton 11-12. Another good course followed, with G. M. Kilby 1-2 and J. Bruce Williamson 3-4. Next came some Treble Ten and Double Norwich Major, in which W. Hewett took part. This brought a most enjoyable meeting to a conclusion.

WINDSOR PARISH CHURCH BELLS REPAIRED

The bells of Windsor Parish Church having got into very bad going order, have been repaired by Messrs. John Warner and Sons, of London. Mr. Frank Smith was entrusted with the work, which was tested by a band of ringers, including himself, on Friday evening last, permission being given by the Vicar (Rev. E. M. Blackie). A quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by the following, in 46 mins.: T. Smith 1, W. Henley 2, G. Gutteridge 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. T. Lender 5, Frank Smith 6, E. Hooper (conductor) 7, C. Farr 8. The going of the bells was found to be very much improved by the work done to them.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.**ENJOYABLE MEETING AT WHISTON.**

A showery morning on Easter Monday did not promise well for a ringing meeting in the country, but the day belied its opening. The afternoon proved really fine and typically spring-like, and the rain ceased in time for a large number of members to make the journey to Whiston, a village situated on the outskirts of Rotherham, where a recently augmented ring of eight bells were placed at their disposal. Some of the visitors made the journey from Sheffield by the electric cars which run through one of the busiest and not the least important bits of Old England it is possible to find, where on either hand are old and new factories all engaged on the production of munitions of war. A change of cars at Rotherham for a short run of about five minutes and then another change, but what a change! Not only on to 'shanks' machine, but across fields some recently ploughed and sticky, but withal pleasant, with skylarks making sweet melody overhead, gardeners busy with their allotments, and the bells actually peaking out 'Violet'—a contrast between war and peace.

In the church and the churchyard were ringers from a round dozen towers, including Anston, Bolsover, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Doncaster, Ecclesfield, Haylandswaine, Rotherham, Sheffield Cathedral, St. Marie's, Sheffield; Treeton and Worksop, also Mr. Wm. Warburton, an ex-Rotherham ringer (who is endeavouring to get a local band together, a rather trying task in these days), and several of his pupils of both sexes. The Rector (the Rev. A. G. Alton) was also there, extending a hearty welcome to all, and giving particulars of the church generally. In reply to a vote of thanks for the use of bells and Church Institute, he apologised for not being able to provide the visitors with a cup of tea, owing to something in the shape of a war somewhere. At the same time he hoped to be more hospitable in the near future. He also placed the Vicarage grounds at the disposal of any who cared to look round.

At 4 p.m., the committee were gradually drawn from the tower to the Church Institute, where Mr. Arthur Knights presided over a muster of ten who shaped the course of events for the next year's programme. Then the fun commenced. Friend Haigh having found out how to make water hot the kettle was surrounded by ladies of both sexes, who, like the wise virgins of old, had come provided with tea and something they used to call sugar, as well as 'nose bags,' making a very good substitute for a family tea party, accessories being available in the Institute in the shape of cups, saucers, and tables, not forgetting the tea-urn, teapots, and 'lading can.'

Through the kindness of Canon Goodall, the peal of ten at Rotherham Parish Church were placed at the disposal of the society from 8 to 8 in the evening, so a little before 8 p.m. the Chesterfield and Sheffield contingents turned towards Rotherham, where the bells were soon raised and put to some good practice, ten bells being seldom heard in Rotherham during these days. As regards the ringing the standard was a high one both at Whiston and Rotherham, the opening touch of Stedman Caters at Rotherham being well nigh perfect. Other method-rings were: Grandfire Caters; Treble Ten and Little Bob Royal while at Whiston Stedman Tringles Superlative Surprise and Double Norwich were amongst the methods rung on the eight. Cambridge Minor being included in some very good ringing on six bells. This being the society's first visit to Whiston, it was also the first visit of a good many of the ringers, all of whom will have pleasant memories of a very enjoyable afternoon.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday the quarterly meeting of the North Forest Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association was held at Corse Church, when 17 members attended from Newent, Barnwood, Gloucester, Corse, Bramsherron and Staunton. The bells, a nice little ring of six in G, were raised at three o'clock, and kept going till five o'clock, when a short service was held. The Rev. A. C. Lucy delivered an excellent address, and welcomed the ringers to Corse.

Afterwards a short business meeting was held in the vestry, the Vicar presiding, and Hunlley was selected as the next place of meeting. Four lady ringers were present—two from Barnwood and two from Newent, and they felt quite at home on the light bells.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also to the organist, Miss Ricking.

At the Corse House, Mrs. T. H. Hulls had an excellent tea awaiting the visitors. It will be remembered that it was the late Mr. Hulls who had the four old bells at Corse restored, and had the two new trebles added, as well as putting in the new chiming apparatus at the cost of about £500.

Mr. Williams proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Hulls for her great kindness in inviting the ringers to her house to tea, and hoped she would be willing to accept the office of vice-president. This Mrs. Hulls consented to do, and said she should be very pleased to entertain the bell ringers another year, for she was always delighted to hear the bells.

When the party broke up all were agreed that the meeting had been a great success.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—A meeting will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on April 23rd, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1755).—Quarterly meeting at Aston on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (10) available from 4 o'clock. Business meeting in belfry at 6 o'clock.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Offenham on Saturday, April 20th, 1918. Service in church at 5 p.m. The bells (6) will be available afternoon and evening.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, April 20th. Bells ready at 3.30; meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions are due; reports to hand.—John H. Haydock, Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The first meeting of the new St. Albans District will be held at Hatfield on April 27th, 1918. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. All ringers will be welcome.—Wm. Nash, "Glenhorpe," North Mymms, Hatfield, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, April 27th, at their headquarters, St. Michael's Parish Church, Ashton-under-Lyne. Bells ready at 4 p.m.; business meeting 7.30 p.m. All ringers invited.—C. Bower, 25, Chadwick St., Ashton-under-Lyne.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—It is hoped to hold the postponed annual meeting at Burton-on-Trent on May 4th or 11th. Full particulars in next issue.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, May 4th, at Shore Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting at 6.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, May 4th. Ten bells available from 3 o'clock. Business meeting in vestry at 5 o'clock.—Sam. Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown and Guildford Districts.—A combined practice meeting of these districts will be held on Saturday, May 4th, when several towers will be visited. Full details later.—F. J. Shepherd, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, J. J. Jones, Bridge Street, Guildford, Hon. Secs.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, May 4th. Further particulars next week. All ringing friends welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—I. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch should have been held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday last, but on account of the Tank week celebrations taking place in the vicinity this was found rather inconvenient. However, the difficulty was overcome, through the kindness of the Vicar of St. Alban's Church, who placed his tower and bells at the disposal of the branch. Members were present from Glodwick, Middleton, Milnrow, Newhey, Oldham, Rochdale Parish, St. Alban's, Todmorden, Bacup, and Huddersfield. Touches of Grandsire Minor and Doubles, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor were rung, but owing to the fact that members kept constantly going to look at the Tank, a band of eight could not be got together.

At the business meeting, a resolution of condolence with the widow of the late Mr. Joseph Ridyard (Vice-President of the Association) was passed in the usual way, by all members standing.

It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Shore Parish Church on Saturday, May 4th.

The meeting was brought to a conclusion with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the tower and bells; to the local ringers for having everything in readiness; also to Mr. S. Stoll, of Oldham, for presiding.

In the opinion of the visitors, the tenor bell of St. Alban's is in need of attention, as it appears to be loose on the stock.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.

On Saturday last, the Manchester branch held its usual monthly meeting at Reddish. Members and friends attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Hyde, Miles Platting, Prestwich, and Pendleton. Mr. Jas. Shaw presided over the business meeting, at which a vote of condolence was passed, by all standing, to Mrs. Joseph Ridyard and family, on the death of Mr. Joseph Ridyard.—St. James', Birch-in-Rusholme, was chosen as the next meeting, to take place on May 18th.—A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar, and to the local ringers for the use of the bells.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the North Eastern Division of the Essex Association was held at Witham on Easter Monday. Service was held at the Parish Church, conducted by the Rev. Canon Galpin (Vicar), who preached from Proverbs xii, 20, 'The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the Lord hath made even both of them.' In the course of his address, the Vicar said he felt it a great privilege to speak to the ringers, as he felt they were carrying out a priestly office in their work as ringers.

Tea was provided at the Church House, when ringers were present from Bocking, Braintree, Rayne, Sible Hedingham, Dunmow, Maldon, Colchester, Feering, Great Totham, and the local company.

Mr. H. F. Cooper (District Master) presided at the business meeting, supported by Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Association), Rev. H. T. W. Eyre (general secretary), Canon Galpin, and Mr. B. Redgwell (district secretary).—Eight new members were elected from Sible Hedingham, of which four were lady ringers.

Colchester was selected as the place of next meeting, to be held on August Bank Holiday.

Ringings during the afternoon included touches of Cambridge, Double Court, Kent, Oxford, and Plain Bob.

A SILVER WEDDING.

Mr. W. Bolton, the energetic Master of the Llandaff Association and leader of the St. John's Band, Cardiff, and his wife have just celebrated their silver wedding. To mark the occasion, and as an appreciation of his untiring services, members of the Association assembled at St. John's, Cardiff, on Easter Monday for an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Caters. Ringing had not been in progress long when a trip occurred, and gland was called. One of the band, not feeling well, a start was next made for a peal of Triples, but this, too, was doomed to failure, after an hour's excellent ringing. Not to be denied, arrangements were made for another attempt on Saturday week, an exceptional privilege, by the way, as permission to ring on Saturdays has practically always been a refusal, owing to the church being situated in the midst of business, Cardiff. However, the bells on this occasion were available, and a start made about five o'clock, but after about an hour's excellent ringing over-anxiousness was predominant, and a collapse occurred, much to the disappointment of all. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was then rung, and beautifully struck by the following: A. Rowley 1, J. Harris 2, F. Chamberlain 3, S. Dawe 4, W. Bolton 5, F. Edwards 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, S. Barker 8.

At the conclusion, many happy returns were accorded Mr. Bolton, and the wish expressed that all will be spared to make an attempt on the occasion of the golden wedding.

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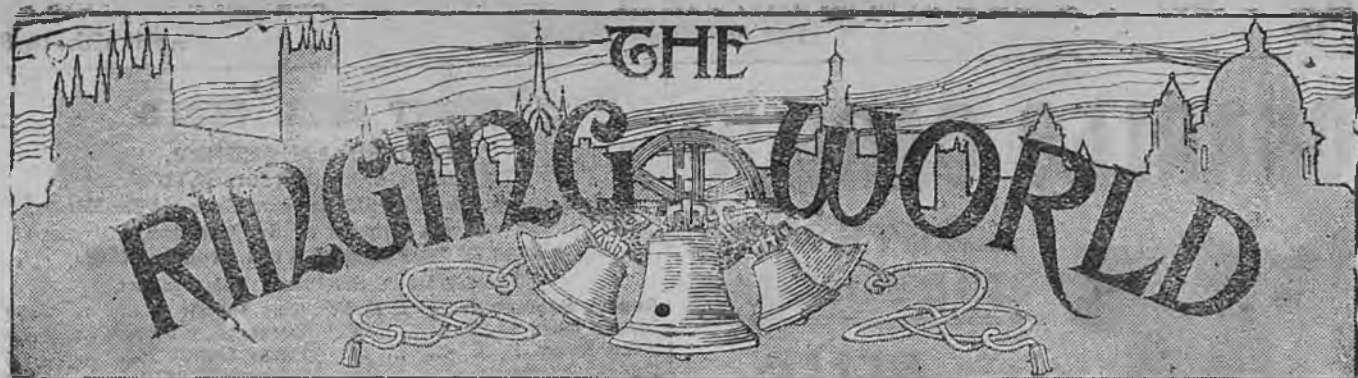
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FRIDAY, APRIL 26th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1894
Bantlemen.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones to the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

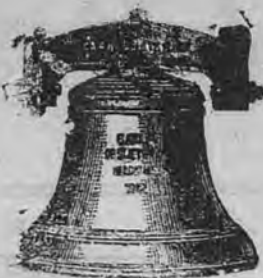
BELGIUM'S LOST BELLS.

The suggestion put forward by Mr. E. H. Lewis, in our last issue, that a fund should be inaugurated, to be contributed by the ringers of England and friends, for replacing some of the bells of Belgium despoiled by the Germans, is a proposal that will, we are sure, appeal very directly to the hearts of the lovers of bells. The wanton destruction of the bells, and particularly of the famous carillons, while it is only of a piece with all that has been done before, by the savagery of the Hun, who could scarcely be expected to preserve bells when he has destroyed cathedrals and committed unspeakable crimes against women and children, is a cruel blow to the Belgian people, whose bells form part of their national life, even more intimately perhaps than the bells of England do of the life of those who live in this country. Mr. W. Gorham Rice, an American, after exploring the carillon towers of Holland and Belgium, wrote: "Many travellers have sought to comprehend the secret of the attractiveness of the Low Countries. Complex and elusive that secret doubtless is, yet I believe we shall find a clue for our search in a knowledge of this distinctive (carillon) music. Surely its long-continued hold upon the people of Holland and Belgium; its association with stirring events in their history; its touch with prosaic duties; its democratic spirit; its companionship with time; its seat in lofty towers; and its maintenance at the public charge—all give suggestions of racial temperament well worth considering."

The bell music from the carillon towers throws its spell over all who hear it, and when we realise that to the Belgians these bells are as closely allied with their national life as the English church bells are to ours we shall sympathise with them to the fullest degree in the loss which has befallen them. What would be our feelings if an invading foe stripped our cathedrals and our churches of the bells? And once the bells have gone from the Belgian towers, in the wholesale manner that the Germans are said to have taken them, how are they eventually to be replaced? We are afraid it must be many, many years before they are completely restored; but if the ringers of the ringing Isle, with outside friends, can replace even one of the lost carillons, it would be an act which would not only be received with gratitude by the Belgian people, but would stand for all time as a memorial erected by the Exercise in England to the immortal heroism of and the tragic sacrifices made by the little nation who is our ally. Mr. Lewis proposes to put the subject before the Central Council, and we feel sure if he does it will meet with all the sympathy it deserves. The Council is unquestionably the best body to take the lead in this matter, and if it decides to do so, we hope it will do so with a "live" interest.

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The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

STANDISH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THOMAS DAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

ALBERT SEDDON Treble	JOHN BOOTH 5
JOSEPH GREY 2	JAMES W. GROUNDS 6
FRED RIGBY 3	PETER CROOK 7
ERNEST BIRCHALL 4	GEORGE HEWITT Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

Rung as a compliment to John Grounds, father of the ringer of 6, who has completed 40 years' service as a ringer at the above church.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALMUNDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HAYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTAN'S.

Tenor 17 cwt.

ALBERT H. WARD Treble	BART MITCHELL 5
GEORGE WARD 2	JOHN FLOWER 6
CHARLES E. HART 3	FRED HICKLING 7
JOSEPH LORD 4	WILLIAM J. WILEMAN Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT H. WARD.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in commemoration of the anniversary of the death of the late Sir Arthur Haywood, Bart.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Friday, April 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

J. BRUCE WILLIAMSON ... 1-2	GEORGE R. PYE 7-8
MRS. F. I. HAINS 3-4	WILLIAM PYE 9-10
WILLIAM SHEPHERD 5-6	CHARLES H. HORTON ... 11-12

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERLEY.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE. Umpire, G. M. KILEY.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques.

The umpire in the handbell peal at Birmingham published in our issue of April 12th was Mr. William Kent.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at Peterston-super-Ely, Glamorganshire, on Saturday week, and proved an excellent one. It was well attended, the ladies being well in evidence, and members being present from Llanbradach, Rumney and Newport. Mr. Symon, the local leader, welcomed all on arrival, and spared no pains to make the meeting a success. The bells, a light ring of six, go excellently, and were kept busy until 5 p.m., when a move was made to the Schoolroom, where, notwithstanding the food restrictions, there was an excellent tea kindly provided by the Rector and his wife. Over 40 sat down, and, needless to say, the hospitality was much appreciated. The Rector's wife, with other lady assistants, were good enough to look after the needs of the visitors, for which at the conclusion the best thanks of the members were accorded them.

Subsequently the business meeting was presided over by the Master (Mr. W. Bolton), in the unavoidable absence of the Rector. Several new members were elected, including seven from Penarth, where in the past was to be found one of the best if not the best Minor band in the Association. Penarth and Llanbradach were each proposed as the place at which to hold the next Glamorgan meeting, and on being put to the vote, Llanbradach was carried by a large majority. The next Monmouthshire meeting is to be held at St. Mellons.

During the evening, the bells were rung in the four Standard methods, everyone appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves, and the meeting can be said to have been a huge success. Several of the pioneers of the Association put in an appearance, amongst whom was Mr. W. Coombes, and the veteran enthusiast, Mr. J. Clutterbuck.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

E. BERKS AND S. BUCKS BRANCH.

An excellent annual meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch was held at Beaconsfield on Easter Monday, as a result of the wise decision of the Oxford Diocesan Guild Branch Committee at their last sitting to defer this event, which usually takes place in mid-winter. Previously it was the custom to fix up a Saturday evening when the moon was at the full; add to this the war regulations now forbidding certain sounds beloved of bell ringers with certain light restricted at certain hours; the dearer railway fares; the urgent calls for civilian labour on police, Red Cross, munitions, Volunteer rifle training, and many similar causes, and then wonder no longer that men of the ringing fraternity—those unclaimed by the Ministry of Recruiting—do not assemble in greater numbers.

Some readers will probably inquire: Are we not piling up our woes a little? To these I answer there are others—our friend the weather thought fit to break up after an exceptionally long spell of fine spring days; the Germans thought fit to begin their smashing to pieces of the British Army on the West Front about Lady Day; there are doleful pessimists about who would silence all bells just now; then the Food Controller's new orders do not appeal to the inner man of the bell ringer; whilst there is yet another woe to come—the raising of the military age-limit to 50 will carry off a few more of our hands—and still we are not down-hearted. On the contrary, a few prime young men of 50 summers suggested to me the raising of a 'ringers' platoon' for R.G.A. duty at Plymouth or Portsmouth—and (this is the kind of spirit prevailing, generally speaking, throughout the Exercise to-day).

The day's proceedings began at Slough at ten o'clock, the Rev. G. S. Deacon and Messrs. H. Hunt, C. Farr and J. Croft (Windsor), Wm. Hewitt, Percy Smith and R. Sanders, of London; Messrs. Leader (steeplekeeper of St. Mary's), T. S. Smith, W. Henley, W. Bateman and two daughters, Miss Fuller, Mr. G. H. Gutteridge, Mr. J. Brant (Warfield), and others sufficient to ring three methods were present. At Farnham Royal the ropes were resumed, and a double team took part in six methods—the visitors being met by the local veteran steeplekeeper, Mr. J. J. Parker, and Messrs. Elderfield, Eastwell and Dowling.

Another part of the county—High Wycombe—was invaded by Mr. Wm. Lawrence and Miss Jones (Ealing), Messrs. Tom Beadle, A. Reckensale (Isleworth), W. T. Elsom (Fulham), T. H. Taffender, and another of Southwark; Mr. R. T. Hilbert and his son (Caversham), Mr. J. H. Barnes and his son (Great Missenden), Mr. John Evans and his son (Hughenden), the Rev. J. Fraser Amies and a pupil of Chalfont St. Peter; Messrs. C. Edwards (Acton), J. Milner (Harrow), W. Shepherd (Hersham), E. F. Pike (Brockley), C. Hare (Tottenham), etc. The local members of the All Saints' Society mustered well, including Messrs. F. Hayes (conductor), R. Coles (the steeplekeeper), J. Grausbury, R. Biggs, J. W. Wilkins, Wm. Horne, G. White, and others, so that good ten and twelve bell touches of Kent Treble Bob and Stedman were rung between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

THE FESTIVAL.

During the afternoon some sixty ringers visited the old town section of Beaconsfield, the additional members including Messrs. J. L. Kirk (Cookham), E. Harding (Fulmer), the Vicar of Waltham and his steeplekeeper, the Misses Williams and Feltham (Hillingdon), Mr. and Mrs. J. Blackmore, the Bishop of Buckingham, the Rev. A. S. Commeline (Vicar of St. Mary's), Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Bagley (churchwarden), Mr. O. F. Davies, F.C.O. (organist), Mr. George Allder (Burnham), and the Guild secretary. Evening service, conducted by the Rector, found 58 ringers in their seats, the sermon—more like a homely address—was delivered by the Bishop of Bucks, in which he pointed out the fact that church bells were not mentioned in the Old or New Testaments although the pealing of bells in this country was the only means of calling people together in early days to hear the Bible read. Allusion was made to the terrible loss of life caused by the war, including many of the members of this Guild whom they would remember in their prayers that day, as well as those who were still doing 'their bit' in the battle area. The hymns selected were: 'Jesus lives' and 'Rock of Ages.'

A Buckinghamshire Surprise awaited everyone, except Mr. Reeves (sexton), Mrs. Reeves, and Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore, the creators thereof, by the exceptional provision made in the way of rations.

The tea was served in the long room of the old Rectory, a unique 14th century half-timbered building now preserved as a national treasure, and in the charge of Mr. Reeves. A wood fire was burning on the dog irons of the fireplace, and the tables were nicely set out, several junior relatives of the curator taking up the task of waiting upon the guests, who one and all appeared to be most comfortable and happy under the Daylight Saving Act, and quite fearless of penalties threatened to food hoarders.

BUSINESS MEETING.

The Bishop having to leave early, the chair was kindly taken by the Rev. A. S. Commeline, whose courteous and expert handling of the agenda enabled a good deal of business to be got through in a brief period.

The balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1917, which showed the branch was £13 Bs. 10d. to the good, after paying the large proportion of £11 13s. 4d. into the Guild's Diocesan Fund.

The committee, president and treasurer were all re-elected for 1918, with Messrs. Smith and Kirk as Borks deputies for Messrs. Wellington and Martin, and Messrs. Blackmore and Borcham as Bucks deputies for Messrs. Buckland and White. The following voluntary instructors were unanimously approved by the meeting, and their services will be available at any tower in their respective districts on application to the secretary: Messrs. Copsey (Boyne Hill), Smith (Windsor), Brant (Winkfield), Gutteridge (Iver), Horne (Amersham), and Haynes (Wycombe). The Secretary reported the roll of members as follows: Life subscribers, 8; honorary members, 37; non-resident ringing, 62; unattached, 15; change ringing, 230; complimentary, 89; total, 439. There are 17 lady ringers of whom 13 are change ringers. Men on war service total 144, of whom 11 have been killed in action, and 55 paid fees to branch. One tower of nine men in arrears is included in the total. There are 29 towers in union.

Amongst other coincidence, mentioned by the secretary were that returns came to hand the same week from two towers mustering 36 members (Wycombe), whilst two subscribers—the Bishop and a sapper in the R.E.—each sent in double subscriptions to cover the current and coming year's contributions. This is the sort of 'Kameraderie' which only men of the ringing isles can fully understand.

A war-time break took place, when the members opened their arms to welcome two new towers, viz., St. Michael's, Warfield, with ten ringers, under the leadership of Mr. L. Bristowe, and with the Rev. C. Toogood (Vicar), as hon. member; and St. John's, Windsor, with 17 members, including eight ladies, under the leadership of Mr. A. Patch, and the Vicar (the Rev. E. M. Blackie), and the churchwardens as hon. members. Mr. J. L. Kirk (Cookham), Mr. A. S. Bagley (Beaconsfield), the Rev. C. H. Stokes (Wexham), the Rev. Walter Thackeray (Boyne Hill), were added to the list of honorary members; Mr. Percy H. Smith was made a non-resident member, and Messrs. Dowling, Barnes, junr., H. W. Badger, F. O. Nickolls junr., E. J. Kippington John Mitchell, and a number of the probationers, were added to the list of performing members; and, last, but not least, the Misses Jones, Bateman and Williams were elected change ringing members.

The absence of Canon Drummond, President of the Branch, through illness, was regretted, a message sent through the chairman stated how disappointed he was not to be able to give his yearly address to them after 40 years of office, but urging the branch to carry on their work with brotherly zeal.

A vote of thanks to the Bishop for sparing a valuable half-day to the ringers, and to the Rector, churchwardens and organist of Beaconsfield for their hearty welcome to the Guild, was passed with acclamation. Mr. and Mrs. Reeves and Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore (for their kind catering arrangements) received a similar mark of appreciation.

The tower was again visited for further touches—a little of all of it—by mixed teams, who gradually dispersed in groups for home, via Great Central Railway, or astride the trusty cycle, as the shades of evening closed in.

W. H. F.

DEATH OF AN OLD WORKSOP RINGER.

We have to record the death of a well known personality in North Notts ringing circles, Mr. Thomas Henry Thorpe, of Worksop, an old and respected employee of Messrs. Oates, Ltd. The deceased, who was 67 years of age, was a remarkable character in his way, and was a most experienced woodman.

During the many years he was in the employ of Mr. G. A. Oates and the late Mr. Benjamin Gardside, he never missed a day's work, nor was he ever known to be behind time. He was seldom idle, as he occupied his leisure time in bell ringing, or in some other form of work.

The late Mr. Thorpe was the last of the Worksop band of 50 years ago. He formed the Priory company of change ringers in the year 1863, and remained a ringer for 46 years, until Aug., 1909, resigning his position as captain soon after the death of the late Vicar (the Rev. H. T. Slodden). He was also the organ blower for 25 years, so the work he did for the church was very practical. He has walked many miles in pursuit of ringing, and, although not an enthusiast for peal ringing, he has rung many 720's of Minor in various Treble Bob methods, and also three quarter-peals of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, ringing the tenor in good style.

The deceased served on the committee of the North Notts Association for several years, and invariably attended all the district meetings. His quiet and unassuming disposition endeared him to all with whom he came in contact.

His remains were laid quietly to rest in the New Cemetery, Worksop, on Monday week, and as a last tribute of respect to his memory the Priory ringers rang touches of Grandsire Triples, with the clappers half-muffled. The following took part: H. Weaver, F. Willey, E. Clark, T. Bartholomew, G. Hardwick, W. Roberts, A. Johnson (conductor), J. T. Wilson and P. Hopkinson.—R.I.P.

THE SPITTLE MEMORIAL.

UNVEILING AT DUDLEY PARISH CHURCH.

The annual meeting of the Dudley Guild, held at Dudley, on Saturday, April 6th, was made specially memorable on account of the fact that advantage was taken of the occasion to unveil the memorial tablet to the late Ringing Master of the Guild (Mr. Samuel Spittle), who was not only one of the founders of the organisation, but for more than 70 years was connected with the church. Although the weather was not all that could be desired, upwards of one hundred members availed themselves of the opportunity of being present, and the beautiful ring of ten bells were at their disposal from 3 o'clock until 9 p.m., a privilege which was greatly appreciated by the ringers and townsfolk generally, as there is no ringing except for Sunday services at present.

The service in the church was conducted by the Rev. Canon A. Gray Maitland, President of the Guild, and Vicar of Dudley, who also dedicated the tablet. To the processional hymn, 'Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven,' the clergy, choir and officers of the Guild proceeded from the vestry to the site of the tablet, where the President, after a few introductory remarks as to the reason for its erection, requested Sir Arthur G. Boscawen, M.P. for Dudley, and a vice-president of the Guild, to conduct the unveiling ceremony. This took place in the presence of a large assembly, representing not only the congregation of the Parish Church, but also the greater part of bell ringers from that and adjoining districts.

After the unveiling, Mr. Harry Mason, the Ringing Master, in a brief speech, handed over the tablet to the care of the churchwardens (Mr. F. R. McDowell, Vicar's warden; and Mr. J. McDougal Tait, people's warden), who willingly accepted charge of the tablet to the memory of so faithful a servant of the Church. They promised that every care should be taken of it, and that they would hand it down to their successors for all time.

The Vicar then dedicated the tablet a special form of service being used. The procession then reformed, and on reaching the chancel, the Vicar concluded the service, in the course of which the hymn, 'Jesus lives,' was sung, and Sir Arthur Boscawen gave an eloquent address, in the course of which he referred to the long and honourable life of the late Mr. Spittle. He spoke of his close association throughout life with the Parish Church, and of the valuable and constant services he had rendered during 71 years as an officer of the church, and, for upwards of 50 years, as its head bell ringer. Referring to the many men from Dudley who were serving their country, and the magnificent spirit of self-sacrifice they were showing, Sir Arthur said it was with the same spirit, of devotion and self-sacrifice that the late Mr. Spittle had served his Church and town, and was worthy equally with the soldiers of the honour and respect they were paying to his memory that day.

The singing of the hymn, 'For all the saints, who from their labours rest,' and the Benediction, brought the service to a close.

The tablet, which is a copper panel, mounted on a black marble plaque, with repoussé lettering, bears the following inscription:—

'In sacred memory of Samuel Spittle, chief beadle of this church, and Ringing Master of the Dudley and District Guild, who died January 26th, 1917, at the age of 80 years, an honoured and devoted servant of this church for 71 years. "May he rest in peace." On Feb. 3rd, 1917, was rung upon the bells of this church in 3 hours and 18 minutes, half-muffled, a peal of Grandsire Caters (5057 changes), composed by the late William Micklewright, and rung by the following members of the above Guild, as a last tribute to the memory of their beloved Master: Gilbert Guest treble, Samuel Baker 2, William Mills 3, Herbert Sheppard 4, John Goodman, senr., 5, Harry Jeavons 6, John Goodman, junr., 7, Harry Goodman 8, Benjamin Gough 9, William Meek tenor. Conducted by John Goodman, junr. Rev. A. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar. F. R. McDowell, J. McDougal Tait, churchwardens.'

After service an adjournment was made to the Schoolroom, where tea was in readiness. Mrs. Gray Maitland and Mrs. Tait presided at the urns, and among the visitors present were the churchwardens, Mr. F. R. McDowell and J. McDougal Tait, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A. (King's Norton), Mr. A. E. Parsons (Master, Worcestershire Association), Mr. A. Paddon Smith (St. Martin's, Birmingham) and Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. J. E. Groves, Mr. and Mrs. John Price (of Coseley) and others. The following towers were represented: Coseley, Dudley, Bradley, Bilston, Brierley Hill, Blakenhall, Sedgley, Tipton, Old Hill, Oldswinford, Smethwick, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Wednesbury, etc. Apologies were received among others, from Rev. F. W. Jones (Coseley), Rev. C. H. Barker (West Bromwich), Messrs. John Carter, Herbert Knight (secretary, Society of Archdeaconry of Stafford), J. R. Newman (secretary, Worcestershire Association), W. H. Johnson (secretary, Worcester Cathedral Guild), W. Cheshire (Erdington), J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), J. W. Jones (secretary, Llandaff Association), James George (Master of Warwickshire Guild), and John Bradney (Wolverhampton).

The business meeting followed, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Gray Maitland, LL.D., who at the commencement gave the members a hearty welcome to Dudley.

The annual report and balance sheet, which had been prepared and presented by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Herbert Sheppard), was passed, and ordered to be printed.

All the officers were re-elected, and several new members, including several lady ringers, as well as the following as hon. members, were elected: Mr. and Mrs. John Price (Coseley), Mrs. A. Gray Maitland, Mrs. H. Mason and Mrs. B. Gough.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Coseley, on Saturday June 8th, and it is hoped members will take a note of the date.

At the close of the meeting, a hearty vote of thanks was, on the proposition of Mr. A. E. Parsons, seconded by Mr. A. Paddon Smith, accorded to the president for conducting the service in church, presiding at the meeting, and for the use of the schoolroom, tower and bells; to the organist (Mr. T. W. North), the deputy organist (Mr. T. Cutler), and the choir for their services; also to the ladies for presiding at the tables, and assisting at the tea.—Special votes of thanks were also given to Sir Arthur G. Boscawen for kindly coming to unveil the tablet, and for his inspiring address, and to the visitors especially the ladies, who graced the meeting by their presence; to the Ringing Master (Mr. Harry Mason) for kindly bearing the expense of so bountiful a tea, his hospitality being greatly appreciated by all present.

The singing of the National Anthem brought another successful meeting to a close.

KILLED IN THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE.

It is with much regret that we have to record the death of one of the members of a well-known Sussex ringing family, Lieut. E. Aitwater, who was killed in action in France on March 22nd. He was struck in the head by shrapnel, and his death was instantaneous.

A member of the Sussex and Surrey Associations, and of the College Youths, he was a very reliable ringer, and had rung several peals, conducting one. He was formerly a member of the cricket staff at the Oval, and saw much fighting in the earliest days of the war at Ypres, Loos, and the Somme, where his meritorious work as a machine gunner earned for him a commission.

He was married 14 months ago to the daughter of Councillor and Mrs. R. W. Hulls, of Arundel, and much sympathy has been expressed with his widow and their infant. Lieut. Aitwater was much respected at his home at Cuckfield, Sussex, where, as in Arundel, his loss will be deeply regretted.

Pte. Charles Owen, 1/7th Manchester Regiment, died of wounds in France on April 4th. The deceased was a nephew of Mr. J. E. Groves, of Birmingham, and was one of the first company formed at St. Nicholas' Liverpool, after the bells had been rehung in 1911. He joined the Forces in 1915, and had served in Egypt and France.

As a mark of respect to the deceased, on Sunday week at St. Nicholas' Church, 720 Rob Major, with the tenor covering, and with the bells muffled: W. Fisher 4, W. A. Sevious 5, J. H. Moore 6, S. Hammond 7, G. R. Newton (conductor) 8, E. Caunce 9, G. Fisher 10, W. Davies 11, J. Lamb 12. The company met for Grandsire Caters, but owing to illness one of the band was unable to ring, and the above rung instead.

News has been received of the death in action, of a well-known London ringer—Mr. W. Truss. He was killed in France on the 12th inst., and much sympathy will go out to his widow, who is left with a family of five children.

The Rev. Canon Baker, Rector of Dunstable, and President of the Bedfordshire Association, has lost a son in the recent fighting in France, and as a token of respect to the memory of the deceased, and all the other brave men who have fallen in the great German offensive, a half-muffled quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) was rung at Dunstable on Saturday evening by the Luton company: F. Hunt 1, L. A. Goodenough 2, H. Wood 3, T. Kendall 4, B. Wilson 5, J. Rookwood 6, A. King (conductor) 7, H. Shaw 8.

MUFFLED RINGING AT READING.

St. Giles' Church, Reading, has lost a valued supporter by the death of Mr. J. Okey Taylor, J.P., who was formerly senior church warden and took an active and leading part in the augmentation of the original peal of six to the present beautiful peal of eight.

With the bells half-muffled, to the memory of the deceased gentleman, 504 Stedman Triples was rung on Saturday last at St. Giles' Church, by: H. Simmonds 1, N. Cox 2, A. Wiggins 3, T. E. Sone 4, Miss E. Goodship 5, H. Eby 6, A. W. Osborne (conductor) 7, G. Cook 8. A touch of 210 Grandsire Triples was also rung, conducted by Miss Goodship. On Sunday, for evensong, the last 742 from Holt's Original, was rung by: Miss D. Ratten 1, G. Boddington 2, L. T. Osborne 3, T. E. Sone 4, Miss E. Goodship 5, A. W. Osborne 6, H. Eby (conductor) 7, N. Cox 8. Pte. T. E. Sone hails from Maidstone, and is a patient at the War Hospital at Reading.

EDGRASTON.—For service, on Sunday morning, March 17th, at the Parish Church, 720 Kent Treble Rob Minor: C. Webb 1, W. Bryant 2, M. Edgely (Arley Kings) 3, J. Eaton 4, G. Pigott 5, H. Withers (conductor) 6.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**SOUTHERN BRANCH ENTERTAINED AT OFFENHAM.**

A quarterly meeting of the Southern Branch of the Worcestershire Association was held at Offenham on Saturday last, and, despite the downpour of rain throughout the afternoon and evening, was well attended, ringers being present from Evesham, Hampton, Bengeworth, Fladbury, Bretforton, Toddington, etc.: Mr. Harry Withers, of Birmingham, also being present. Service was held in church, at which the Vicar (the Rev. G. H. B. Greening) and the Vicar of Hampton (the Rev. D. Fitzmaurice) officiated, the organist and choir being in attendance and the Vicar giving an excellent and a most interesting address. Tea, which was contributed by the Vicar and Mrs. Greening, and churchworkers and friends, was served in the school, and surpassed all expectations, but as a friend said to the writer, 'the Offenham people will do it.' About 50 sat down to the well-laden tables, including the Vicar (the Rev. D. Fitzmaurice), the churchwardens, and the choir.

A business meeting followed, at which the Vicar presided, and at which he was elected an honorary member, and Mr. W. Large (of Todenham) was elected a life member. About 20 performing members were elected, including three lady ringers.

It was decided to attempt the quarterly peal at Offenham, with the bells half-muffled, with Mr. F. J. Johnson as conductor.

It was further resolved to hold the next quarterly meeting at Bengeworth.

A vote of sympathy was passed, by all standing, with the relatives of the late Mr. John Godfrey, of Pershore, and Mr. Daniel Walton, of Hinton, two well-known and much-respected members of this branch, and who had recently been removed by death.

The usual votes of thanks were proposed by Mr. G. Ashley, to the Vicar for presiding, for his excellent address at the service; to the kind donors of the tea; to the large staff of ladies who had waited upon the visitors; to the churchwardens, choir and organist; and also to the Vicar of Hampton for his presence with them.

Brief and humorous speeches followed, by the chairman, the Rev. D. Fitzmaurice, and the churchwardens, and concluded a most successful and enjoyable meeting. Handbells were then brought into use, on which touches and tunes were rung, those taking part being H. Withers, H. Middleton, F. J. and Miss E. M. Johnson, J. and G. J. Hemming.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**VISIT TO SUDBURY.**

A most enjoyable afternoon was spent on Easter Monday by members of the above Association in the quaint old West Suffolk town of Sudbury, the grand ring of bells at All Saints' Church being placed at their disposal by the Rector (the Rev. P. Oswald). A number of well-struck touches were brought round in the following methods: Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, and Superlative, the ringers including Messrs. A. and S. Symonds, Lavenham; F. Claydon and J. French, Earls Colne; J. Sadler, W. Howell and E. W. Beckwith, Coggeshall; W. Ladbams, Great Tey; A. Shuffelebotham, Braintree; W. J. Nevard, Great Bentley; and D. Elliott, A. Perry, W. Dixon, M. Silvester and S. Howell, of the local band. Sudbury has three magnificent churches, dedicated respectively to St. Gregory, St. Peter and All Saints, and each has a fine tower and ring of eight bells which must be nearly unique in a town of 7,000 inhabitants. The ring of St. Gregory's (tenor 16 cwt.), by T. Mears 1821, are at present in London, being retuned, etc., and awaiting more peaceful times for their return. St. Peter's (tenor 23 cwt.) include three pre-Reformation bells, a Miles Graye, 1641; John Darbio, 1662; and a James Edhurie, 1605. All Saints' (tenor 28 cwt.) also has three pre-Reformation bells, and the tenor before recasting, by Warner, in 1875, was by S. Tonni, Bury, 1576.

When the ringers left the church on Bank Holiday, the Rector complimented them on the excellent striking, and they in their turn thanked him most heartily for the use of the bells.

Tea was obtained at a restaurant, and some of the party afterwards visited St. Gregory's to view the skull of Archbishop Simon, of Sudbury, who was beleaguered by Wat Tyler in 1381. The house in which Thomas Gainsborough, the great artist, was born, was also viewed, as well as the important bronze statue erected on the Market Hill in front of St. Peter's Church to his memory, and unveiled in 1913 by Princess Louise. A final meet at the Station Hotel before leaving at 8.30 finished a day which does so much in these times to keep the old hands together.

E. W. B.

MEETINGS.

The Royal Cumberland Youths are holding a meeting at Southwark Cathedral to-morrow, and the unique opportunity (in war time) of ringing on these bells should attract a large gathering.

There is also a meeting of the S. and W. District of the Middlesex Association at Heston, and a meeting of the Lewisham District of the Kent Association at Crayford.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Brighton, on Whit-Monday, May 20th, 1918. Short service at 4 o'clock, address by the Vicar of Brighton (Canon F. D. Pierce), Business meeting at 4.30 p.m. in Parish Room, adjoining Church. Half railway fares without limit. Towers open as follows: St. Nicholas, 10.30 a.m. to 12, 6.30 p.m. to 8; St. Peter, 2 p.m. to 4, 6.30 p.m. to 8.—H. R. Butcher, Gen. Hon. Sec., 2, Kent View, Crowborough, Sussex.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Heston to-morrow, Saturday, April 27th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea provided (no sugar) at 6. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at Southwark Cathedral to-morrow, April 27th. Bells available 2.30 to 5. Business meeting, "King of Denmark," Old Bailey, afterwards.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham district.—The next meeting will be held at Crayford to-morrow (Saturday), April 27th. Tower open at 3 p.m., service and address at 5.30 p.m. The business meeting will follow in St. Paulinus' Hall. I shall be glad to receive outstanding subscriptions.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The first meeting of the new St. Albans District will be held at Hatfield on April 27th, 1918. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. All ringers will be welcome.—Wm. Nash, "Glenthorne," North Mymms, Hatfield, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on May 2nd, 16th and 30th, and for general business on the 7th and 21st, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting at Frome, Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available all the afternoon and evening. Buckland Dinham bells (6) also available. Tea and business (Union Jack Restaurant) at 5 p.m.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., Midsomer Norton.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting of the Division for the election of Divisional Officers will take place at the Parish Church (St. Peter's), Bexhill, on Saturday, May 4th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Half railway fares to members attending.—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Hon. Secretary, Kenilworth, Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The postponed annual meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Saturday, May 4th. Committee meeting at 4 o'clock, followed by general meeting at 4.45 p.m. in St. Margaret's Schools. St. Paul's bells will be available for ringing from 2.30 until about 7. No arrangements have been made for tea, but it may be obtained at various cafes in the town.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Grassendale on Saturday, May 4. Bells ready at 4. Service at 5. Meeting at 5.30. Rev. E. C. Collier.—Walter Hughes, Sec.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available 4 p.m. Tea at the Café, High Street, at 5.45. Those who require tea must let me know by Tuesday, April 30th. —George Yeo, Hon. Sec., Long Ashton.

BEDDINGTON.—Monthly practices will be resumed on Saturday, May 4th, at 6 p.m., and every First Saturday in month; arrangements can also be made for every Wednesday, 7.30.; open to all.—A. J. Perkins, 3, Mellows Road, South Beddington, Wallington.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, May 4th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. Service 5.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Members desiring tea are asked to inform me by April 30. A good attendance is required. All ringers welcome. The church is easily reached by bus No. 6, from Kensal Rise to Lauriston Road, or car from Liverpool Street. Subscriptions for 1918 are now due.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Uphill, May 4th. Service, 5 o'clock. Tea and meeting after service. Bells (6) afternoon and evening. Intending visitors please write.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, May 4th, at Shore Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting at 6.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, May 4th. Ten bells available from 3 o'clock. Business meeting in vestry at 5 o'clock.—Sam. Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown and Guildford Districts.—A combined practice meeting of these districts will be held on Saturday, May 4th, when several towers will be visited. Full details later.—F. J. Shepherd, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, J. J. Jones, Bridge Street, Guildford, Hon. Secs.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

COACHBUILDERS, WHEELWRIGHTS AND WOODWORKERS wanted on Government work.—Apply Wilton Carriage Co., 107, Waddon New Road, Croydon.

RAWMARSH BELLS RESTORED.

After remaining unring for some 20 years, the peal of eight bells at Rawmarsh, near Rotherham, have been recast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and made slightly heavier. They were rededicated on Tuesday.

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Hangers, TAUNTON.—Bells Hung on the
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New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.
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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 372. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, MAY 3rd, 1918.

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Peal (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BROM,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

RINGERS' WAR MEMORIALS.

As the war drags on and the long roll of heroes who have made the supreme sacrifice—long since swollen to appalling dimensions—continues to grow, the list of ringers who have given their lives for their country is increasing to tragic length. It is impossible to say at present how many members of the Exercise have thus died, although, later on, we shall hope to be able to ascertain approximately the number; but every Association throughout the country has had its losses, and in some cases comparatively heavy losses. A fond recollection of those who have fallen will be ever cherished by their comrades of the bellry left behind; but there will also be, we feel sure, a universal desire to perpetuate the memory of these men who by their deeds and their death have helped to uphold the honour of their native land.

To the Kent County Association goes the credit of being the first ringing organisation to take definite action in the direction of a war memorial to its fallen members, and they have a more or less complete scheme before them. They have inaugurated a fund by devoting to it the proceeds of the offertories at two meetings, and, doubtless, when a serious attempt is made to raise money, there will be a ready response from the members. Although this is a matter in which there is no need for precipitate action, the Kent Association, we think, have done well to take it up while the tragedy of the war is still with us. To be in a position to go right ahead without delay the moment the appropriate time arrives for pushing the scheme, is unquestionably a sound policy.

Other Associations will, doubtless, be anxious to provide a suitable memorial to their fallen members, but little yet seems to have been done. The settling of the form of the memorial is a matter in which the members will be desirous of having a voice, and as the majority of the Associations only hold a general meeting once a year, they will, we think, be well advised to follow Kent's example, and discuss without much further delay the steps to be taken, and put their ideas into concrete form. Matters of this kind move slowly where ringing associations are concerned, principally for the reason stated, that it is only once a year that the members meet as a whole to discuss subjects of this kind. In many things, too, ringers are slow to move, although in the way of war memorials it is probable that nearly all the Associations will desire to do something. No one knows how much longer the war is likely to drag out its weary length; but certainly it is not too early now for those societies, who desire to take collective action to provide a lasting memorial to fallen members, to set about the task so that their plans may be matured when peace arrives.

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**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of rearranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SHIPLEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES COTTERELL Treble	HERBERT HAIGH 5
THOMAS B. KENDALL 2	JOSEPH BROADLEY 6
BENJAMIN THORP 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
WILLIAM JOYCE 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES Tenor

Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

Rung in respectful memory of the late Mr. Joseph Ridyard, of Worsley. A muffled peal was attempted on these bells on Easter Tuesday, but had to be stopped after two hours' ringing through illness near by.

* First peal of Grandsire.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 27th, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.

EDWIN HORREX Treble	CHALLIS T. WINNEY 5
SAMUEL E. JOYCE 2	ALFRED B. PECK 6
WILLIAM HIBBERT 3	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 7
CHARLES S. BURDEN 4	THOMAS H. TAPPENDER Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD T. HIBBERT.

Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to Mr. Edwin Horrex, also on the 50th anniversary (April 27th, 1868) of the 15,840 of Treble Bob Major at Bethnal Green in which Mr. Horrex, the only survivor of the band, rang the 6th.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 13, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, NORTHOWRAM.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

EDWARD KERSEHAW Treble	EDGAR WHITELEY 5
ALBERT JAGGER 2	THOMAS B. KENDALL 6
JOHN LAWSON 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
JOSEPH GARRETT 4	JOHN W. WRIGHT Tenor

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL.

Conducted by THOMAS B. KENDALL.

HANDBELL PEAL.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, April 26, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes.

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. T. COCKERILL, CLAPHAM, S.W.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

WALTER S. WISE 1-2	HARRY R. PASMORE 7-8
WILLIAM T. COCKERILL 3-4	CHALLIS T. WINNEY 9-10
HERBERT LANGDON 5-6	THOMAS LANGDON 11-12

Composed by CHARLES H. MATTERSLEY.

Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE. Umpire, EDWIN HORREX.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY

It is proposed to erect a memorial in the Parish Church of St. Anne's, Oldland, in memory of the late Rev. H. A. Cockey, who spent nearly thirty years of his life in this parish. The late Vicar often expressed a wish that he should be spared to beautify the east end of the church by erecting a reredos. Unfortunately, his labours were shortened, and he was not allowed to carry his wish into execution. It has been suggested that under the circumstances a reredos would be a fitting memorial, and that the parishioners and other friends would be pleased to contribute towards the cost (which is estimated at £100) as a mark of appreciation of the spiritual work which he so long and faithfully carried out in this parish.

THE 'KAISER' BELL.

Germany's shortage of metal has been indicated by the depredations made upon the belfries, not only of Belgium, but also of the Fatherland. Everything else had to go before the famous 'Kaiser' bell of Cologne Cathedral, but at last even this celebrated casting, said to weigh about sixty tons, has had to follow the rest into the melting pot. It was hung in the year 1877, and was last rung on New Year's Day, 1918.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Hertford County Association, presented at the recent meeting at St. Albans, included the following:—

In order to gain some definite information as to present conditions of ringing in the county, I recently submitted to band secretaries a series of questions. Most of these forms have been returned, and I would thankfully acknowledge my debt of gratitude to those gentlemen who furnished me with particulars.

From the returns it appeared that approximately the present ringing strength is about equal to the enlistments, also that only three bands definitely state that they are deficient in strength for peace ringing; whilst three other companies can do so by amalgamating. The list is also remarkable for the low percentage of members who have been killed since our last meeting, viz., five, not including, of course, the present great offensive.

LOSSES BY DEATH.

The obituary includes: Pte. C. Fenkman, of All Saints', Hertford; Pte. Olney Luxon, of Harpenden; Pte. J. Payne and Pte. R. V. Hunt, of St. Michael's, St. Albans; Second-Lieut. Kirby, killed 11th May, 1917, in France. Mr. Kirby had acted as librarian for several years, and was a member of St. Peter's band, St. Albans. Not only was he a good ringer, but possessed of a splendid voice he rendered great service to St. Peter's Church choir, and also as a Sunday School teacher. He was of a singularly happy disposition, and 'Bob' is greatly missed by his friends and fellow church workers. Mr. J. T. Kentish, of Hatfield, a very old but useful member of the local company, has also been called to his eternal rest. Mr. Henry G. Rowe, of Cheshunt, a remarkably enthusiastic member, one who had done a tremendous amount of 'spade work' in teaching and helping beginners during the last 30 years, died somewhat tragically in the belfry of St. Mary's, Cheshunt, on Sunday evening, July 15th, 1917. The late Mr. Rowe possessed a number of ringing books, and during his life expressed a desire that at his death they should be given to the association library. Mrs. Rowe has very kindly carried out her husband's bequest, and our bookshelves are consequently considerably augmented by this generous gift. We sincerely thank Mrs. Rowe. The books include: 'A Key to the Art of Ringing,' by Wm. Jones and others; 'The Art of Ringing' (Snowdon); 'The Art of Ringing' (Benjamin Thackrah); 'The Art and Science of Change Ringing' (Wm. Banister); 'Grandsire' (Snowdon); 'Treatise on Treble Bob,' Parts 1 and 2; 'Change Ringing' (Troyte), two vols.; 'Stedman's Tintinnologia' (Reprint edition 1668); 'Church Bells' (H. B. Walters); 'Duffield' (Heywood); Shipway's 'Campanologia' (2 vols.); 'Elements of Campanologia' (W. Sattinall); 'Ropesight' (Snowdon); 'Change Ringing' (Troyte); 'Stedman,' by Rev. C. D. P. Davies. Other gifts of books received during the year include 'Snowdon,' 'Treatise on Treble Bob,' vols. 1 and 2, and 'Ropesight,' 'Change Ringing,' by C. W. A. Troyte kindly given by Mr. Henry Lewis; and 'Hubbard's Art of Ringing,' given by Mr. J. Porter. We thank both of these gentlemen. Twenty-one books have been added during the year.

I should also like to mention, continued the Secretary, the death of one who, although at his death was not a member, yet as an original member of the Association in 1884, exercised a great influence in making change ringing a success in Hertfordshire. I refer to Mr. N. N. Hills. As a pupil of the late Mr. Hills, I can testify to his painstaking ability and patience in the formation of the Cathedral Society. His love of ringing, and his ability as a conductor and instructor are well known to many present, and it was a genuine loss to the county when he retired from ringing activities.

VETERAN'S SERVICES.

Naturally, ringing has been completely upset by the war throughout the county, and it is chiefly the veterans who have kept the bells going. Among those who still do their bit is Mr. Thomas Conley, of St. Peter's, St. Albans, better known among his confreres under the youthful name of 'Tommy.' By the goodness of God years rest lightly upon his shoulders. He is now well on in his 82nd year, and besides ringing twice regularly every Sunday finds time to pull 'Edmund's leg' for the daily service at the Cathedral, and to ascend up higher to the belfry to amuse himself by hanging Tom Brown, or tolling the funeral knell. He has rung at St. Peter's Church for over 60 years, truly a record for a Hertfordshire man. His reminiscences of ringing and ringers in the early days is amusing and interesting (I won't say instructive). Suffice it to say that since 1884 great changes have taken place, and our friend would be among the first to recognise the good work our Association has done. I am sure that I unanimously express the wishes of the whole of our members when I say may God bless you, my brother, with many more years of useful activity in St. Peter's belfry. Other veterans occur to my mind: Mr. Dennis, of Knebworth, in his 80th year, who I understand is enthusiastic as ever among his children (the bells); Mr. T. Webb, of Baldock, still to be found at the rope's end, and Mr. Henry Lewis, of St. Albans, the latter having thrown off his migratory habits and nested again in the city of his birth. I will not dilate upon his love of ringing, and his many other qualities, both good and otherwise, but simply say how delighted we

are to see him present to-day, and to be cheered by his beaming smiles. We also welcome back again to St. Albans Mr. Walter Buckingham and his brother. Many of us remember what splendid work he did in days long ago. Many ringers in the danger zone are thinking of us to-day. Mr. F. C. Rice has written that he hopes we shall have a successful annual meeting at Easter, and that he should very much like to be here. He hopes that the next one all the ringers will be back from abroad, and that we shall have grand times, to which we all agree.

NEW ST. ALBANS DISTRICT.

The Association is again indebted to the district secretaries for another year's useful work, for which we heartily thank them. Speaking on their behalf, may I say that subscriptions become due at Easter, and that early payment is helpful. Mr. Lawrence has arranged two meetings, and a joint meeting with Mr. Bacon, our northern secretary at Knebworth. Mr. Lawrence is of opinion that the Eastern district is maintaining its standard, no band having dropped out owing to adverse circumstances, and that the meetings held have been very well attended. Messrs. Frank Smith and F. Edwards, for the Western district, have also arranged two meetings, at Aldenham and King's Langley. Both of these gatherings were highly successful, and afford stimulus for further exertions in the near future. I am glad to report that my appeal for someone to undertake to run the new St. Albans district, as recorded in my last report, has been successful. Mr. W. Nash, of North Mimms, having most kindly undertaken the position. The choice is excellent, and I bespeak for Mr. Nash your hearty support. The effort will certainly mean the opening of new towers and added membership. Mr. J. Prewett has once again audited our accounts, in the absence of his son, and we thank him for his kindness. In reviewing the year's work I am highly gratified. Although circumstances have been adverse, yet there has been the predominant note of cheerfulness and courage shown, and a readiness among individual ringers to lend a hand wherever possible. The enthusiasm shown at the district meetings, the readiness to help the beginner, and the real brotherly feeling shown toward each other, are the greatest factors for the success of any association; and these marks are discernible at all our meetings. Let us continue to look out upon the bell ringers' horizon with Micawber optimism, confident that in time 'Something will turn up,' hoping soon to again resume our normal conditions in the belfries of the county.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

In spite of the most uncomfortable weather conditions, a very successful meeting was held at the Church of St. Paul, Hammersmith, on Saturday week, members numbering upwards of 25, representing all parts of the Metropolis, being in attendance, when some capital practice in standard methods was obtained. Ringing commenced at 4 p.m., and was carried on until 8 p.m.

At the business meeting, which followed at the Brook Green Hotel, a good number were present the chair being taken by the Master (Mr. H. Taffender).—A letter from Pte. A. D. Barker, now stationed at Blackpool, was read by the Master, in which the kind regards of the writer were extended to all ringing friends, and that he expected to be going overseas shortly.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the authorities of St. Paul's for the use of the bells, and to the members of the local band who did so much to make the meeting a success.

At the conclusion of the business, it was found that the middle four of a peal of twelve handbells were missing. Scouts, however, located the two wanderers, who were brought back in time for touches, including Stedman Caters, to be rung.

A MIDDLESEX WEDDING.

On Saturday, April 20th, on the occasion of the marriage at Barnet Parish Church of Miss Alice Charlotte Milne, only daughter of Mr. Frank A. Milne (hon. treasurer and one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association) to the Rev. John E. Rowland Vicar of Llanfair Caereinion, Montgomeryshire, touches of 338 and 504 Grandsire Triples were rung before and after the marriage service, and later in the afternoon, when the newly-wedded pair were leaving en route for Salisbury, a quarter-peal in the same method was rung by the following members of the Association viz.: H. G. Eldred 1, R. Roffey 2, W. J. Dell 3, J. Waghorn 4, W. Soar 5, J. Sumpter (conductor) 6, G. B. Lucas 7, and W. T. New 8. In the earlier ringing, Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O., the President of the Association, and H. A. Lucas, also took part.

LEISTON SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, March 17th, for evening service, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. Bailey 1, H. J. Butten 2, E. H. Bailey 3, A. Keeble 4, J. G. Rumsey 5, G. Wilson 6, J. M. Bailey 7, E. S. Bailey (conductor) 8.—On Sunday March 24th, 576 Bob Major: W. Bailey 1, Cornl. C. Whiting, R.E., 2, D. S. Bailey 3, A. Keeble 4, G. Wilson 5, E. H. Bailey 6, J. M. Bailey (conductor) 7, J. G. Rumsey 8.—On Easter Day, 1088 Kent Treble Bob Major, for evening service: A. Keeble 1, H. J. Butten 2, G. Wilson (conductor) 3, E. S. Bailey 4, J. M. Bailey 5, W. Lambert 6, J. G. Rumsey 7, E. H. Bailey 8.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
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For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

LOST BELLS OF BELGIUM.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you permit me to return to the subject of the lost Belgian bells? The carillon-playing of Belgium was, before the war, as famous as the ringing of England. In these two countries bell-music in two entirely different forms was brought to a very high standard. During the war we may have grumbled at restrictions on ringing, and we have regretted the temporary silence of the bells in some districts. But we at least in this country have our bells left to us, ready to be used once more when the ringers return. In Belgium, from all accounts, the towers which have not been destroyed have been robbed of their bells.

Reparation of Belgium is one of the objects for which we are fighting. With much restoration to be done, will all the bells be replaced without some assistance from sources other than indemnities? If every bell was replaced, would it not still be a desirable thing that the ringing of this country should present to Belgium a carillon, in recognition of the stand that nation has made for right as against might?

It may be thought that a carillon is too big a thing to aim at. But at its present price the cost would be very great. But presumably the price of tin will not remain at this level when freights are not so excessive. The cost of a carillon, such as the famous one of Malines, would probably run into five figures. That is why in my last letter I referred to ringers and their friends. With such assistance, I do not see why the money should not be raised. It has been suggested to me that each Association should be asked to raise the funds for one bell, in memory of its members who have given their lives in the cause for which Belgium has suffered martyrdom. I am hoping that the opinions of the Exercise on this suggestion will reach me soon, either through your valuable paper, or direct.—Yours, etc.,

Waygateshaw, Carlisle.

EDWIN H. LEWIS.

JUBILEE OF A FAMOUS PEAL.

But for the war, it is probable that a peal would have been rung at Bethnal Green last Saturday by the College Youths and that Mr. Edwin Horrex would have been one of the band, for it was the jubilee of the then record peal of 15,840 Kent Treble Bob Major rung by the Ancient Society at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, in 9 hours 12 minutes, on April 27th, 1868. It was the longest peal, up to that time, ever rung by one set of men, and 'Ted' Horrex who has just passed his 80th year, is the only surviving member of the band, which consisted of: Henry Haley 1, William Cooter 2, James Pettitt 3, H. Booth 4, R. Hopkins 5, E. Horrex 6, Matthew A. Wood 7, John Murray Hayes 8. The peal, which was called by Haley, was composed by Thomas Day, of Birmingham.

Another anniversary of special interest to the College Youths fell on the same day, for it was on April 27th, 1861, that the society rang the then record length of 8580 Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, in 6 hours 41 minutes. This peal was also conducted by Henry Haley, the other members of the band being: Thomas Rav, John Bradley, Robert Jameson, William Green, George Stockham, Robert Haworth, George E. Ferris, Math. Wood, Edward Lansdell, George Muskett, and James Dwight. None of these survives.

Sunday last was an anniversary of interest in the Cumberland, as it was on April 28th, 1800, that the society rang 10,112 Oxford Treble Bob Major at All Saints', Edmonton. The peal is thus recorded in the Cumberland's peal book: 'Unrivalled in the annals of Campanistean fame, to the honour of Mr. George Gross, whose merit cannot too much be said for composing and calling a complete peal of 10,112 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, which was rung by this society, on Monday, April 28th, 1800, in 6 hours 29 minutes at All Saints', Edmonton, by: George Gross 1, George Gross, junr., 2, James Nash 3, Thomas Reeves 4, John Hints 5, James Barnard 6, Samuel Cowling 7, William Stephens 8.'

Since the above was written we have received a report, which appears in another column, of a peal of Stedman Trebles rung at St. George's, Southwark, to commemorate the jubilee of the Bethnal Green peal, and also to celebrate Mr. Horrex's 80th birthday the veteran himself taking part.

BUY A TICKET.

Our readers are reminded that, for the assistance of the widow and young family of the late Mr. Alf. Grimes, five bound volumes of 'The Ringing World,' which belonged to Mr. Grimes, are to be disposed of, and tickets (5d. each) may be obtained from Messrs. A. A. Hughes, Master of the College Youths (Whitechapel Foundry), W. Pye, Master of the Middlesex Association (8, Sanson Road, Lansdown Road, Leytonstone), C. F. Winney, W. Hewett, A. S. Pettitt, T. Walker, hon. secretary of the London County Association (10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate), E. Sanders, T. H. Taffender (Master of the London County Association), and W. T. Cockerill, hon. secretary of the College Youths (32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4).

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

INTERESTING MEETING AT ASTON.

The members of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham were on old familiar ground when they held the first quarterly meeting of the current year at Aston on Saturday week.

Before the Guild became a Diocesan institution, the tower of Aston was regarded as the 'second headquarters,' inasmuch as the Guild was formed by the amalgamation of the old St. Martin's Society, established 1755, and the Holt Society of Aston, established 1879. Many and excellent were the peals rung here, an especially large number of peals of Stedman Caters being accomplished. Two of the old stalwarts who helped to found the Holt Society, Messrs. Wm. Kent and Thos. Russam, and who later on took a large part in bringing about the amalgamation, were present at the meeting, and, as was very natural, they fell to fighting their battles over again. One of the twins, Mr. Russam, was somewhat amused when the curate, the Rev. — Stewart, who was welcoming the members on behalf of the Vicar as they arrived in the belfry, asked him whether he had ever rung there before!

Aston Parish Church is a graceful edifice of stone and in Henry II.'s time it belonged to the Monks of Tickford Priory Bucks. The noble tower is surmounted by a spire rising to about 180 feet, and contains a ring of ten bells, tenor about 22 cwt. in D. One or two of the bells, when rung singly, leave much to be desired, but when the whole peal is going the effect is really grand.

ASTON BELLS.

Aston bells have a peculiarly solemn, one might almost say sorrowful, sound, and when heard at a distance of three miles or so, as the writer of these lines frequently hears them when the wind is in the east the effect is charming in the extreme. Owing to this fact it will doubtless be a big job to convince the Church authorities that several of them should be recast; but the writer submits that, if this grand effect is produced from a peal containing a few poor bells, how much would it be enhanced by making good the faulty ones?

Tea was provided in the Vicarage Room by the generosity of Mr. W. C. M. James, a former warden, who has always shown a keen interest in the ringers, but who was unfortunately unable to be present himself. About forty members were present, which must be considered an excellent attendance, in view of the fact that the weather was more typical of January than April, a biting nor'easter blowing half a gale, accompanied by driving sleet. — Dr. Trumper, Vicar's warden, welcomed the members, on behalf of the Vicar (Rev. Canon Hodgson), who was in Yorkshire for the week-end. He said how delighted they were to have so many present, and what a pleasure it had given him personally to hear their bells rung as they had been that afternoon. He lived practically in the churchyard, but he could honestly say that the bells never annoyed him in any way, and the more they were rung the better he liked it. Their own band had been sadly depleted, and it was indeed a treat to hear the full peal going once again. He had been told that one or two of the bells wanted some attention, and although he was afraid nothing could be done at present, he would do his best to have whatever was necessary done as soon as the war was over (cheers).

Mr. Phillips, people's warden, also added his welcome, and seconded all Dr. Trumper had said. He was a great lover of bells, he said, and particularly of Aston bells, and in his opinion nothing sounded more lovely than to hear them on a fine Sunday morning, calling people to church for the public worship of the Great Architect of the Universe. Unfortunately, their melodious call fell on some unheeding ears, and he was constantly meeting crowds of men off to the country on bikes, etc., or walking with their sticks and dogs, all unmindful of their duties on the day of rest. The members of the Guild were doing a work of which he had been quite ignorant. He had no idea that there was such a powerful ringers' organisation in Birmingham, or indeed anywhere else, and the members were to consider themselves always welcome in their belfry.

ALDERMAN PRITCHETT'S FREEMASONRY HONOURS.

The Guild's presiding Ringing Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., presided in the business meeting, at which five new members and one honorary member were elected.

Mr. Jas. George, who is recovering from the effects of a bad carbuncle on the neck, which has pulled him down considerably, asked leave to say a few words about various peals he had rung, under the auspices of the Guild, more especially those he had rung at St. Martin's Church. He recounted the number he had rung under the Mastership of Henry Bastable, Wm. Short, Albert Walker, and Jas. E. Groves, and recalled with pride and thankfulness the manner in which he had always been received in St. Martin's belfry, from his earliest ringing days. In conclusion, and because of the many happy hours he had spent in the old belfry, he had pleasure in handing to Mr. Smith a cheque for one guinea, with the request that he would forward it to Canon Willink as a donation towards the cost of repairing the spire (loud cheers).

Alderman Pritchett expressed appreciation of Mr. George's action, and in proposing a vote of thanks to Canon Hodgson and the Church authorities for the use of the bells and the room, said he was particularly pleased to be able to be present, as he used to attend the Thursday night practices at Aston many years ago, when he was quite a learner.—The proposal was seconded by Mr. A. E. Parsons, who said he also was pleased to be there, as it was twenty years ago since he last had a ring in Aston tower.

Alderman Pritchett then proposed a special vote of thanks to Mr. W. C. M. Games for his kindness in providing tea, which he understood was partly done through the instrumentality of Mr. Parsons, who was a personal friend of his, and to the ladies, including Mrs. Hodgson, for their services at the table.—This was seconded by the Rev. C. H. Barker, and carried with acclamation.—Mr. Phillips suitably responded.

The formal business being disposed of, Mr. A. Paddon Smith said he was sure the members present would like to join him in congratulating their esteemed presiding Ringing Master on the great honours that had recently been conferred upon him in the world of Freemasonry, of which he was a very distinguished member. In Craft Masonry, he had recently been offered the office of 'Senior Grand Deacon' in the United Grand Lodge of England, and in Royal Arch Masonry the office of Past Principal Grand Sojourner. These offices were amongst the very highest and most important in the Order. Alderman Pritchett had now attained an eminence and dignity among Freemasons that was only excelled by a select few. They hoped he would long be spared to them and to the craft, of which he was such an ornament, and they heartily congratulated him on his new dignities (cheers).

Alderman Pritchett said that when he showed the letters conveying the offers to his friend Mr. Smith, he had expressly requested him not to say anything about the matter at the meeting, but their secretary said it was something the members would like to know (laughter). He was indeed proud that he had been honoured in this manner by the great Order in which he had been keenly interested for more than thirty years, and he thanked the members of the Guild for their hearty congratulations.

After the meeting, a splendid touch of Stedman Cinques was rung on handbells by Messrs. Russam, Swann, Miller, Groves, Kent and Morris, while the tower bells were kept going until about 8.45, in Grandsire, Stedman and Treble Bob. A course of Cambridge Royal was also rung. A. P. S.

RINGER'S CROIX DE GUERRE.

Pte. Harry Bardsley, of Denton, Manchester, who has seen active service with the Royal Army Medical Corps at Lemnos, and for a considerable period in France, has been on a well-earned twelve days' leave to his home, having sufficiently recovered from gassing and trench fever, after a sojourn at Arbroath, of which he spoke in glowing terms. He has now reported again at Aldershot. Pte. Bardsley wore the ribbon of the Croix de Guerre, which he obtained for gallantry while conveying wounded in the field, the medal not having yet been presented to him. While at home he visited the tower of St. Anne's Church, and rang touches for services on April 7th and 14th of Plain Bob, Oxford, Kent, Woodbine and Killamarsh. Other ringers taking part were: H. Fletcher, D. Wilde, F. Overton, A. E. Marshall, J. Pollitt, J. Shaw, S. Bloomfield, A. E. Walters and J. Heckingbottom.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the North Western Division was held at Sawbridge-worth on April 13th, when ringers attended from Suffron Walden, Stansted, St. Mary's, Harlow; Bishop's Stortford, Little Munden, and London.

The business meeting was held in the Church House Mr. F. Pistow, the Master presiding, supported by Mr. W. Waits (district secretary).—Bishop's Stortford was selected as the place of next meeting, to be held in September.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar (the Rev. E. O. Beverly) for the use of the bells, and the Church House.

Ringling during the afternoon included touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Liverpool Diocesan Guild branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Christ Church, Southport, on Easter Monday. Various methods were rung by representatives from Garston, Walton, Liverpool, Pendleton, Crosby, Bolton, Bebington, Oxtol, and Southport. Service was held in church, at which the address was given by the Rev. E. C. Collier (one of the hon. secs.). A business meeting was afterwards presided over by the Rev. Canon Inskip (Vicar), at which a vote of condolence on the death of Mr. Jos. Ridyard, Worsley, was passed by the members, upstanding, and a letter conveying the resolution was sent to Mrs. Ridyard.—Tea was provided for the ringers by the kindness of the Vicar and wardens of Christ Church, to whom a cordial vote of thanks was given.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The following points are taken from the 33rd annual report of the Worcestershire Association: The year 1917 has passed as another war year, and ringing activities have again been restricted by the more serious calls on so many ringers and gate regulations. In many places even ringing for services has become rare, and practices impossible. But England is still at heart 'the ringing Isle'; there is still a good nucleus of ringers ready to man the ropes, and to start afresh, perhaps with renewed enthusiasm, after the war is over. Who can doubt that the many members of famous towers and ringers of quiet country parishes, who are doing their duty in the forces, will be the keenest of all to get to work again at our fascinating art when the happy time arrives? Soldier ringers on leave, that love their bells, generally find their way to the tower and get a meeting arranged; and how glad we are to see them! It is certain that a great revival will begin as they come home for good, and the Church's 'outward voice' will be heard to the full when the cannon have ceased. Meanwhile, wherever possible, some young lads can be taught at least to handle a rope, and they will soon recruit our ranks and complete our bands. Our outstanding ringing event of 1917 was the victory ringing after the battle of Cambrai and the taking of a considerable length of the Hindenburg line, on November 23rd. From St. Paul's Cathedral and from hundreds of churches the bells pealed out in good style, and the mysterious heart-quickening that joy-bells alone can give, cheered all who heard that ringing for victory. All the branch officers have been re-elected and the meetings of the Northern and Southern Branches have been well attended, but in the Western only one meeting was held, and unfortunately the attendance was very bad. The branch officers are doing real good work under most trying circumstances, and everyone should try to assist and give encouragement by attending these meetings. The balance sheet is again satisfactory, for we have not only cleared our expenses but have added to our funds, which now total £77 14s. 4d.; the Belfry Repairs Fund having a balance of £21 15s. 11d. The number of peals is, of course, very small, eight having been rung on tower bells and one on handbells, this being a peal of Stedman Caters rung at Old Hill, at the residence of our Master, on Oct. 20th, conducted by G. F. Swann, it being the first in the method on handbells by our Association.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ACTON, LONDON.—On Sunday, March 24th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, composed by Arthur Hubbard: J. H. Hunnisett 1, J. W. Frut 2, A. W. Davis 3, C. Edwards 4, Robt. Hella-way (conductor) 5, W. Lawrence 6, A. Harding 7, W. H. Hollier 8.

CARDIFF.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On Sunday, Feb. 3rd, for evening service, at St. John's Church, in 48 mins. a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): S. Williams 1, H. Day 2, J. Clutterbuck 3, W. Coombs 4, S. Dawe 5, F. Chamberlain 6, W. Bolton 7, S. R. Barker 8. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar (Canon A. Henderson), who was leaving the parish for Malvern.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOS.—On Sunday, March 24th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples: F. Pitts 1, H. Gillett 2, H. Packer 3, H. J. Hill 4, J. Colbett 5, T. Banning 6, W. Strafford (conductor) 7, J. Buttlar 8.—On Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Pitts 1, W. Strafford 2, H. Packer 3, T. Banning 4, J. Colbett 5, H. Gillett 6, W. Large (conductor) 7, J. Buttlar 8.

GUILDFORD.—At Holy Trinity Church, on March 21st, for a Confirmation service, 504 Grandsire Triples: F. Radford (first 504) 1, S. Radford 2, M. Smither 3, W. R. Melville 4, J. Scott 5, Sergt. R. Carrier 6, C. Hazelden (conductor) 7, R. W. Melville 8.—On Sunday, March 24th, for evensong, 1260 Grandsire Triples: H. Harris 1, R. W. Melville 2, C. Hazelden 3, M. Smither 4, W. C. Duffield 5, S. Radford 6, W. R. Melville (conductor) 7, J. T. Scott 8.—On Sunday, April 21st, for evensong, 504 Grandsire Triples: Rev. E. L. M. Allen (first 504) 1, W. E. Jolley 2, M. Smither 3, W. R. Melville 4, F. E. Dawe 5, W. C. Duffield 6, C. Hazelden (conductor) 7, J. T. Scott 8.

SHREWSBURY.—Salop Archidiaconal Guild, and St. Chad's Society.—On Sunday, March 24th, at St. Chad's Church, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Scarratt 1, G. Brolin 2, W. Brooks 3, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 4, W. Stockdale 5, W. Lago (Coalbrookdale), first touch in method, 6, A. Fullick 7, W. Saunders (Coalbrookdale) 8. Also 168 of Stedman Triples, conducted by W. Saunders.—On Easter Day, for Matins, in 50 minutes, 1260 Grandsire Triples (the last quarter of Holt's Original): R. F. Turner (first quarter) 1, W. Brooks 2, G. Scarratt 3, G. Jones 4, W. Stockdale 5, A. E. Fullick 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, J. Evans (first-quarter) 8. First-quarter of Grandsire on the bells for evening service, 168 Grandsire Triples and 160 Bob Major.—On April 2nd, at St. Julian's Church, in honour of the election of churchwardens, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor: G. Scarratt 1, W. Stockdale 2, W. Brooks 3, G. Jones 4, A. Fullick 5, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 6.—On April 7th, at St. Chad's, 352 Bob Major: R. F. Turner 1, G. Brolin 2, W. Brooks 3, G. Scarratt 4, W. R. Stockdale 5, G. Jones 6, A. E. Fullick 7, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 8.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—Owing to unforeseen circumstances the meeting fixed for Uphill next Saturday, May 4th, is postponed. — G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting at Frome, Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available all the afternoon and evening. Buckland Dinham bells (6) also available. Tea and business (Union Jack Restaurant) at 5 p.m.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., Midsomer Norton.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available 4 p.m. Tea at the Café, High Street, at 5.45.—George Yeo, Hon. Sec., Long Ashton.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Broxbourne on May 4th when the bells will be open during the afternoon and until dark. Tea will be provided at the Welcome Temperance Rooms. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. District Sec., Little Munden.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, May 4th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. Service 5.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. A good attendance is required. All ringers welcome. The church is easily reached by bus No. 6, from Kensal Rise to Lauriston Road, or car from Liverpool Street. Subscriptions for 1918 are now due.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The postponed annual meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Saturday, May 4th. Committee meeting at 4 o'clock, followed by general meeting at 4.45 p.m. in St. Margaret's Schools. St. Paul's bells will be available for ringing from 2.30 until about 7. No arrangements have been made for tea, but it may be obtained at various cafés in the town.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting of the Division for the election of Divisional Officers will take place at the Parish Church (St. Peter's), Bexhill, on Saturday, May 4th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Half railway fares to members attending.—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Hon. Secretary, Kenilworth, Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, May 4th. Ten bells available from 3 o'clock. Business meeting in vestry at 5 o'clock.—Sam. Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, May 4th, at Shore Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting at 6.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown and Guildford Districts.—The proposed combined practice meeting on May 4th is unavoidably postponed until further notice.—F. J. Shepherd and J. J. Jones, District Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Grassendale on Saturday, May 4. Bells ready at 4. Service at 5. Meeting at 5.30. Rev. E. C. Collier.—Walter Hughes, Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The second quarterly meeting will be held at Warmley on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30.—W. Stafford, Branch Hon. Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Established 1824).—A meeting will be held at the Church of St. Giles, Cripplegate, E.C., on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available from 3 to 6.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this District will be held at Tonbridge on Saturday, May 11th, 1918. Tower open at 3; service at 4.30; tea at 5.15, followed by business meeting. Members intending to attend must notify the District Sec. not later than Tuesday, May 7th. Subscriptions are now due and should be either sent to the District Sec. or paid at the meeting.—W. Lather, Hon. District Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on May 16th and 30th, and for general business on the 7th and 21st, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting for business will be held in the Vestry of St. Thomas' Church, Salisbury, on Thursday, May 16th, at 2.30 p.m. Short Service of Intercession in the Church at 12.45. St. Martin's bells (8) available, also St. Thomas' conditionally.—F. St. Edwards, Hon. Sec.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Raunds on Whit-Monday, May 20th, 1918. Tower open at 12 noon, earlier if sufficient members are there to ring. Committee meeting at 1.30. Service in Church at 2 o'clock, meeting to follow. Tea arrangements next week.—Fred Wilford, General Sec., 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Brighton, on Whit-Monday, May 20th, 1918. Short service at 4 o'clock, address by the Vicar of Brighton (Canon F. D. Pierce), Business meeting at 4.30 p.m. in Parish Room, adjoining Church. Half railway fares without limit. Towers open as follows: St. Nicholas, 10.30 a.m. to 12, 6.30 p.m. to 8; St. Peter, 2 p.m. to 4, 6.30 p.m. to 8.—H. R. Butcher, Gen. Hon. Sec., 2, Kent View, Crowborough, Sussex.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

CRANLEIGH, SURREY.—On Easter Day, for the evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): Mrs. R. Whittington 1, W. Stroeter 2, Sergt. R. Carrier 3, A. Charman 4, R. Whittington 5, J. Knight 6, W. Charman (conductor) 7, T. Worsfold 8. Rung as a farwell to Sergt. Carrier of the C.R.A., who, since he has been stationed at Witley Camp, has been a very welcome and regular attendant at Cranleigh. He was expecting to be drafted again to France.

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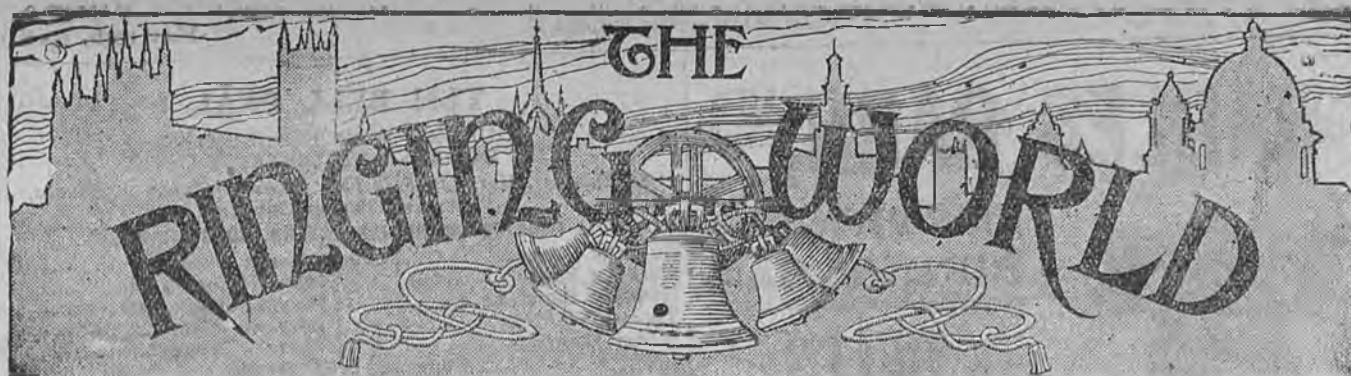
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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 owt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFEON CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

MEMORIALS.

In this column last week we referred to the general proposal for memorials for fallen ringers; this week a kindred subject claims attention. Our readers will observe, from a report elsewhere in this issue, that the memorial to the late Mr. William Snowdon, provided by the members of the Yorkshire Association, has been completed and erected in the Parish Church, Ilkley; the church with which the deceased gentleman had many intimate associations, for in addition to its being the Church at which he acquired his first knowledge of ringing, it was dear to him for the sake of family ties. His father was incumbent there, and Mr. Snowdon was born at the Vicarage, and it is, therefore, not difficult to imagine how near at heart he held everything connected with Ilkley Church, where, too, is the ringers' memorial to his talented brother Jaspar, whose work, after his premature death, Mr. William Snowdon carried on with so much devotion and patient care.

The tablet which has just been erected, and which is to be dedicated on some future date when a meeting of the Yorkshire Association can be more fittingly arranged than at present, could not possibly have been in more appropriate taste, and the life of the man himself and the service which he rendered to the art of ringing could not have been summed up in more happily selected phrase than is to be found in the inscription. William Snowdon was first and last a son of the Church, and it was from this standpoint that he viewed ringing, and sought, by his labours, to elevate it and to spread the knowledge of it. Jaspar Snowdon died and left his work incomplete. Had there been no William Snowdon, it is extremely doubtful whether the benefit of his brother's work would ever have been so fully realised as has been the case during the last thirty years, so that not only the Yorkshire Association, of which for twenty-five years he was the honoured president, but the Exercise at large has reason to honour the name of William Snowdon.

There are many ringers, particularly those whose recollection of matters campanological carries them back a generation, who will be glad to associate themselves with the memorial to be erected at St. Ann's, Oldland, Bristol, to the memory of the late Rev. H. A. Cockey. The proposal is to erect a reredos in the church, with which for nearly thirty years he was so intimately connected, and thus fulfil a desire which the deceased gentleman had set his mind upon while he was Vicar, but which death prevented him seeing accomplished. The service which the Rev. H. A. Cockey rendered to the Exercise may not be so well known to the present generation, but his work and influence in days past were substantial and successful. It is, therefore, a happy thought on the part of those responsible to give ringers the opportunity of contributing to the fund.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Groomfield Vicarage,
Chilmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Groomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Groomfield.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract,—we may be able to assist you.

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.**

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.

BEST RELL ROPES.

REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANDERS sent to inspect,
and report on Bells and Towers.

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**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
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Makers to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc. etc.

TEN BELL PEAL.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, May 4, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATER, 5075 CHANGES;

CHARLES FAULKES Treble	GILBERT GUEST 6
WILLIAM MILLS 2	JOHN GOODMAN, SEN. ... 7
HERBERT SHEPPARD 3	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. ... 8
THOMAS WALTON 4	BENJAMIN GOUGH 9
HARRY MASON 5	WILLIAM MEEK Tenor

Composed by B. JEALOUS.

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, JUN.

The above peal was rung as a birthday compliment to the Rev. Canon Gray Maitland, Vicar of Dudley, and President of the above Guild; also as a token of gratitude and appreciation for the many kindnesses which the ringers have received from the hands of Canon and Mrs. Gray Maitland during their 25 years at the Dudley Parish Church. After the peal the ringers were congratulated by the Vicar who in return received the congratulations of the band with the hope that he may be spared for many a year to come. Mr. H. Mason, the ringing master, kindly entertained the ringers to tea after the peal, where the Vicar and Mr. W. R. Small joined them. The ringers, through this medium, wish to thank sincerely the ringing master for his kindness.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
BOLTON, BRADFORD.

On Sunday, April 7, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB AND SINGLE. Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR AMICE Treble	WILLIAM WALAND 5
FIRTH HOPWOOD 2	ARTHUR GILL 6
JOHN PALFRAMAN 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
JAMES H. MAURSON 4	SAM PALFRAMAN Tenor

Conducted by A. GILL.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Bernal Ettowe, over 30 years a member of the above company, also to the memory of Mrs. White, the wife of one of the Churchwardens of the above Church, and a very ardent worker in the parish.

DUBLIN.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 22, 1918, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

*JOSEPH ATKINSON Treble	HAROLD R. GREENE 5
GABRIEL LINDOFF 2	JAMES W. TOWNLEY 6
EDWARD LUTMAN 3	SERG. W. FARLEY 7
ROBERT S. F. MURPHY 4	*DAVID ATKINSON Tenor

Composed and conducted by G. LINDOFF.

Rung as a farewell peal to Sergt. W. Farley, N. Somerset Yeomanry,
* First peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, April 14, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following Methods:—Double Oxford, College Single, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor, 8 cwt.

DAVID HORNE Treble	ANDREW LAYTON 4
HENRY PRITCHARD 2	WILLIAM RANFORD 5
CHARLES LAYTON 3	GEORGE JORDAN Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES LAYTON.

The bells were muffled for Charles Powell, a late member of the band, and Ernest George, who have fallen in France.

This was the 50th peal of the ringer of the third, and the 40th peal by the ringer of the 4th.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. MILES PLATTING, MANCHESTER.

On Saturday, May 4, 1918, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lb.

MISS LOUISA SMITH Treble	MISS ADA SIMPSON 4
FRANK STONELEY 2	JOSEPH HALL 5
ARTHUR RIDYARD 3	AMOS SIMPSON Tenor

Conducted by FRANK STONELEY.

Rung on the back 6, with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Second-Lieut. C. F. Saunders, who was a member of the local band; he was given his commission on the field, and was killed in France on April 16th, ten days later. The ringers of the treble and 4th were elected members of the Association before starting for the peal.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, May 2, 1918, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 size in B Flat.

GEORGE F. SWANN 1—2	JAMES E. GROVES 7—8
ALBERT WALKER 3—4	WILLIAM KENT 9—10
FRANK W. PERRENS 5—6	MORRIS J. MORRIS 11—12

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Referee: GEO. YENDALL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Friday, May 3, 1918, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. A. WALKER, 81, BAKER STREET,
SPARKHILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 size in B flat.

FRANK W. PERRENS 1—2	JAMES E. GROVES 7—8
ALBERT WALKER 3—4	WILLIAM KENT 9—10
GEORGE F. SWANN 5—6	MORRIS J. MORRIS 11—12

Composed by J. E. GROVES, and Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: MR. G. YENDALL.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor; also his 100th peal on twelve bells.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DIVISION MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Eastern Division was held on Saturday last at St. Peter's, Bexhill, members being present from the following towers: St. Peter's, Brighton; Shoreham, Shipley, Heathfield, Christ Church, Blacklands; Christ Church, St. Leonard's; Battle; Christ Church, Eastbourne, etc. Touches in the standard methods were rung during the afternoon and evening.

Through the kindness of the Rector (the Rev. H. W. Maycock), the meeting was held in the Rectory. Mr. E. C. Merritt being voted to the chair.

The retiring officers were re-elected as follows: Mr. G. H. House, divisional hon. secretary; Messrs. Franks, A. R. Miles, and J. Livermore, representatives on the Association Committee and Committee of Advice.

The Chairman said he wished to call the attention of the members present to the fact that the annual general meeting of the Association would be held at Brighton (St. Peter's), on Whitsun Monday, and expressed the hope that at least one member from every tower would be present, as one or two very important matters were on the agenda for careful consideration.

After a very hearty vote of thanks had been accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, and allowing the use of the room for the meeting, the members attended evensong, and rang several touches afterwards.

Letters of regret for non-attendance were received from Messrs. A. D. Stone (Brighton), G. Penfold (Pevensey), and A. E. Edwards (Salisbury).

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT HESTON.

Midway between the Bath Road and the Uxbridge Road, at a point where the two great ways are about three miles apart, is to be found the old-world village of Heston. The church tower holds a musical peal of eight, in good going order, and here on Saturday week a very successful meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex Association was held, thirty-five ringers attending from Camberwell, Chalfont St. Peter, Edmonton, Fulmer, Horsham, Harlington, Hounslow, Harrow, Isleworth, Oatlands, Old Windsor, Staines, Sunbury, Stoke Poges, Willesden Green and West Ealing. There were twelve ladies present, amongst them being Mrs. Wm. Shepherd and Miss Emery (Hersham), Miss Barnes (Oatlands), and Miss Gudgeon (Fulmer).

The District Master (Mr. T. Beadle) tactfully arranged the touches to suit everybody, consequently some of the ladies were not 'wall-flowers' a long time, as frequently is the case when touches are called on by some of the 'dons' to suit themselves. With a little prompting, where required, eight of the fair sex rang a course of Grandsire Triples: Miss W. Cooper 1, Miss E. Fuller 2, Miss McKrell (Chalfont St. Peter); 3, Miss D. G. Feltham 4, Miss N. Williams 5, Miss G. Bateman 6, Miss E. K. Parker 7, Mrs. Frank Hairs 8. Amongst other touches was a good course of Superlative Surprise rung by Major J. H. B. Hesse 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, W. Hewett 4, W. Henley 5, J. Bruce Williamson 6, W. Shepherd 7, Miss Edith K. Parker 8. Touches in several other methods were rung, in which R. Sanders, Gunner Wm. Welling and Pte. G. Cuite took part.

At the tea and meeting in the Parish Hall, the Vicar (the Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson) presided. Staines was proposed as the next place to which to pay a visit, and Mr. A. W. Davis was made a member.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for his jovial reception, and for the use of the bells, and to the kind donors of the excellent tea, which was provided by Mr. King (churchwarden), Mr. Sydney Carter, and the local band. Mr. Clarke (one of the churchwardens) took tea with the party.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HACKNEY.

The members of the North and East District held a meeting at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, Hackney, on Saturday last. The event being favoured with a fine afternoon, nearly 40 ringers attended, and it was not surprising, with so many experts present, to find three touches of Superlative brought round before service time.

The service, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. B. S. Batty), was in the nature of a war intercession, followed by a short address, in which the Rector welcomed the Association to South Hackney, and spoke of the fellowship which existed between ringers. He also reminded his hearers that when they rang the bells for service, they preached to many whom the voice of the clergy never reached. He concluded by urging all to consecrate their work and art to the service of God.—Mr. W. Lawrence kindly presided at the organ, and the hymns sung were: 'Through the night of doubt and sorrow,' and 'O God, our help.'

All then adjourned to the Mission Room, where Mr. Riley had prepared a very nice tea, which was much enjoyed. The Vicar being unable to be at the meeting, the chair was taken by the Rev. E. Morton (curate).—Messrs. C. Loder and J. Schneider, of Finchley, were elected honorary members.

The Hon. Secretary conveyed the President's congratulations to the members of the recent peal of Stedman Cinques.

For the place of the next meeting, St. Mary's, Walthamstow, was suggested if arrangements could be made with the authorities.

Mr. W. Hewett gave notice that he would bring before the next meeting the question of a memorial to those who had fallen in the war.

With acclamation, the meeting expressed thanks to the Rev. B. S. Batty, the Rector, for his kind welcome to South Hackney, for the use of the bells and the service, and to Mr. A. Riley, who with no little trouble had carried out the arrangements for the meeting and tea.

A well-struck course of Stedman Cinques was then rung on the handbells by Miss E. R. Parker, Mrs. F. I. Hairs, Messrs. W. and G. R. Pve, J. B. Williamson, and E. Maurice Atkins, after which most returned to the tower for another hour's ringing.

Thus concluded a very successful and enjoyable meeting.

ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.

The repairs to the interior of the spire of St. Martin's Birmingham have now been completed, and the bells themselves have been overhauled. On Sunday they were heard once more ringing out over the city for both morning and evening service, and the Rector (Canon Willink) visited the belfry, and expressed the pleasure that was felt at hearing the bells once more.

During the time that St. Martin's bells have been silent, the band have paid fortnightly visits to St. Philip's.

NORTHFIELD.—For evening service, on Sunday, March 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: C. Webb 1, J. Withers 2, F. Hobbiss 3, J. Vaughan 4, J. Eaton 5, A. Chambers (conductor) 6.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

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Established
A.D. 1570.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM SNOWDON.

MEMORIAL AT ILKLEY.

The ringers' memorial to the late Mr. William Snowdon, for 25 years Master of the Yorkshire Association, has now been completed, and erected in Ilkley Church, of which his father was Vicar. The memorial consists of a handsome brass tablet ornamented in the top left-hand corner with a bell and stock, and an artistically entwined bell rope. The inscription, most aptly phrased, is as follows:—

IN MEMORIAM,

WILLIAM SNOWDON.

Born at Ilkley Vicarage, A.D. 1846. Died at Cartmel, A.D. 1915.

A TRUE SON OF THE CHURCH.

He was for 25 years (1885-1910) President of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers, succeeding in that office his brother Jasper Whitfield Snowdon, in whose memory the adjoining window is dedicated.

By his assiduous and faithful labours he advanced the art of change ringing, and conferred lasting benefit on the ringers of all ages.

Mindful of his example, his fellow ringers erected this tablet to his memory, in the third year of the great war (A.D. 1917) desiring with him that all their work may be

HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD.

The tablet will be dedicated at a future meeting of the Association and subscribers will be notified when the date is decided upon.

BELGIUM'S LOST BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In fairness to our other Ally, I am only too sorry to intimate that France has probably lost equally as many bells as Belgium. During the last year, I have been over the ground that has, and is being fought over, and many instances of vandalism on the part of the Germans are to be found. In some cases, the theft of the bells is the only act of violence to the church, even if the surrounding village has been burnt out. One church has its bell cote and spire (of wood) brought to the ground bodily, and the removal of the single bell has left the headstock inverted by its own weight. On the exterior of a wooden tower in the Somme district, hang a chime of eight bells, a tenor of about 4 cwt. As the village is in German hands now, I wonder what their fate is, as also the carillon at Baillienl.

I have seen bells as modern as 1894, beautifully cast, but in no case have I noticed any attempts at tuning.

I have met but three ringers out here in 15 months. Two were my own local chums, and one was from Ashford, in Kent.—Yours,

ALBERT COPPOCK.

France.

Bandsman, 2nd D.L.I.

* KILLED IN ACTION.

Charles Powell, one of the ringers of Mathon, Herefordshire, and a member of the Diocesan Guild, has been killed in France, and, as recorded elsewhere, a muffled peal to his memory has been rung. The deceased had taken part in seven peals.

Corpl. W. A. Painter, a member of the band at St. Peter's Church, Dorchester, died in France on April 21st, and on Sunday week, for evening service, a half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, by: J. T. Godwin 1, C. B. Hurst 2, C. F. Uphill 3, W. J. Bengier 4, A. T. Woolley 5, J. T. Hull 6, G. T. White (conductor) 7, W. Bowering 8.

The St. George's Society, Clun, has lost one of its five members who volunteered to serve King and country. Sergt. W. I. Lewis, M.M., 7th Battalion, K.S.L.I., who was killed on March 28th on the Western Front. He was 22 years of age, and volunteered soon after the outbreak of war, and was awarded the Military Medal in August, 1916, for bravery in the field and good work done on the Somme. Sergt. Lewis was one of the band who took up bell ringing on the new peal of eight which were dedicated a few weeks after the outbreak of war. He had also been a member of the Parish Church choir for a number of years.

On Friday evening, April 26th, before commencing their summer evening practices, the members rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), with 6, 7, 8, dodging, in 50 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of regard to a fallen member. The chaplain (the Rev. H. J. Scott) said the bellry office and prayer for the repose of the soul of a fallen comrade, and the ringers were as follows: F. A. Watkins 1, E. Beddoes 2, Rd. Morris 3, G. W. Roberts 4, C. Minton (conductor) 5, Rev. H. J. Scott 6, G. W. Griffiths 7, W. Mead 8.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

Second-Lieut. James Lunn, another member of the Clun band, was reported missing, but has written saying he is a prisoner of war in Germany.

Lance-Corpl. C. J. Matthews, of the 8th Battalion East Surrey Regt., son of Mr. J. D. Matthews (Master of the Cumberland), was taken prisoner in the early days of the recent offensive, somewhere in the vicinity of St. Quentin. The young soldier, who was a very capable handbell ringer, was a member of the Putney Guild and the Cumberland Youths. He was also well known in the district of Plymouth, where he spent some time.

REDEDICATION OF RAWMARSH BELLS.

A YORKSHIRE VILLAGE RESTORATION.

For over twenty years the bells of St. Mary's Parish Church, Rawmarsh, hung silent in the tower, which is the crown on the Rawmarsh Hill. Once again, however, they are in proper ringing order, and on St. George's Day (April 23rd) the Bishop of Sheffield dedicated the recast peal, which are a very nice, handy little ring of eight, with a tenor of 12 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lbs. The work of restoration has been carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

The service commenced with the processional hymn, 'All people that on earth do dwell,' followed by the National Anthem. A shortened form of evensong was used with special psalms xxix., cxlii., cl. During the singing of the hymn, 'Angel voices ever singing,' the clergy and choir proceeded to a place under the tower, where the Bishop proceeded to rededicate the bells. The following ringers from Sheffield Cathedral then rang a few rounds on the new peal: Sam Thomas (Ringing Master) 1, William Bugar 2, William Lomas 3, Leonard Charlesworth 4, George Holmes 5, James T. Rew 6, Sam Seed 7, Alfred T. Baker 8. During the ringing, the clergy and choir returned to their places in the chancel, and after the hymn, 'Christ our corner stone,' a very suitable address was given by the Bishop from Ps. lxxxix. 15. During the singing of the hymn, 'Thy hand, O God, has guided,' the offertory was taken in aid of the Rawmarsh and Parkgate Red Cross Ambulance. The service concluded with the hymn, 'Now thank we all our God.'

As the congregation left the sacred edifice, the bells pealed forth again into song, this time to the tune of Stedman Triples, by: George Holmes 1, William Bugar 2, William Lomas 3, Leonard Charlesworth 4, Sam Thomas (conductor) 5, Haydn Thorpe 6, John Thorpe 7, Alfred T. Baker 8. A start was made for a quarter-peal, but this had to be cut to eleven courses (924 changes), owing to a message from the Bishop, that he wished to address a gathering of the parishioners who were on the rectory lawn near by.

The Rector (the Rev. F. G. Scovell), during the interval, entertained the ringers, together with the wives of several of them to tea in the schoolroom, which was highly appreciated by the visitors. A return was made to the tower, the sound of the bells being eagerly awaited by the parishioners, the young (in hundreds) and the elder ones (in goodly numbers). The occasion will doubtless be remembered as a Red Letter Day in the lives of the children of Rawmarsh, for never before had they heard the sweet music of bells emitted from this majestic and hallowed pile of their inheritance. Their delight was unbounded to hear such sweet and resonant sounds bursting out overhead from this 'pulpit of stone in the upper air.' What is the message to these little ones? 'To call the flock to church in time, "We Chime." When from the body parts the soul, "We Toll." When mirth and joy are on the wing, "We Ring."'

One cannot express the looks and feelings of the elder portion of the listeners, proud to possess this noble church tower, from which after a lapse of over 20 years the bells had again found their tongues, 'sounding aloft without crack or flaw, shriller than trumpets under the law.' Over the silent graves in the churchyard the bells were again pouring forth their music. As the writer stood and listened, one of the parishioners (who was guarding the tower door to keep back the throng of eager listeners from climbing up that spiral staircase to the ringing room) was so filled with emotion that tears actually rolled down his face when those bells rang out. Why? One cannot answer. Perhaps he recalled some happy day, now far distant, or maybe the memory of the past was one of sadness! One is left to surmise the rest. But in a village like Rawmarsh are not the bells the very heart-beat of the parish? When it mourns, the bells send forth the sad tidings in the plaintive music of the muffled peal or of the solemn knell. When it rejoices, out burst the bells in joyous music, like clashes of heavenly artillery. No wonder these parishioners are filled with emotion, for as they stand and listen to the bells pealing out their message of hope, doubtless they think of sons and fathers of Rawmarsh who will never return to their native village; but are sleeping (not in this peaceful God's acre which surrounds their Parish Church), in the blood-soaked fields of war and tumult. Others look forward to the time when these bells will ring out for peace, and will 'ring out the thousand wars of old'; others to the time when those brave lads that are spared return to their homes and friends in England.

After good touches in the following methods, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, the bells were lowered in peal. And even then, as the ringers made tracks for home, the people of Rawmarsh still stood in clusters listening, perhaps, to catch the echo of those evening bells.

The former peal of eight were put in some 60 years ago by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The recast peal reflects credit on the Loughborough firm. The framework and castings of the bells are perfection, and Rawmarsh may well be proud to possess such a ring.

CAMPANILE.

CUBITT TOWN.—At Christchurch, Cubitt Town, for morning service, March 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. (1260 changes): C. Clark 1, A. Beer 2, I. Geo. Shade (conductor) 3, E. T. Richards 4, I. T. Lamb 5, H. Hawkins 6, T. Jakeman 7, D. Hodgson 8.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

TO MEET IN LONDON AT WHITSUN.

Notice has been issued that a meeting of the Central Council is to be held on Whitsun Tuesday. It is three years since the Council last met the meetings in the intervening years having been abandoned owing to the war. The forthcoming meeting will be the first session of the Tenth Council, and in accordance with custom will be held at the Church House, Westminster. The gathering is to be held in the Upper House of Convocation, reached from the Great Smith Street entrance. The Standing Committee will meet at 9.45 a.m., and the Council at 11 o'clock, and the following is the official agenda:—

1. Election of President, of Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and of Hon. Librarian.
2. Minutes of the last Meeting.
3. Statement of Accounts and of Sale of Publications.
4. Election of Honorary Members.
5. Introduction of new Members to the President.
6. Members Deceased.
7. Election of Standing Committee.
8. To receive and discuss the Reports of the following Committees: and to re-appoint or alter the constitution of the Committees, as may be thought desirable, viz.:—

- (a.) Peal Collection.
- (b.) Literature.
- (c.) Legitimate Methods.
- (d.) Peals' Analysis.
- (e.) Towers and Belfries.

To discuss the following:—

9. What are the means most likely to conduce to the greatest utility and efficiency of the Council, and, if thought desirable, to move a resolution thereon.
10. To consult the Council as to the best way in which to help in the Restoration of some of the bells lost by Belgium in the War, and to pass any necessary resolutions on the subject.
11. That the Council desires to draw the attention of the Exercise to the increasing abandonment of raising and falling bells in peal, as a result of which a large proportion of Ringers do not acquire the necessary skill to enable them to take part in this ancient and musical practice.
12. To fix the place of Meeting for next year.
13. Other business, if any.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 36th annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held at Burton-on-Trent on Saturday last. Arrangements for ringing had been made at St. Paul's Church, but news having been received that Captain Philip L. Stockley, son of the Vicar, had been killed in action, the usual ringing was out of the question, but by the Vicar's kindness the bells were rung half-muffled for about an hour after the meeting.

The general meeting was held in St. Paul's belfry, the President, Mr. John W. Taylor, taking the chair, supported by Messrs. J. Griffin, E. J. Stone, W. E. White (hon. secretary), and others, to the number of about 20. There were representatives from the following places: Colgrave, Derby, Ilkeston, Orston, Ripley and Uttoxeter, in addition to one or two local ringers.

The treasurer's balance sheet to the end of 1917 was presented to the meeting, showing a balance in hand of £27 17s. 2d., as against £20 6s. 11d. at the end of 1916, and was passed, on the proposition of Mr. J. Griffin, seconded by Mr. E. J. Stone. It may be mentioned in passing that the financial statement showed a very considerable falling off in the amounts received in subscriptions both from ordinary and honorary members, more than can be accounted for by the absence of members serving with H.M. forces, whose subscriptions during their absence is excused, and the question naturally arises, 'What is the reason?'

The number of peals rung during the past year was two of Grandsire Triples and one of Stedman Triples, being the lowest number rung in any one year since the formation of the Association.

Eleven new ringing members were admitted, and the following representatives were elected to serve on the Central Council for the ensuing three years: Mr. Joseph Griffin, Rev. C. J. Surton, Mr. John W. Taylor and Mr. W. E. White.

The places chosen for the next three quarterly meetings are Quorn, Ashby-de-la-Zouch and Ilkeston, the next annual meeting going to Nottingham by rotation.

The retiring officers were thanked for their services during the past year and unanimously re-elected.

The President mentioned the death of Captain P. L. Stockley, and proposed that the secretary should send a letter of sympathy to the Vicar of St. Paul's.

A vote of thanks to the clergy for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for making the arrangements, terminated the meeting.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY RINGING. 1918, 8

LADIES RING TO WELCOME THE QUEEN.

St. George's Day was celebrated at Windsor this year, and the King and Queen took special interest in the proceedings. The bells of the Parish Church and the Curfew Tower took their part in the proceedings as in days of yore, but a new feature of the ringing was the fact that for the first time in the history of Windsor, either on the bells of the Parish Church or on those of the Curfew Tower, the entire peal of eight bells was rung by eight ladies during part of the time the Queen was driving through the town. The ladies were from Windsor and places round, some of the Windsor ladies being prevented from attending owing to business ties. The day was also marked by the fact that it was the first meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild since the heltry of the Parish Church has been affiliated to the Guild. All the Windsor ladies, with the exception of one, have only been training since January.

When the Queen stopped in the Market Place, the Mayor extended the thanks of the Borough to their Majesties for the interest they had again shown in the proceedings, and informed the Queen that the bells were being rung at that moment by eight ladies.

During the day, touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Oxford Bow were rung, also a course of Treble Eight, and some 'call changes.' Those taking part in the ringing were the Misses S. Cowley, E. Sword, H. Roe, C. Farr, E. Dance, E. Potbury and C. Digby (Windsor), G. Bateman, C. Shaw-Crisp (Stoke Poges), B. K. McKrell (Chalfont St. Peter), W. Cooper, F. Gudgin (Fulmer), N. G. Williams (Hillingdon), E. Jones (West Ealing); Messrs. A. Pake, A. H. Higgs, T. Smith, Rev. G. S. Deacon, H. P. Hunt, C. Farr and J. W. Croft (Windsor), W. G. Bedford, G. T. Leader, E. Hooper, J. J. Parker, J. Eldersfield, W. H. Fussell (Slough), J. Brant (Warfield), W. Henley (Stoke Poges), W. Laurence (West Ealing), Rev. J. P. Amies (Chalfont St. Peter), and Mr. H. Nix (Egham).

A number of the ringers were entertained to tea by the Mayor.

The 'Windsor Express' of one hundred years ago, records that St. George's Day, 1818, was celebrated with eclat, and says, 'The morning was ushered in by a general ringing of bells, standards were displayed on several of the church steeples and other public buildings, and a double royal salute fired from the Park and Tower guns.'

RUMNEY LADIES' QUARTER-PEAL.

The first quarter-peal rung for the Llandaff Diocesan Association by a band entirely of ladies, was achieved on April 25th, at St. Augustine's Church, Rumney, when, in 45 minutes the following rang 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss A. Millward 1, Mrs. A. Thompson 2, Miss F. Millward 3, Miss M. Dunn 4, Miss B. M. Pacey (conductor) 5, Miss H. Howells 6.

A CARDIFF MEMORIAL.

On Sunday week, at All Saints' Church, Cardiff, two tablets were unveiled by the Rural Dean, erected to the memory of the late Vicar (the Rev. Chas. Bennett). The first was a beautiful marble tablet over the altar stalls, the inscription being as follows:—To the glory of God, and in affectionate remembrance of the Rev. Charles Bennett, M.A., who died September 9th, 1917, aged 66 years. Curate of Chapel-town, Sheffield, 1875-6. Vicar of Cambo, Northumberland, 1876-9; Vicar of St. John's, Barnsley, 1879-1891. C.M.S. missionary in China 1891-1901, and for 16 years a faithful Vicar of this parish. 'His servants shall serve Him, and they shall see His face.'—Rev. xxii. 3, 4. This tablet was erected by parishioners and friends.

The second tablet, of handsome design, made by Messrs. Caspar and Co., records the ringing of a memorial peal on Saturday, September 15th, 1917, in three hours and thirteen minutes, on the bells in the tower, of a peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes), as a last tribute of respect to the late Rev. C. Bennett, by members of the Llandaff Diocesan Association and All Saints' Guild.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP.

Our readers are reminded that, for the assistance of the widow and young family of the late Mr. Alf. Grimes, five bound volumes of 'The Ringing World,' which belonged to Mr. Grimes, are to be disposed of, and tickets (6d. each) may be obtained from Messrs. A. A. Hughes, Master of the College Youths (Whitechapel Foundry), W. Pye, Master of the Middlesex Association (8, Sansom Road, Lansdown Road, Leytonstone), C. F. Winney, W. Hewett, A. S. Pettitt, T. Walker, hon. secretary of the London County Association (10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate), R. Sanders, T. H. Taffender (Master of the London County Association), and W. T. Cockerill, hon. secretary of the College Youths (32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4).

THE DANIEL PRENTICE FUND.

Contributions to this fund should be sent to Mr. W. Motts, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich, who makes an earnest appeal on behalf of this old Ipswich ringer. The sum of 2s. 6d. from Mr. W. Pye (Leytonstone) is acknowledged.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Broxbourne to-morrow (May 11th) instead of on May 4th, as advertised last week, when the bells will be open during the afternoon and until dark. Tea will be provided at the Welcome Temperance Rooms. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. District Sec., Little Munden.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The second quarterly meeting will be held at Warmley on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30.—W. Stafford, Branch Hon. Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society.—Established 1824).—A meeting will be held at the Church of St. Giles, Cripplegate, E.C., on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available from 3 to 6.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this District will be held at Tonbridge on Saturday, May 11th, 1918. Tower open at 3; service at 4.30; tea at 5.15, followed by business meeting. Members intending to attend must notify the District Sec. not later than Tuesday, May 7th. Subscriptions are now due and should be either sent to the District Sec. or paid at the meeting.—W. Lather, Hon. District Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on May 30th, and for general business on the 21st, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting for business will be held in the Vestry of St. Thomas' Church, Salisbury, on Thursday, May 16th, at 2.30 p.m. Short Service of Intercession in the Church at 12.45. St. Martin's bells (8) available, also St. Thomas' conditionally.—F. Li. Edwards, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch-in-Rusholme, on Saturday, May 18th. Bells available from 3.30. Meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Raunds on Whit-Monday, May 20th, 1918. Tower open at 12 noon, earlier if sufficient members are there to ring. Committee meeting at 1.30. Service in Church at 2 o'clock, meeting to follow. Tea will be provided, but members must bring their own food and sugar.—Fred Wilford, General Sec., 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The annual district meeting will be held on the Monday in Whitsun week, May 20th, at Margate. Further particulars in next week's issue.—Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, District Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Poolstock on Whit-Monday. Bells ready at 2; service at 5; meeting at 5.30. Members intending to be present should send word to Secs.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Saffron Walden on Whit-Monday. Service at 2 p.m., address by Rev. L. Hughes, Vicar; business meeting to follow. The ring of twelve at the Parish Church will be available for ringing all day.—Chas. H. Howard, Master; H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Brighton, on Whit-Monday, May 20th, 1918. Short service at 4 o'clock, address by the Vicar of Brighton (Canon F. D. Pierce), Business meeting at 4.30 p.m. in Parish Room, adjoining Church. Half railway fares without limit. Towers open as follows: St. Nicholas, 10.30 a.m. to 12, 6.30 p.m. to 8; St. Peter, 2 p.m. to 4, 6.30 p.m. to 8.—H. R. Butcher, Gen. Hon. Sec., 2, Kent View, Crowborough, Sussex.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Tenterden on Whit-Monday. The following towers will be available for ringing, viz.: Headcorn from 8 till 10; Biddenden from 10 till 2; and Tenterden from 3 till 8. A train leaves Headcorn for Biddenden at 10.15, another leaves Biddenden for Tenterden at 2.15, and one leaves Tenterden for Headcorn at 5.30 and connects with trains for London or Dover. Owing to the Food Control difficulty members are advised to bring their own nosebags. Tea will be obtainable at Tenterden especially if members requiring same will notify me not later than Wednesday, May 15th.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Huntley on Whit-Monday. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Business meeting will be held. Tea will be provided if obtainable. Subscriptions now due.—Joseph Williams, Hon. Sec., Glen Holm, Newent.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the Midland District will be held at Solihull on Saturday, May 25th, when it is hoped all ladies in the district will make an effort to attend. Bells (10) available at 3.30; service at 5.30. Tea at 1s. 3d. per head to all who notify me by Tuesday, May 21st, which will be followed by business meeting. Gentlemen cordially invited.—Miss S. Pigott, 41, Cemetery Road, Smethwick.

JOINERS and WOOD-WORKING MACHINISTS wanted; constant work for good men.—Apply C.F.V., 26, Clyde Street Nottingham.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

Many circumstances militated against the quarterly meeting of this society, held at St. Saviour's Cathedral, Southwark, on Saturday week, being the success that it deserved to be. In the first place, as a result undoubtedly of the critical times in which we are living, the notice of meeting failed to reach the office of this journal, as a consequence of which the notice did not appear in our advertisement columns until April 26th. Then, again, the time for ringing was earlier than usual, which prevented members from putting in an attendance; whilst, in addition, other meetings in the outer suburbs proved more attractive to some. However, the fine peal of twelve was kept going for about two hours to the tune of Treble Ten, Stedman Caters, and Stedman Cinques.

At the subsequent meeting, held at the society's headquarters, a resolution was carried in the usual way, specially conveying, through the medium of the "Ringing World," the sympathy of the society to all the relatives and friends of those ringers whose names have appeared in the casualty lists.

Business was very brief, it being decided, if possible, to hold the summer quarterly meeting at Lewisham.

Handbells filled up the limited time of the company.

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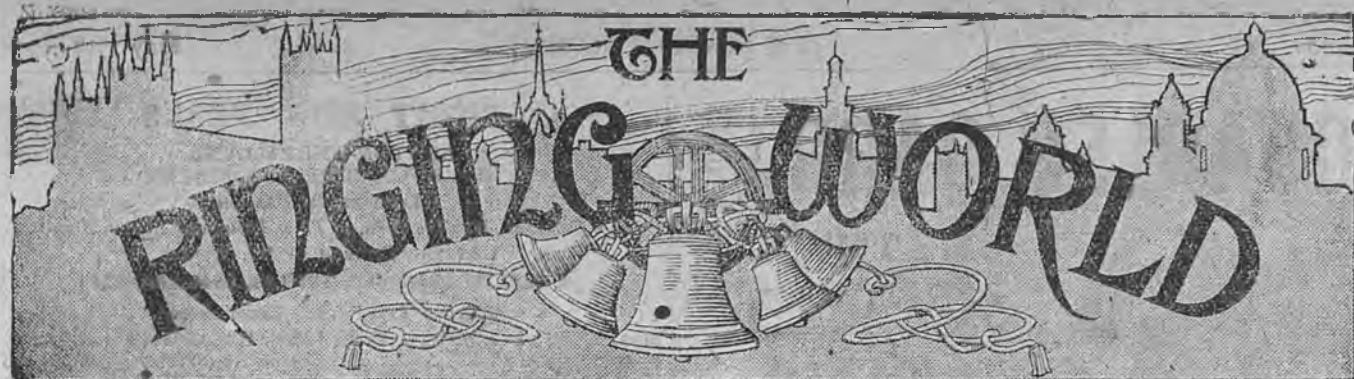
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FRIDAY, MAY 17th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

**WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,**

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom:

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

After a lapse of three years the Central Council is to meet next Tuesday. The gathering will be held in London, for the Metropolis is the fixed venue of the first session of each new Council. It should be an interesting meeting, despite the fact that it is war-time; but to the older members it will probably also be a sad one, for many gaps have occurred since last the Council met. Gone are Sir Arthur Heywood, William Snowden, Charles Henry Hattersley, Henry Dains, A. H. Cockey, and other prominent men, while many well-known faces will be missing through the stern calls of the hour. At such a time as the present it is scarcely to be expected also that even those who remain will be present in full force, and for this there are many reasons. But despite all the drawbacks, it is, we think most ringers will agree, well that the Council should meet this year.

The two items on the agenda which are likely most to interest the general body of the Exercise, concern the Council itself—one, the election of a new President, and the other, the question of the future of the Council. They have a considerable bearing one on the other. With a capable man as President—a man who is a practical ringer and one who is in real touch with ringers and with the feelings of the Exercise—the Council may do much for the future of ringing. A man with energy, initiative and modern views would be a force in the Council which could give it new life, whatever may be the opinion of the body when it comes to discuss the question of its own future. The articles which appeared in these columns some time since from the pen of Mr. J. A. Trollope have, no doubt, given the members food for thought, and at any rate may form the basis of argument. We believe there is a genuine desire by every member that the Council should be of practical use to the ringers of the kingdom, but no one is likely to say that the product of the last few years of the Council's existence has greatly advanced the cause of ringing. From the united wisdom of next Tuesday's gathering many useful suggestions for increasing the utility of the Council ought to be forthcoming.

Outside the other purely formal business, a resolution with regard to establishing a fund for assisting in the restoration of Belgian carillons is to be proposed, and will assuredly meet with a sympathetic reception, while another resolution, adjourned three years ago for lack of time, deals with the revival of the practice of raising and falling bells in peal. Several committees are down to report, but there has probably been little work done by either of them, in view of the greater preoccupations which the war has given everyone since last the Council met.

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**OPINION OF OUR
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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield

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Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 11, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

MRS. W. WOLSTENCROFT ... Treble	MISS SARAH HOLT ... 5
FRANK STONELY ... 2	ISAAC SCHOFIELD ... 6
EDWARD B. SHAW ... 3	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 7
ROBERT WIMPENNY ... 4	JOHN HARRISON ... Tenor

Conducted by W. W. WOLSTENCROFT.

The above was rung on the anniversary of the Sunday Schools, also as a birthday peal to Miss S. Holt. First peal by Mrs. Wolstencroft and Miss S. Holt.

COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Saturday, May 11, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

J. E. GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

WILLIAM A. JEAONS ... Treble	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... 5
ARTHUR BAKER ... 2	SAMUEL BAKER ... 6
WALTER GRINSELL ... 3	WILLIAM FISHER ... 7
SAMUEL PEARCE ... 4	ALBERT E. LAW ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. F. Marsden. Mr. Marsden is the headmaster of the Parish Church Schools and people's warden. The peal was also a birthday compliment to Miss Edith Gough, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. Gough.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 11, 1918, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALBERT E. NEWICK ... Treble	ISAAC EMERY ... 5
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... 2	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES ... 6
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. ... 7
FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON ... 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS and

Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.

First peal of Oxford by all the band, except ringers of second and tenor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the wife of T. Groombridge, junior.

WHITEFIELD, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, May 11, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, STAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' REVERSED. Tenor 22 cwt.

JAMES W. WASHBROOK ... Treble	WILLIAM H. SHUKER ... 5
JAMES W. WASHBROOK, JUN. ... 2	SERG. J. L. WILLIAMS ... 6
JOSEPH LOWE ... 3	HARRY CHAPMAN ... 7
SAMUEL GREENHALGH ... 4	AMOS TRIPPIER ... Tenor

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

First peal of Stedman on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Greenhalgh and Trippier.

VISIT TO MACHEN.

On Saturday last a visit was paid to Machen, Mon., by the ringers of St. Martin's, Caerphilly, and All Saints', Llanbradach. Some good ringing was done in Grandaire Doubles and Triples, and Plain Bob Minor by the 16 ringers present. This is the first time these bells have been rung for over twelve months.

CORRECTION.

By an error it was stated last week that two tablets had been dedicated at All Saints' Church, Cardiff. The church was All Saints', Newport.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT FROME.**

The annual meeting of the Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Frome on Saturday week. The weather was all that could be desired, and consequently the attendance was very good.—The President (the Rev. J. E. W. Honeywill, Vicar of Leigh-on-Mendip) took the chair, and was supported by Prebendary Randolph, Vicar of St. John's, Frome, by whose kind permission the meeting took place at Frome. The usual quarterly business was first transacted, and then came the re-election of officers for the ensuing year.

The retiring president was again elected. Mr. Honeywill, who has filled this post for nearly twenty years, very graciously accepted office once again, his decision being received with acclamations of manifest pleasure and satisfaction by all the members.

Mr. I. B. Holmyard was re-elected honorary secretary.

A very pleasing feature of the gathering was the presence of some of the Trowbridge (Salisbury Guild) ringers, amongst whom was Mr. Sam Hector, so well known in the district both for his skill and keenness as a change ringer, and for his geniality and courtesy of manner, traits which render him deservedly popular amongst the ringers of his acquaintance. The Trowbridge friends were accorded a hearty welcome, and Mr. Hector suitably replied.

The members met for tea and business at the Union Jack Restaurant, where they were well catered for by Host G. Coleman (one of the Frome ringers) and his good wife.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar of Frome, to the Chairman, and to the Honorary Secretary, closed the business proceedings.

During the afternoon and evening the bells were much in evidence, the methods rung being Graudsire and Stedman Triples and Doubles, and Bob Minor. Some of the ringers went on to Buckland Dinham in the evening, the bells there being available through the kindness of the incumbent.

The towers represented at the meeting included Frome, Trowbridge, Leigh-on-Mendip, Douling, Shepton Mallet, Paulton, Tisbury, High Littleton, Radstock and Midsomer Norton.

NEW DEANERY BRANCH AT PORTISHEAD.

A quarterly meeting was held at Portishead on Saturday week, and was very well attended by members from Clapton, Clevedon, Long Ashton, Portishead, and Bristol. Ringing commenced at 4 p.m., and the bells were kept going to Graudsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major until 5.30 when the members adjourned to the Gate, High Street, for tea, 32 being present.

The business meeting followed, presided over by Mr. Robert Corp (one of the churchwardens of the parish). Five new members, including one lady life member, were elected.

It was proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Yatton, and an intermediate meeting for practice at Wraxall.

Hearty votes of thanks, accorded to the Rector for use of the bells, to Mr. Gillingham for making arrangements, and to the Chairman for presiding, brought a very successful meeting to a close. The tower was then again visited, and the bells kept going until 9 o'clock.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at Crayford, on Saturday, April 27th, but unfortunately was poorly attended, although glorious weather prevailed. The tower was open at 3 p.m., and touches were rung till 5.30 p.m., when the members present attended service, the Association Form being used, and a very nice address was given by the Rector (Canon Gustavus Jones), who had been away from home through ill-health, but had returned to welcome the members to Crayford.

The business meeting followed in St. Paulinus' Hall, the Rector presiding.

The District Secretary explained to the members why longer notice of the meeting had not been published. — Two new members were elected, and Eynsford was selected as the place of next meeting, on the third Saturday in July.

Mr. W. J. Jeffries read the report of the committee and annual meeting, which was adopted, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him.—A cordial vote of thanks was also passed to the Rector for the use of the bells, his address, and for presiding, and to the organist who accompanied the service. To this the Rector replied, saying "I had given him very great pleasure to welcome the members."

DEATH OF MR. W. L. CATCHPOLE.

Our readers will much regret to learn that the death took place, on Saturday last, after only ten days' illness, of Mr. William L. Catchpole, a valued member of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, and the Norwich Diocesan Association. He was a member of the Central Council for many years.

YORK.—On Sunday, April 7th, for evening service, at St. Mary Senior, Bishopthorpe, 720 Bob Minor: Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. (conductor), 1. W. Thornton 2. A. Horner 3. P. Firth 4. A. C. Fearnley 5. F. Rickitt 6.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.**WELCOMED AT CHESTERFIELD BY NEW VICAR.**

Although not on a par with pre-war meetings at Chesterfield, the annual meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Society, held on Saturday week, was very successful, and fairly well attended, some 30 ringers being present, and seven towers represented, viz., Bolsover, Chesterfield, North Wingfield, Norton, Sheffield Cathedral, Staveley, and Worksop. The bells were raised shortly after three o'clock, and ringing was practised in various methods until five o'clock, when the visitors made the acquaintance of Canon F. L. Shaw, the new Vicar of Chesterfield, in a very pleasant manner. He came up into the ringing room to unveil a new tablet which records a peal of Bob Royal rung in honour of his induction, Canon Shaw himself being responsible for the erection of the tablet. This little office being completed, the majority of the ringers adjourned to the Vestry, where the business meeting was held, Canon Shaw being in the chair.

The Hon. Secretary's report showed the number of towers affiliated to the society to be twenty, and the number of members to remain about the same as last year, three deaths having been balanced by new members. With one exception, the meetings held during the past year had been very successful, with an average attendance of 25. So successful, in fact, had the gatherings proved that it has been decided to continue to hold the meetings during the lighter months, but not to hold them during the winter, when, owing to 'early closing' time, coupled with the lighting restrictions, little ringing is obtainable, and travelling not only uncertain, but very uncomfortable. The relations between the clergy and the society continued to grow more friendly, the frequent meetings having given the various incumbents opportunities of meeting the ringers as fellow workers in the church, opportunities which are being utilised in a greater degree by the clergy year by year. The balance sheet disclosed a sound financial position, with total funds amounting to £16 8s. 10d., a net gain on the year's working of 15s. 9d. For the first time in the history of the society no peals were rung during the year.

There being no new nominations, the whole of the officers were re-elected, Mr. John Holman being elected a trustee in the place of the late Mr. C. H. Hattersley, and the hon. secretary pro tem. (Mr. Sam Thomas) as Hon. Secretary.

Nine new members were elected, including a promising young lady in Miss E. Wornham, a Chesterfield recruit.

The Hon. Secretary, in moving a vote of thanks to Canon Shaw, gave him a warm welcome in the name of the members. They had, he said, lost a firm friend in Archdeacon Crosse, but that day's proceedings served to show that a worthy successor had taken up the work, and Chesterfield ringers and congregation were to be congratulated.

Canon Shaw, in reply, hoped to be of some use to the society, and welcomed the members. He said how pleased he was with Chesterfield's peal of ten after enduring the four bells at Eyam. The Vicar then closed the meeting with prayer.

Afterwards the bells came into use again, ringing being carried on until 7.30 p.m.

THREE PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By C. CHARGE, LONDON.

5000					5040				
23456	M	W	H		23456	M	W	H	
42356			1		35426		2		
26354	1		2		23564	2	2	2	
42563	2	1	2		32465	2		2	
23564	1		2		64235		2	2	
32465	2		2		45236	1		2	
64235		2	2		32546		2	2	
62345		1	2		23645	2		2	
25346	1		2		63425		2	1	
43526		2	2		54326	1		1	
45236		1	2		23456		2	2	
23456		1	1						

This peal contains all the combination of 4, 5, 6, and was first rung at All Saints', Fulham February 12th, 1911, conducted by the composer.

5000				
23456	M	W	H	
23564	2	2	1	
23645	2	2	1	
26435		1	2	
24365		1	2	
34625		2	1	
43526	2		2	
25346		2	2	
34256		1	1	
52436		2	2	
23456		2		

'DANIEL PRENTICE' FUND.

The following further subscriptions towards the 'Daniel Prentice' fund are acknowledged: Mr. Arthur Symonds (Lavenham), 2s.; Mr. J. S. Symonds, 1s. 6d.; Mr. S. H. Symonds, 1s. 6d. Contributions should be sent to Mr. William Motts, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.

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of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

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For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

RAISING HEAVY BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—If you will allow me to return to the matter of raising heavy bells, I should like to say a little of what our young generation are doing. My eldest son, Herbert George (age 14), raised Great Missenden tenor (25½ cwt.) single-handed at the first attempt. These bells were rehung about twelve years ago by Mears and Stainbank, in an oak frame, and are rung from the ground floor; this, I think, speaks well for all concerned.—Yours faithfully,
J. H. BARNES.

ARCHITECTS AND BELL TOWERS.

In the report for the official year 1917-18 of the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects just published, the following item appears in the proceedings of the Science Standing Committee:—

'The committee's inquiries and visits with respect to the vibration of bellfries have been suspended for the time being, though there is sufficient data in hand for a short paper on the subject.'

It will be remembered that this question was brought under the notice of the R.I.B.A. by the Central Council, who also have a committee dealing with the subject, concerning which the late Sir Arthur Heywood wrote and published an important volume.

DIED FROM WOUNDS.

AIR-MECHANIC W. E. BAILEY, OF DAVENTRY.

The funeral of Air-Mechanic W. E. Bailey, Royal Flying Corps, aged 19 years, one of the band of ringers at the Parish Church, Daventry, who died in Lincoln Hospital, from wounds received in the German offensive, took place on Saturday, May 4th, with military honours, the service being choral. In addition to being a ringer, deceased was a chorister at the Parish Church—a brilliant musician, he had acted as organist at St. James' Church until joining the army. A fine young fellow who led a noble life, he was very popular in the town, which was shown by the attendance of so large a number in the church and at the graveside.

After the funeral the bells were rung, half-muffled, as a token of respect by his brother ringers: 600 Grandsire Doubles, with 7, 5, 8 covering: Messrs. Andrews, Robinson, Moore (conductor), Clarke, Horn, Chappell, Towers, Abel.

BELGIUM'S LOST BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I fully agree with your article and suggestion that we should try and assist later on in replacing some of the lost bells in Belgium. I have waited for abler pens than mine to endorse the letter of Mr. Lewis and your article. It has been my privilege to visit most of the Cathedral Cities, and the remarks made are quite correct, viz., that the carillon playing on the bells of Belgium is as much a national feature as the ringing of our bells in England. On one occasion I visited the tower at Bruges, and found chalked on the bells the names of two of our Kentish towns, showing that other ringers had also visited there. I believe the places were Dover and Maidstone. It has been proved that money can be raised through your columns, if all contribute their mite. In Belgium peals of eight, or ten are small in number; I think Bruges and Malines would muster some 90 bells. At the latter place, I found with interest that two were made to swing, and there were two men in the tower in charge of the bells repairing boots.—Yours faithfully,
Edenbridge, Kent.

J. W. STEDDY.

BRISTOL RINGERS' SILVER WEDDING.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Wilkins, of Bristol, celebrated their silver wedding on May 8th. Falling on the same date as the King's Accession, they were able to indulge in some ringing, starting at the Mayor's Chapel, where several six-scores of Grandsire were rung. St. Mary Redcliffe was visited at 1 and 6 p.m., and several courses of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung. Then a visit was paid to Clifton Parish Church, where a touch of Stedman Triples was brought round by Mrs. R. J. Wilkins 1, R. J. Wilkins 2, A. E. Wilkins 3, R. Clark (conductor) 4, H. M. Day 5, A. E. Reeves 6, S. Condie 7, and D. M. Gillard 8. Also a course of Cambridge Major and a touch of Stedman Triples, in which Miss Hale, of Portishead, took part. An adjournment followed to Woodland Road, where a little light refreshment was partaken of, and a few tunes were rung, and a course of Grandsire Caters, by: A. E. Wilkins 1—2, A. E. Reeves 3—4, S. Condie 5—6, R. J. Wilkins 7—8, Mrs. R. J. Wilkins 9—10; and a touch of Stedman Triples, by: A. E. Reeves 1—2, S. Condie 3—4, R. J. Wilkins (conductor) 5—6, Mrs. R. J. Wilkins 7—8.

Congratulations and good wishes were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins, and the hope was expressed (if the war is over by then) that all would meet again at the golden wedding.

Mrs. Wilkins did not start ringing with the bells open until the end of January, 1918, and, with a little attention, can manage Stedman and Grandsire Triples. She is very enthusiastic, and her services are very useful at the churches where there is a difficulty in making up bands.

DEATH OF MR. SAMUEL GREENWOOD.

A FOUNDER OF THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

In 'The Ringing World' of June 5th, 1914, a portrait appeared of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Greenwood, of Streatham, together with a record of the celebration of their diamond wedding, and many of the incidents of a long and honourable career. After nearly 64 years of wedded life, Mrs. Greenwood passed away on March 15th last, and now we have with sincere regret to announce the death of her husband, who passed away on April 30th, in the 89th year of his age.

The funeral service at St. Leonard's Church, Streatham, on Saturday week, was preceded by muffled ringing on the tower bells by the St. Leonard's band and other ringers from the district. Many were the old friends and residents assembled to pay their last respects to an esteemed and respected member of the church. Among the ringers present were Messrs. H. Pates, L. Attwater, H. Rumble, W. Shepherd, H. Smith, G. Barrington, E. Horrex, W. Joiner, W. S. Smith, A. J. Perkins, R. Grimwood, C. Bance, C. Gordon, J. D. Dresdell, and others. The interment took place at Streatham Cemetery, and touches of Grandsire were rung on handbells at the graveside by: W. Smith 1-2, L. Attwater 3-4, A. J. Perkins 5-6, R. Grimwood 7-8.

The late Mr. Greenwood has certainly created a record in Surrey by his long and valued ringing career. Born in 1830 near Cheltenham, he had already become an accomplished ringer, when, at 19 years of age, he first settled at Streatham, and very soon was in constant touch with the ringing towers of the surrounding neighbourhood. The writer well remembers the leading part he took in educating young ringers, and generally by example and perseverance, helping much to advance in every way the true principles of change ringing. His leadership was recognised, and much encouragement given to the art on all important local occasions. When ringing took place, Mr. Greenwood was a leading factor, and many have been the tributes to his ability and resource, for he was the recipient of several testimonials and expressions of appreciation from Streatham and Gloucestershire.

He was a member of College Youths and other ringing societies. He was one of the founders of the Surrey Association in 1880, and remained a valued member until his death. His peals numbered about 50, 26 being for the Surrey Association, eleven of which he conducted.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

AN APPEAL TO ROCHDALE BRANCH MEMBERS.

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch of the Lancashire Association was held on Saturday week at Shore Parish Church, but only four towers were represented by a small gathering, viz.: Middleton, Todmorden Parish and Unitarian, and Newhey. There was no ringing in the afternoon.

At six o'clock, the business meeting took place, under the chairmanship of Mr. E. Smith, of Newhey, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Todmorden Parish Church, on Saturday, June 1st.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the tower and bells, and also to the local ringers for having everything in readiness.

The members of the Rochdale Branch are asked to bear in mind that such places as Shore, and a few others which are well known, are places where a good attendance of ringers is needed at meetings of the Association, as they are weak spots, and also that those ringers from the district who are in the army look forward to the monthly report (through the 'Ringing World') of the meetings.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Eastern District was held at Broxbourne on Saturday last, and those who attended quite enjoyed the time spent. The country around, in all its fresh greenness, and a sunny afternoon, added to the pleasure of the day. Some good ringing was enjoyed, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Bob, Treble Bob Major and Double Norwich Major being the methods. Members were present from London, Hoddesdon, Cheshunt, Edmonton, Brannington, Chadwell Heath, Walthamstow, Peterborough, and Little Munden. Tea was served at 'The Welcome' and was followed by the business meeting.—A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for granting the use of the bells during the afternoon. The next meeting will be held at Bennington on June 1st.

CENTRAL COUNCIL.

St. Martin's-in-the-Fields will be open for ringing after the meeting of the Central Council on Whit-Tuesday. The time will probably be 6.30, but this is not yet definite.

The bells of All Saints', Edmonton, will also be open to visitors. St. Saviour's Cathedral, Southwark, will also be open from 6-8 p.m.

ANOTHER 12-BELL CENTURY.

By a peal rung last Friday week, Mr. Albi. Walker, of Birmingham has scored one hundred peals on 12 bells, and joins the little company who have achieved that distinction, and who can be numbered on the fingers of one hand. Mr. Walker's twelve-bell century comprises: 94 peals of Stedman Cliqués (conducted 32), Treble Bob Maximus 3 (conducted 2), Forward Maximus 2, Bob Maximus 1.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MORE ENTHUSIASM NEEDED.

The quarterly meeting of the Winchester District, fixed for Romsey on May 11th, resolved itself into a combined practice, owing to the small company who turned up on Saturday last. Unfortunately very little enthusiasm is shown in this district by a large number of the members who could very well spare three or four hours once in three months to help keep the flag flying whilst so many of our young ringers are away, especially considering these meetings are fixed officially by a majority at the annual district meetings each year. It is hoped the reason for so small an attendance last Saturday was in the fact that a hitch in making the arrangements prevented due notice being given in 'The Ringing World.'

On arriving at the Abbey the belfry was found locked up as if nothing was on. However, the Hon. General Secretary and the Rev. E. Banks James waited on the Vicar, when an entrance was soon obtained. Another delay then presented itself through the tenor rope being tied to the clapper for clocking, a thing it was hoped was of the past in the Diocese. However, keys were found for going aloft, and the rope removed, when Mr. Elecombe, the steepkeeper, arrived. The bells were soon raised, and well struck touches of Grandsire Triples brought round, in addition to a long touch of rounds for one of the young probationers. Then ringing was curtailed owing to illness near the Abbey, and the bells were lowered in peal (the effect of which is one of the beauties of this grand ring).

The majority of those present adjourned to the Abbey Hotel for tea, thanks to mine host in putting it on at such short notice, as 'no tea arranged' is the official order now for meetings, owing to the rationing Order.

As there was no business to transact and no official except the hon. general secretary present, a very sociable hour was enjoyed over the tea-table, when the cycling contingent left for their various destinations, Mr. James and his pupil having a distance of 23 miles to cover. The next meeting should take place at Twyford, near Winchester, on Saturday, August 31st next.

WAR HONOUR FOR RINGER'S SON.

His many friends in Lancashire will be pleased to learn that Mr. A. E. Wreaks' eldest son, Pte. A. E. Wreaks, of the East Lancs Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C., has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry and devotion to duty on the field. Mr. Wreaks, who now resides at Paisley, was formerly secretary of the Lancashire Association. Describing his experiences in the recent German offensive Pte. Wreaks has written to his father that his section was in the front line, and that the shell fire was terrible and unbearable, but still his mind was bent on looking after the boys who were wounded and getting them to safety, amongst them being an officer who got hit during a bayonet attack. Rain fell heavily on some occasions, making the conditions much worse, and to walk or wade thigh deep in mud was an experience never to be forgotten. He was without a wash or shave for six days, but they were not down-hearted, because Fritz did not have all his own way. One night, after getting one of the wounded through, one of their men shouted that there was a wounded German on the road, so Pte. Wreaks went out and brought him along. In the orders of April 12th the notice was published that Pte. Wreaks and another were recommended for the Military Medal, and later on the Colonel presented them with the ribbons, and congratulated them on their success. So far Pte. Wreaks has come through without a scratch. He enlisted at the beginning of December, 1914, but was not drafted to France till February, 1917.

Mr. Wreaks' other son joined the Scottish Horse in November, 1915, and was drafted to Salonica in September, 1916, and not long afterwards his unit was transferred to the Machine Gun Corps.

HOW GERMAN BELL FOUNDERS DO BUSINESS

The following is from the 'Kleine Journal' of Berlin:—
'The gentlemen who constitute the firm of Franz Schilling and Sons, of Apolda, the church bell casters, prove themselves to be business men of a remarkable versatility.'

This firm—which supplied the bells for the Berlin Cathedral and for the Kaiserin Augusta Viktoria Hospice on the Mount of Olives—in its anxiety to do business circularised the various church authorities of Bavaria recommending their newest wares. By some mischance, however, the circulars which were intended for the Protestant churchwardens were received by the heads of the Catholic community and vice versa.

'In the document intended for the Catholics a warning was printed against dealing with a rival firm, which was gracefully alluded to as "a gang of dirty heretics only fit for the stake," while the Protestant authorities were besought to purchase only of Messrs. Schilling, who were described as "anti-Papal to the marrow" and as "Martin Luther's most faithful followers."'

'Such people as the Schillings, who no doubt, would not hesitate to employ the Deity if possible for their business purposes, have now, thanks to the mistake of an underling, had an exemplary lesson.'

MISCELLANEOUS.

MERSTHAM, SURREY.—At the Parish Church, on Easter Day, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes): H. Morley 1, Miss Orlebar 2, E. Atkins (conductor) 3, J. Morley 4, A. Wood 5, W. Francis 6.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: G. A. Gladman 1, W. Emmett 2, H. C. Chandler 3, C. S. Bird 4, C. I. Edwards 5, E. R. Gladman 6, S. Carter (conductor) 7, W. J. Watson 8.

PENDEETON, Lancashire Association.—On Easter Day, for evening service, at St. Thomas's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): P. Smith 1, J. Shaw 2, G. Turner 3, J. Winterbottom 4, J. Lowe 5, S. Greenhalgh 6, H. Chapman (conductor) 7, A. Trippier 8.

HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Easter Day for Divine service in the evening, 1260 Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original), in 57 mins.: M. Clark 1, S. J. Riddle 2, J. T. Holmes 3, F. Ekins 4, J. H. Clark 5, P. A. Holden (conductor) 6, W. Dickinson 7, A. Dixon 8. Ringers of 2nd and 6th belong to Royal Air Force, and are stationed at Cranwell.

NORTON, STAFFS.—On Easter Day, for Matins, 720 Cambridge Surprise: E. E. Johnson 1, W. P. Deane 2, T. Bettison 3, J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 4, F. T. Dawson 5, J. F. Ryles 6. Also for evensong, 720 Killamarsh Surprise: J. F. Ryles 1, J. E. Wheeldon 2, T. Bettison 3, W. C. Lawrence (conductor) 4, F. T. Dawson 5, W. P. Deane 6, T. Bettison hails from Mansfield Woodhouse Notts.

BRAINTREE.—On Easter Day, for Matins, 882 Grandsire Triples: W. Sadler 1, G. Lindridge 2, E. P. Slade 3, G. Melbourne 4, W. H. Dyson 5, F. Rudkin 6, C. H. Howard (conductor) 7, W. H. Hammond 8. For evensong, on Sunday, within the octave, 1024 Treble Bob Major: C. H. Howard (conductor) 1, W. Sadler 2, F. Webb 3, G. Melbourne 4, E. P. Slade 5, W. H. Dyson 6, W. H. Hammond 7, G. Lindridge 8.

HORBURY, YORKS.—At SS. Peter and Leonard's Church, on Easter Day, for early celebration, 720 Violet Treble Bob Minor: G. Hunt 1, G. F. Pickles 2, G. Barstow 3, H. Rowley (conductor) 4, J. Smith 5, R. Thickett 6. For Choral Eucharist, 720 Bob Major: J. Woffenden 1, E. Brooke 2, G. F. Pickles 3, G. Hunt 4, G. Barstow 5, H. Rowley (conductor) 6, J. Smith 7, R. Thickett 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes), standing as above.

SELBY.—On Easter Monday, at the Abbey Church, a peal of Grandsire Triples was unfortunately lost after ringing 1330 changes, in 57 mins., by: A. Hall 1, Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. (conductor) 2, E. Storr 3, E. Rickitt 4, F. Cryer 5, W. Hinton 6, H. Fairlam 7, T. W. Robbins 8.—On Sunday, April 7th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. W. Hall 1, J. Jackson 2, E. Storr 3, A. Hall 4, F. Cryer 5, W. Hinton 6, H. Fairlam (conductor) 7, G. Rippon 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—On April 2nd, at St. Edmund's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 51 mins.: V. York 1, B. O. Soden 2, S. Lawrence 3, T. Tebbutt (conductor) 4, T. Law 5, F. Hopper 6, W. Rogers 7, J. Mackay 8. Rung on the occasion of the 85th birthday of Mr. W. Tomes, J.P., the donor of the bells.

LEICESTER.—At St. Martin's Church, on Easter Tuesday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1265 changes), in 50 mins.: Geo. Cleal 1, Sam Cotton 2, H. Webb (first quarter-peal of Stedman) 3, H. Needham 4, E. Hughes 5, L. Allen 6, H. Argyle 7, F. Dexter 8, A. Martin 9, T. Taylor 10; and a course of Treble Ten: H. Webb (first attempt at Royal) 1, S. Cotton 2, G. Cleal 3, H. Jenney 4, E. Hughes 5, H. Needham 6, H. Argyle 7, L. Allen 8, A. Martin 9, F. Dexter 10.

CAERPHILLY.—On April 4th, at St. Martin's Church, for evening service, and also as a farewell touch to the ringers of the fourth, who was joining up on the following Monday, 336 Triples: J. Roberts 1, W. Pike 2, G. Cooke 3, A. Addicott 4, D. Stephens 5, F. Boucher 6, F. Evans 7, W. Williams 8.

BOSTON, Lincs.—At the Church of St. Nicholas, Skirbeck, on Sunday, April 7th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: T. Coleman 1, Harold Palmer 2, A. Swain 3, Gnr. W. Welling 4, Harry Palmer (conductor) 5, J. Kirk 6. For evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, the band as before, W. Welling conducting.

DRETFORD, KENT.—At St. John's Church, on Sunday evening, April 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: A. G. Beunington 1, F. W. Richardson 2, E. J. Pannett 3, J. Law 4, Pte. W. E. Maulden, A.S.C. (Framlingham, Suffolk) 5, W. J. Jeffries 6, E. B. Crowder (conductor) 7, Arch Beunington 8.—On April 14th, 1918, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins.: T. A. Easterbe 1, F. W. Richardson (conductor) 2, A. G. Beunington 3, J. Law 4, Pte. W. E. Maulden, A.S.C., 5, L. Fidler, R.A.F. (Hitchin) 6, W. J. Jeffries 7, Arch Beunington 8.

LEWISHAM, KENT.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, April 14th, 1918, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: F. Cole (A.S.C., Bath Somerset) 1, G. R. Simmonds 2, E. J. Pannett 3, H. Walker 4, W. W. Fox 5, C. V. Ebberson, A.S.C. (Fakenham, Norfolk) 6, H. Wainett, conr. (conductor) 7, H. G. Goodwin 8.

MOUNT SORREL, LEICESTERSHIRE.—At the Parish Church, a 720 Grandsire Doubles, being six 120's called differently, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of Lieut. William Ewart Martin Lewis (killed in action) son of the Rev. W. J. Lewis (Vicar of Mount Sorrel): W. Jones 1, T. Collins 2, W. Hyde Ingleson (conductor) 3, E. Perkins 4, A. Kirshn 5, A. Burrows 6.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting will be held at Eye on Whit-Monday, May 20th. Bells available all day. Meeting in Parish Room at 2.30 p.m. Members must cater for themselves.—C. E. Borrett, Sec., 12, Grove Avenue, Norwich.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch-in-Rusholme, on Saturday, May 18th. Bells available from 3.30. Meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Raunds on Whit-Monday, May 20th, 1918. Tower open at 12-noon, earlier if sufficient members are there to ring. Committee meeting at 1.30. Service in Church at 2 o'clock, meeting to follow. Tea will be provided, but members must bring their own food and sugar.—Fred Wilford, General Sec., 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The annual district meeting will be held on the Monday in Whitsun week, May 20th, at Margate.—Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, District Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Poolstock on Whit-Monday. Bells ready at 2; service at 5; meeting at 5.30. Members intending to be present should send word to Secs.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Saffron Walden on Whit-Monday. Service at 2 p.m., address by Rev. L. Hughes, Vicar; business meeting to follow. The ring of twelve at the Parish Church will be available for ringing all day.—Chas. H. Howard, Master; H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Brighton, on Whit-Monday, May 20th, 1918. Short service at 4 o'clock, address by the Vicar of Brighton (Canon F. D. Pierce), Business meeting at 4.30 p.m. in Parish Room, adjoining Church. Half railway fares without limit. Towers open as follows: St. Nicholas, 10.30 a.m. to 12, 6.30 p.m. to 8; St. Peter, 2 p.m. to 4, 6.30 p.m. to 8.—H. R. Butcher, Gen. Hon. Sec., 2, Kent View, Crowborough, Sussex.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Tenterden on Whit-Monday. The following towers will be available for ringing, viz.: Headcorn from 8 till 10; Biddenden from 10 till 2; and Tenterden from 3 till 8. A train leaves Headcorn for Biddenden at 10.15, another leaves Biddenden for Tenterden at 2.15, and one leaves Tenterden for Headcorn at 5.30 and connects with trains for London or Dover. Owing to the Food Control difficulty members are advised to bring their own nosebags.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on May 30th, and for general business on the 21st, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Huntley on Whit-Monday. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Business meeting will be held. Tea will be provided if obtainable. Subscriptions now due.—Joseph Williams, Hon. Sec., Glen Holm, Newent.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the Midland District will be held at Solihull on Saturday, May 25th, when it is hoped all ladies in the district will make an effort to attend. Bells (10) available at 3.30; service at 5.30. Tea at 1s. 3d. per head to all who notify me by Tuesday, May 21st, which will be followed by business meeting. Gentlemen cordially invited.—Miss S. Pigott, 41, Cemetery Road, Smethwick.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Loughton on Saturday, May 25th. Bells will be available from 3.30 p.m.; service at 6 p.m.; business meeting to follow. Tea will be provided only for those who notify me at the latest by Tuesday, May 21st; will those intending to be present kindly do this so that necessary arrangements can be made?—E. J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The spring meeting will be held at Bennington, as usual on June 1st, when the bells will be open, by the invitation of Canon Mills, during the afternoon and evening. Canon Mills will kindly provide tea as far as provisions are procurable, but no sugar. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Dist. Sec., Little Munden, Herts.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The June meeting will be held at North Wingfield on Saturday the 1st. Eight bells. Clay Cross Station, Midland Railway. A good attendance is particularly desired.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mellons (Mon.) on Saturday, June 1st, at 4.30. Bells (6) available. Tea will be provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and John W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The usual monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 1st, at Todmorden Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock; business meeting at 6, when the Vicar (Rev. S. Aspin) will preside.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the above guild will be held at the Parish Church, Slough, on Saturday, June 1st. All members and friends cordially invited. Fuller particulars next week.—E. K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

JOINERS and WOOD-WORKING MACHINISTS wanted; constant work for good men.—Apply C.F.V., 26, Clyde Street, Nottingham. ♦

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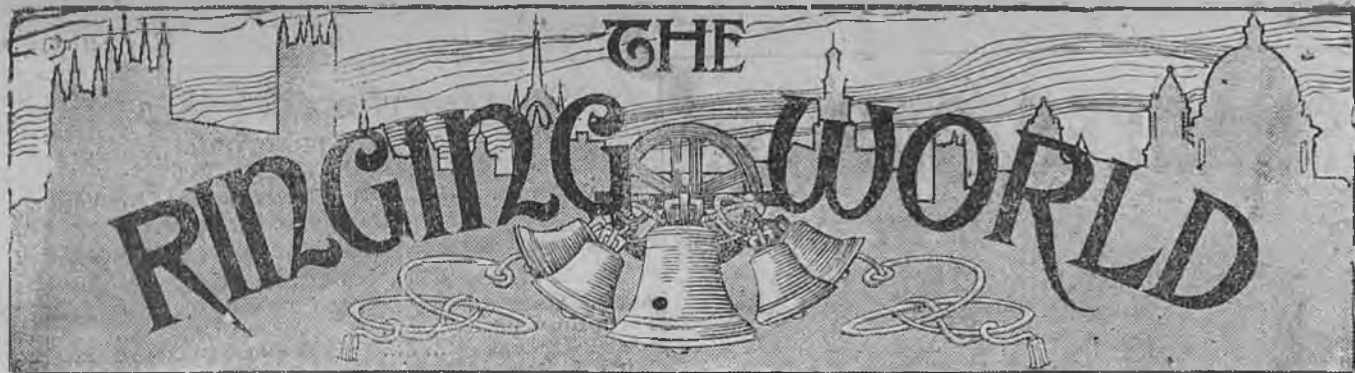
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FRIDAY, MAY 24th, 1918.

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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorized by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK.

THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The meeting of the Central Council on Tuesday was, as probably everyone anticipated, not so well attended as usual, but it was, nevertheless, quite a representative gathering. Apart from the members overseas, a number of the Council are very actively employed on war work, and to some of them attendance at the meeting was impossible. Then, too, the inconveniences attaching to travel in these days also had its effect. But despite the drawbacks, the attendance, all things considered, was very satisfactory, and justified the decision to hold the meeting this year.

Whether, however, apart from the need for the election of a President—the Council without a President is like a ship without a rudder—and the opportunity that occurred for discussing the future of the Council, much was gained by the gathering, is a matter upon which opinion may be divided. Except the Peals Analysis Committee, which has continued its task year by year, and has annually published the results of its labours, none of the Committees seem to have had any substantial progress to report. The work they have in hand is not of urgency, and consequently has been more or less laid aside for other and more important things. And in this the Committees are in no way to be blamed. As a matter of fact, two of them, the Peal Collection and the Legitimate Methods Committee, have a good deal of completed work on hand, which has been delayed publication, and which might, perhaps, with a little more enterprise, have been printed well before the war. There is nothing, however, to be gained by going to press with these publications at this stage, for everything in the printing line has advanced enormously in price, and the ringing public, upon which the Council have to rely for their sales, has been so depleted that anything like an extensive sale would not be realised for a long time to come. Indeed, the small demand at present for the Council's literature is illustrated by the return of sales by the Hon. Librarian.

To the Exercise generally, of course, the most interesting features of the meeting were the election of the new President and the discussion on "the means most likely to conduce to the greatest utility and efficiency of the Council." It is not an easy matter to have to choose a successor to a man like the late Sir Arthur Heywood, for while there were many that did not see eye to eye with him, all were ready to admit his capacity, his influence, and the services he had rendered to ringing. To follow a gentleman of these traits, and the necessity of doing something to revivifying the Council, will make the task of his successor no easy one. The election of the Rev. A. H. F. Boughy, however, is an excellent one, for he should make an admirable President.

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MODERN WORK.**

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Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BOLTON, BRADFORD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 7, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Taylor's Bob and Single. Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR AINGE Treble	WILLIAM WALAND 5
FIRTH HOPWOOD 2	ARTHUR GILL 6
JOHN PALFRAMAN 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
JAMES H. MAWSON 4	SAM PALFRAMAN Tenor

Conducted by A. GILL.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Bernal E. Howe, over 30 years a member of the above company; also to the memory of Mrs. White, the wife of one of the churchwardens of the above Church, a very ardent worker in the Parish.

The above record is a correction of the report that appeared in our issue of the 10th May.

DRIGHLINGTON, BRADFORD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 11, 1918, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHN PALFRAMAN Treble	SYDNEY BARRON 5
DICK THORNTON 2	FIRTH HOPWOOD 6
BENJAMIN THORP 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
ARTHUR GILL 4	SAM PALFRAMAN Tenor

Composed by JOHN ASDINALL.

Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the fallen heroes of this Parish.

BOTLEY TREBLE BOB.

BY THE REV. E. BANKES JAMES.

12345678	Bob
24163857	24163857
42618375	42618375
46213857	46213857
64128375	64128375
61482735	61482735
16847253	16847253
16482735	16482735
61847253	61847253
68174523	68174523
86715432	86715432
68175423	68175423
86714532	86714532
87641352	87641352
78463125	78463125
87643152	87643152
78461325	78461325
74816235	74816235
47182653	47182653
74812635	74812635
47186253	47186253
41768523	41768523
14675832	14675832
14768523	14768523
41675832	41675832
46157382	46157382
64513728	64513728
65417382	65417382
56143728	56143728
51634278	51634278
15362487	15362487
13528478	13528478

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, March 17th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins., composed by J. Reeves: J. Hollows 1, Pte. W. Berry (conductor) 2, J. Jacques 3, T. K. Driver 4, J. Arrowsmith senr., 5, T. Ogden 6, S. Holt 7, W. Hardman 8. For evening service it was intended to ring a quarter-peal of Bob Major, but owing to one of the members being away on parade with the V.T.C. a 720 and 360 changes of Bob Minor was rung on the front six, with the 7 and 8 covering: J. Hollows 1, Pte. W. Berry (conductor) 2, J. Jacques 3, T. K. Driver 4, J. Arrowsmith, senr., 5, S. Holt 6, W. Hardman 7, A. Howarth 8.

ANCIENT LONDON BELL FOUNDERS.

A PUZZLE TO CAMPANOLOGISTS.

(Concluded).

A bell founder, who was for years a puzzle to campanologists, was William Founder. His bells are found in various parts of England; and it is universally agreed that he was a London man. He was probably contemporary with the two Burfords, and there is the following evidence in support of the belief.

In the issue rolls of the eighth Richard II., 1st May (1385), is the following:—

'To Sir Simon de Burley, Knight, Constable of Dover Castle, for the price of 12 guns, two iron "Patella," 120 stone for the guns, 100 lbs. of powder, and four stocks of wood purchased of William the founder, of London, and delivered to the said Simon by the hands of William Hanney, Clerk, for fortifying and strengthening Dover Castle, £97 10s.'

Another reason for placing him at this epoch. Some of his bells (e.g., one at Abbotsham, Devon), are inscribed in 'Lombardic' or Gothic capitals, others are in black letters. His date, then, as regards lettering is on the border line between Lombardic and black letter, and from the evidence gathered on the subject, this may safely be placed at about A.D. 1400 perhaps rather later than earlier. What William Founder's actual surname was is most doubtful. Mr. North concluded it to have been Underhill; but the shield bearing a chevron between three trefoils with the arms of Underhill (and of Rufford and several other families as well) never appear on bells bearing his trade mark—the circular medallion with his name—which bells alone we can say certainly to have been his. It occurs on many bells with the lettering used by him, but which almost certainly passed into other hands. Mr. Stalschmidt was more inclined, bearing in mind the device on his stamp, to think his name was Bird, and there was a John Bird (not Bird), brazier, mentioned in Robert Burford's will.

The following bells are by him. Doubtless there are more. The second at Abbotsham, Devon, inscribed:—

IN MULTIS ANNIS RESONET CAMPANA
IOHANNIS.

The following are all black letter bells. Two in Essex, viz., the second at Aldham, bearing:—

SUM ROSA PULSATA MUNDI KATERINA
VORATA,

the sole remaining bell at Brightlingsea, bearing:—

DULCIS SISTA MELIS VOCOR CAMPAN
MICHAELIS.

Three bells in Norfolk. Cringleford second inscribed with the same legend as the Aldham bell. The second at All Saints', Norwich, bearing:—

GALLUS VOCOR EGO SOLUS SUPER
OMNIA SOLO.

The fourth at Surlingham, inscribed:—

IOHANNES CHRISTI CARE DIGNARE
PRO NOBIS ORARE.

One in Sussex—the single bell at Ninfeld—inscribed:—

HIC EST MARTINUS QUEM SALVET
TRINUS ET UNUS.

One at Magdalen College, Oxford, the 7th of the peal—with the same motto as the Aldham and Cringleford bells mentioned above. All the above bells bear his circular foundry stamp.

There was about this time a Bell-makers' Guild. The fact is recorded in a curious old book belonging to the Brewers' Company. The book which commences in 1416, contains—interspersed with the usual accounts—some most curious memoranda relative to city life. Among others, biographical notices of many of the Mayors—from the point of view of the Brewers' Company—who seem to have been accustomed to make propitiatory presents to each occupant of the civic chair, and to bespeak his good offices on behalf of their trade. In this book is a list, not dated, but apparently about 1420, of the various Guilds existing in the city at that time, including among several others which have long since disappeared, the 'Guilds of the Belle Makers.' They never received civic sanction by having 'ordinances' granted, and so they must have been purely a religious Guild.

This brings us down to the year 1420, the date at which there is a considerable and serious break in the Somerset House Calendars of Wills proved in the Archdeacon's Court of London; and it is the date at which, approximately, inscriptions in black letter superseded those in capitals—Lombardic or Gothic. Black letter came in with the 15th century, and was so firmly established by the end of the second decade that thenceforward, inscriptions in capitals only, though not quite unknown, are very uncommon until post-Reformation times.

ACTON.—For the evening service at the Parish Church, on Palm Sunday (March 24th) 518 Grandsire Triples: A. E. Smith 1, R. Holloway 2, C. Edwards 3, Miss Edith Jones 4, W. T. Vicary 5, W. Lawrence (conductor) 6, A. Harding 7, J. H. Fruin 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BRIDGINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.—St. Martin's Guild. — On Sunday evening, March 17th, for service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 44 mins.: W. Stringer 1, J. Preston 2, C. Williams 3, H. Spencer (first in the method) 4, B. Gough 5, M. J. Morris 6, W. J. Meers (conductor) 7, J. W. Pemberton 8.

GLADWICK, OLDHAM.—On Sunday, March 17th, at St. Mark's Church, for morning service, 546 of Grandsire Triples: J. Knight 1, F. Crossland 2, E. B. Shaw, H.M.S. minesweeper, 3, W. Clegg 4, J. Taylor 5, J. Lees 6, A. Clegg (conductor) 7, I. Schofield 8. For evening service, 476 of Grandsire Triples: J. Knight 1, E. Garry 2, F. Crossland 3, W. Clegg, H.M.S. minesweeper, 4, J. Taylor 5, E. B. Shaw 6, A. Clegg (conductor) 7, I. Schofield 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—Central Northants Association.—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, March 17th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Blundell 1, F. Hopper 2, Seaman W. R. Parker 3, T. Law 4, S. J. Lawrence 5, H. Rainbow 6, W. Farey (conductor) 7, F. Rollings 8. Arranged for Seaman W. R. Parker, who was home on leave.

ACTON.—For the morning service, on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. by: John E. Rootes (first quarter-peal) 1, W. Lawrence 2, J. H. Hunnisett 3, C. Edwards 4, W. T. Vicary 5, A. Harding 6, W. H. Hollier (conductor) 7, A. E. Smith 8.

BIRMINGHAM.—At St. John's Church, Deritend, on Sunday evening, March 17th a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 minutes: S. Coley 1, G. Mitchison 2, T. Elcox 3, A. Scrivens 4, J. Porter 5, A. W. Norman 6, W. F. Webb (conductor) 7, J. Morgan (first quarter-peal) 8.—On Sunday, March 24th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Bryant 1, A. Scrivens 2, J. B. Collett 3, W. F. Webb 4, G. Piggott 5, B. W. Norman 6, A. Chambers 7, H. Withers (conductor) 8.

WINDSOR.—At the Parish Church on March 18th, a quarter-peal of Sledman Triples: T. Smith 1, W. Henley 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. T. Leaden 5, F. Smith 6, E. T. Hooper (conductor) 7, C. Farr 8. These bells had been overhauled by Messrs. J. Warner and Sons during the week, and this quarter-peal was rung to test the 'go' of them, which proved excellent.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—On Saturday last, March 23rd, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples at the Church of St. Peter, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1,500 changes through a change course. The following took part: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, A. Barnes 2, J. W. Holme 3, R. Wimpenny 4, Miss Sarah Holt 5, Miss Cissy Thorp 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Harrison 8. The peal was arranged to commemorate the entry of our Lord into Jerusalem nearly 2,000 years ago; also in honour of our troops at present in the same city, and the general success of our arms in the Holy Land. It was the first attempt by the ladies, and was rung on the 45th wedding anniversary of Mr. John Harrison.

LEWISHAM, KENT.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, March 24th, for evening service, a quarter of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: Lee-Corpl. M. R. Warnett 1, C. H. Walker 2, G. R. Simmonds 3, H. Walker 4, W. W. Fox 5, H. Warnett, junr., 6, H. Warnett, senr. (conductor) 7, H. G. Goodwin 8.—On Easter Day, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: H. Warnett, junr., 1, C. H. Walker 2, G. R. Simonds 3, H. Warnett, senr., 4, E. J. Pannett 5, H. Norgate 6, W. W. Fox (conductor) 7, H. G. Goodwin 8.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on March 25th, after the dedication of a new side chapel, by the Bishop of Rochester, the last 700 of Holt's Original: Mrs. F. H. Herbert 1, P. J. Spice 2, A. E. Newick 3, G. Durling 4, G. Huxley 5, G. F. James 6, I. Emery (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8.

BLETCHLEY.—On Wednesday, March 27th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, Sapper J. Mead 3, F. Hedges 4, H. Sear 5, E. Marks 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, F. Stanton 8. This quarter-peal was specially arranged for Sapper J. Mead, of the Railway Operating Corps, one of the local band who was home on leave from France.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At St. John's Church, on Easter Day, for early morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 38 mins.: A. E. Bennington 1, F. W. Richardson 2, E. J. Pannett 3, J. Law 4, Pte. F. V. Ebbeson, A.S.C. (Fakenham, Norfolk) 5, E. B. Crowder 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, Arch Bennington 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Crowder 1, E. B. Crowder 2, F. W. Richardson (conductor) 3, E. J. Pannett 4, A. E. Bennington 5, J. Law 6, W. J. Jeffries 7, Arch Bennington 8.

CUBITT TOWN.—At Christ Church, on Easter Day, for evening service, 1,007 Grandsire Triples in 36 mins.: C. T. Clark 1, J. J. Lamb 2, I. G. Shude (conductor) 3, E. E. Richards 4, H. Hawkins 5, Cecil E. Ebbeson (Fakenham) 6, T. Jakeman 7, I. Miller 8.

SMETHWICK, STAFFS.—Worcestershire Association.—On Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): W. L. Farrow 1, Miss O. Parr 2, Miss L. Holbrook 3, Miss B. M. Howat 4, Miss K. Pigott 5, Miss S. Pigott 6, J. Pigott (conductor) 7, C. Twycross 8.

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of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells to suit Bell Ringers, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

AIR MECHANICS' HANDBELL RINGING.

At Westgate-on-Sea recently, 720 Grandsire Doubles was rung on handbells by Air-Mechanic W. T. A. Eales 1, Air-Mechanic F. Edwards 2, Air-Mechanic C. W. Smith 3-4, Air-Mechanic F. N. Drinkwater (conductor) 5-6. It is interesting to note that the ringers of 1, 2 and 5-6 have only recently taken up change ringing, and it was their first attempt at a 720.

A LAST TOKEN OF RESPECT.

At All Hallows', Barking, as a last token of respect for the late Pte. W. Truss, K.O.Y.L.I., who was killed in action near Amiens on the 12th April, the whole pull and stand was rung with the bells half-muffled, followed by touches of Grandsire by the following. W. Theobald 1, G. Dorrington 2, A. Linstead 3, E. Wallage 4, A. Joyce 5, T. Langdon 6, J. Scholes 7, H. Langdon tenor.

DEATH OF AN OLD COALBROOKDALE RINGER.

The funeral took place on Thursday week at Coalbrookdale, of Mr. Nathaniel Boden who was a ringer at the Parish Church about the years 1889-90, and in the latter year rang the tenor to two peals of Bob Triples. Immediately after the funeral a half-muffled touch of 1,302 Grandsire Triples (composed by John Carter) was rung, in 50 mins., by W. E. Merrington 1, T. Abbott 2, J. York 3, P. Shaw 4, R. Jones 5, W. Saunders (conductor) 6, C. Watts 7, J. Aston 8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, a successful meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at St. James' Church, Birch, when members attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Didsbury, Eccles, Flixton, Manchester, Miles Platting, Pendleton, Prestwich, and Worsley.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. W. E. Ryder, who gave a hearty welcome to the ringers present.

The election of Miss Louisa Smith and Miss Ada Simpson, of Miles Platting, and Miss Sarah Holt, of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, was confirmed. Flixton was chosen as the next meeting-place, on June 15th.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and local ringers for the use of the bells, and having things in readiness.

ONE MORE WEEK.

Only one more week remains before the closing date for the purchase of tickets by those who desire to help the fund which is being raised for the assistance of the widow and young family of the late Mr. Alf Grimes. Five bound volumes of 'The Ringing World' which belonged to Mr. Grimes, are to be disposed of, and tickets (6d. each) may be obtained from Messrs. A. A. Hughes, Master of the College Youths (Whitechapel Foundry), W. Pyc, Master of the Middlesex Association (8, Sanson Road, Lansdown Road, Leytonstone), C. F. Winney, W. Hewitt, A. S. Pettitt, T. Walker, hon. secretary of the London County Association (10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate), R. Sanders, T. H. Taffender (Master of the London County Association), and W. T. Cockerill, hon. secretary of the College Youths (32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4). Remember, the closing date is May 31st!

A JUBILEE COMMEMORATION.

The ringing chamber of the Parish Church of St. Alfege, Greenwich, is rich in the possession of a large number of peal tablets. One of these records that on Saturday, May 16th, 1868, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes in 3 hours and three minutes, as a compliment to retiring churchwardens, Henry Bright 1, William Andrew 2, William G. Shade 3, George Banister 4, William Turner 5, George Mash 6, John Banister 7, William G. Davis 8. Conducted by John Banister.

With one exception, all have since passed away, the survivor being William Turner now aged 72 years. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the performance (which was his first peal) on Thursday of last week, Mr. Turner, at the invitation of Greenwich ringers, visited St. Alfege Church, and took part in a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1250 changes): Harry Hawkins 1, William Turner 2, Isaac G. Shade (conductor) 3, John J. Lamb 4, Harry Hoskins 5, Frederick W. Thornton 6, Thomas Jakeman 7, Pte. Cecil V. Ebberson, A.S.C., 8.

In subsequent ringing, Messrs. C. Clarke, of Cubitt Town, and E. E. Richards took part. Later, the Vicar of Greenwich (the Rev. F. J. Tackley, M.A.) entered the ringing chamber, and cordially greeted Mr. Turner, also congratulating him and the band upon the success of their effort.

BARNES.—On Easter Day, at St. Mary's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes), in 68 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, F. Skevington 3, P. H. Smith 4, Pte. R. Mackrill 5, A. Culmore 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, H. Cook 8.

LUTON, BEDS.—On Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal (1250 changes) of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: F. Hunt 1, J. Rookwood 2, Herbert Wood 3, A. King 4, T. Blackburne 5, T. Kendall 6, L. A. Goodenough (first quarter as conductor) 7, H. Shaw 8. Rung as a compliment to T. Blackburne 5, on his silver wedding day.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

TUESDAY'S MEETING IN LONDON.

THE NEW PRESIDENT.

The first session of the tenth Council, making the 26th meeting, was held on Tuesday in the Upper House of Convocation at the Church House, Westminster. The meeting was attended by 63 members, representing 29 Associations, viz.—

Ancient Society of College Youths: Messrs. W. T. Cockerill, T. Faulkner, E. Horrex and A. A. Hughes.
Royal Cumberland Youths: Messrs. J. D. Matthews, J. Parker and F. Smith.

Bath and Wells: Mr. J. Maddock.
Bedfordshire: Rev. Canon Baker.
Cambridge University: Mr. E. H. Lewis.
Chester Diocesan: Messrs. H. S. Brocklebank, R. T. Holding.
Dudley Guild: Mr. W. R. Small.
Essex: Messrs. C. J. Butler, G. R. Pye and W. J. Nevard.
Gloucester and Bristol: J. Austin.
Kent: Rev. E. J. O. Helmore, Messrs. E. Barnett, J. H. Cheesman and T. Groombridge.
Ladies' Guild: Miss E. K. Parker.
Lancashire: Rev. H. J. Elsee, Messrs. J. R. Taylor and W. E. Wilson.

Landaff: Mr. J. W. Jones.
London County: Messrs. T. H. Taffender and E. A. Young.
Middlesex: Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. A. T. King, W. Pye and J. R. Sharman.
Midland Counties: Messrs. J. Griffin, J. W. Taylor and W. E. White.
Central Northants: Mr. F. Willford.
North Notts: Mr. H. Haigh.
Norwich Diocesan: Mr. G. P. Burton.
Oxford Guild: Rev. Canon Coleridge, Messrs. J. Evans and F. W. Hopgood.

Peterborough: Mr. R. Narborough.
Salisbury Diocesan: Rev. F. L. Edwards and W. Hughes D'Aeth.
Stafford Archdeaconry: Messrs. W. Fisher and H. Knight.
Surrey: Lieut. C. F. Johnston and Mr. C. Dean.
Sussex: Mr. E. H. Lindup.
Warwickshire: Mr. H. Argyle.
Winchester: Mr. H. White.
Worcestershire: Messrs. A. E. Parsons, T. J. Salter and W. Short.
Yorkshire: Rev. C. C. Marshall and F. Willey.
Hon. Members: Rev. C. D. P. Davies (hon. secretary), Rev. E. W. Carpenter, Rev. Canon Papillon, Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, Messrs. J. Carter, J. S. Pritchett and H. W. Wilde.

Forty-nine members were absent from various causes. The first business was the election of a President, in the place of Sir Arthur Heywood, deceased.—The Hon. Secretary took the chair, and stated that the only nomination received was the name of the Rev. A. H. Boughey, of Cambridge.

The election of the Rev. A. H. Boughey was proposed by Mr. J. W. Taylor, seconded by Mr. W. Pye and supported by Mr. J. S. Pritchett. The Rev. Canon Coleridge was also proposed, but declined to stand, and the Rev. A. H. Boughey was unanimously elected. In the absence of the new President, Canon Coleridge was voted to the chair.

On the motion of Mr. W. E. White seconded by Mr. J. Griffin the Rev. C. D. P. Davies was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer.—In acknowledging his reappointment, Mr. Davies informed the Council that this was the last time he would be able to accept office.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn was reappointed hon. librarian, on the motion of Mr. J. Griffin, seconded by Mr. A. A. Hughes.

The accounts, showing that the balance in hand three years ago of £54 1s. 5d., had been increased to £70 2s. 1d., in addition to £50 invested in War Loan, were adopted, and it was decided to invest a further £50 in War Stock.

The accounts were adopted, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, and on the proposition of Mr. F. H. Lewis, seconded by Mr. R. H. Narborough, a further £50 was ordered to be invested in War Loan.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee pointed out that the absence of the Liverpool Diocesan Guild from the list of subscribing associations was due to the fact that the Guild had now become a branch of the Lancashire Association, and a reunion of forces that were separated 30 years ago had thus taken place (applause).

Owing to the suspension of the two last meetings of the Council the hon. members came up for re-election. The following were re-elected:—

Rev. A. H. Boughey, Mr. J. W. Parker, and Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, the election to expire 1919.

Rev. E. W. Carpenter and Mr. H. W. Wilde to expire 1920.

Mr. J. Carter, Mr. R. A. Daniell, the Hon. Secretary, Canon Papillon, Mr. J. S. Pritchett, Mr. J. A. Trollope and Mr. G. Williams, to expire 1921.

It was proposed to fill two of the three remaining vacancies, and Mr. J. S. Pritchett proposed that Mr. James George be elected to fill a vacancy to expire in 1920. He said Mr. George was probably better known personally than most men, and he was a most enthusiastic ringer. It was a compliment that they might well pay him. — Mr. Argyle seconded, and the motion was carried.

Miss Gillingham, of Portishead, was elected to fill another place, for two years, on the motion of Mr. Argyle, seconded by Miss Parker.

New members of the Council were presented to and introduced to the Chairman, including the College Youths veteran Mr. Edwin Horrex.

The Hon. Secretary next read the list of members who had passed away since the last meeting, viz.: Sir Arthur Heywood, Mr. A. Hughes, Mr. H. Dains, Mr. J. W. Whiting, Mr. C. H. Hattersley, Rev. H. A. Cockey, Mr. W. Snowdon, and Mr. W. L. Catchpole.

At the suggestion of the Chairman, the Council confirmed the vote of condolence sent to Lady Heywood by the Standing Committee.

The Chairman also made suitable reference to the services of the other deceased members, and a vote of condolence with the relatives was passed, by the members rising in their places.



Rev. A. H. F. BOUGHEY.
The New President of the Council.

Apologies of absence were received from Mr. J. W. Parker (hon. member), Rev. W. P. Wright (Cleveland and North Yorkshire), Mr. J. Motts (Norwich Association), Rev. C. J. Sturton (Midland Counties), Rev. C. E. Matthews (Winchester Guild), Mr. C. L. Routledge and Mr. W. Storey (Durham and Newcastle), Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, M.C. (Oxford Guild), Mr. W. H. Godden (St. Martin's Guild).

The Hon. Secretary read the letter which the Standing Committee sent out to the Bishops with regard to the maintenance of ringing in January, 1917. He stated that replies were received from the Archbishop of York and the Bishops of Winchester, Chelmsford, Ely, Gloucester, St. Albans, St. David's, Salisbury, Chester, Sheffield, and Wakefield.

The existing members of the Standing Committee were re-elected: The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Canon G. S. Coleridge, Rev. H. Law James, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Messrs. W. T. Cockerill, J. Griffin, and R. A. Daniell. The following were elected to fill vacancies: The Rev. A. H. Boughey, Rev. Elsee, Messrs. A. E. Parsons, A. T. King, I.S.O. J. W. Taylor, and E. H. Lewis.

The Rev. H. S. T. Richardson reported for the Peal Collection Committee, whose work of printing the collection was held up until more normal times.—Mr. J. W. Parker was added to the committee on which the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, Mr. J. A. Trollope and Mr. H. W. Wilde were re-elected.

Canon Papillon reported for the Literature Committee, whose principal work had been to get out of Mr. Daniell the amount of material which they believed he had collected.—Canon Papillon and Mr. R. A. Daniell were re-elected on the committee, and the Rev. A. T. Beeston was added to the committee.

Mr. E. H. Lewis reported for the Legitimate Methods Committee, whose work is held up for the same reason as that of the Peal Collection Committee, and the following were re-elected on the committee: The Rev. H. L. James, and Messrs. J. A. Trollope and E. H. Lewis.

The report of the Analysis Committee, which has already been printed in 'The Ringing World,' was adopted, and the thanks of the Council accorded to the committee, who were re-elected as follows: Mr. A. T. King Rev. E. W. Carpenter, Mr. J. Griffin and Mr. G. Williams.

Mr. E. H. Lewis reported for the Towers and Belfries Committee. The work of this committee, he said, was held up for the present. The committee, consisting of Messrs. E. H. Lewis, J. H. B. Hesse and E. A. Young was re-elected.

It was agreed that each committee be instructed to elect a chairman, who should be responsible for reporting to the Council, and that, if possible, these reports should be printed before the Council meeting.

The Hon. Secretary had put down the following notice: 'What are the means most likely to conduce to the greatest utility and efficiency of the Council, and if thought desirable, to move a resolution thereon.' His paper, while admitting that the Council was not faultless, was largely in justification of the Council's work.

A number of members took part in the discussion which followed, and various suggestions were put forward. Eventually the matter was adjourned for further consideration.

Mr. E. H. Lewis submitted the following: 'To consult the Council as to the best way in which to help in the restoration of some of the bells lost by Belgium in the war, and to pass any necessary resolutions on the subject.'

In the course of the discussion, opinion favourable to assisting in the replacing of a bell or bells in Belgium by a fund established by the ringers of this country was expressed, but it was suggested that the present time was premature.

A motion to adjourn the matter was, however, defeated and then a series of motions was passed, to the effect that the Council was in favour of an appeal being made to the ringers of Britain and others to help Belgium in the restoration of her lost bells, and commending the matter to the notice of ringers and lovers of bells; that a committee be formed to consult the Associations as to the desirability of bringing forward a definite scheme for the formation of a fund for the purpose; and that the committee consist of the Rev. H. J. Elser, the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson and Mr. E. H. Lewis with power to add to their number.

A considerable number of speakers took part in a discussion on the following, introduced by the Hon. Secretary: 'That the Council desires to draw the attention of the Exercise to the increasing abandonment of raising and falling bells in peal, as a result of which a large proportion of ringers do not acquire the necessary skill to enable them to take part in this ancient and musical practice.'

No resolution on the subject was proposed.

The Council having decided, by 28 votes to 16 to meet next year, resolved by 24 to 12 that the meeting be held in London if the war is still on, but at Gloucester if the war is over.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding.

In the evening some of the visitors had the opportunity of ringing at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields and St. Saviour's, Southwark, and subsequently some enjoyed a convivial hour at the headquarters of the Cumberland Youths, while others accepted the invitation of the College Youths to attend their fortnightly gathering at the Coffee Pot.

Next week we shall begin a fuller report of the more important parts of the proceedings.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Easter Day, for 6 a.m. service, 360 Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, T. Stuart 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6. For morning service, 800 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

PORTSEA.—At the Parish Church, on Easter Day, for evening service, 504 Grand sire Triples: S. Day (Bristol) 1, C. Groves 2, A. S. Beer (Greenwich) 3, J. Symonds 4, G. Holloway 5, J. Harris 6, E. J. Harding (conductor) 7, A. Hardy 8.

SLOUGH.—At St. Mary's Church, on Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples (1260 changes) in 47 mins.: W. Bateman 1, Miss Gladys Bateman (first quarter in the method) 2, A. Lender 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. T. Lender 5, W. Henley (conductor) 6, E. T. Hooper 7, F. Purdue 8.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WORKING.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the Midland District will be held at Solihull on Saturday, May 25th, when it is hoped all ladies in the district will make an effort to attend. Bells (10) available at 3.30; service at 5.30. Tea at 1s. 3d. per head, which will be followed by business meeting. Gentlemen cordially invited.—Miss S. Pigott, 41, Cemetery Road, Smethwick.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Loughton on Saturday, May 25th. Bells will be available from 3.30 p.m.; service at 6 p.m.; business meeting to follow.—E. J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—A Meeting will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on May 30th, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Martley on Saturday, June 1st. Service at 5 p.m. prompt; business meeting afterwards. The bells will be available. Tea at the Rectory. Motor from "Reindeer," Worcester, 3 p.m., returning from Martley 8.30 p.m.; fare, 2/- return.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Sec., Madresfield, Malvern.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at the Parish Church, Slough, on Saturday, June 1st. Ringing from 3.30; service at 5.30; tea and meeting at 6.15. Members and friends cordially invited. Owing to difficulties in catering, it is absolutely essential that all who intend to be present should notify me of the fact before May 29th.—E. K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at Shenley on Saturday, June 1st. Service at 3.30 p.m., with business meeting to follow. Bells (6) available both at Shenley and Loughton from 2.30 p.m. No tea can be provided.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The spring meeting will be held at Bennington as usual on June 1st, when the bells will be open, by the invitation of Canon Mills, during the afternoon and evening. Canon Mills will kindly provide tea as far as provisions are procurable, but no sugar. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Dist. Sec., Little Munden, Herts.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The June meeting will be held at North Wingfield on Saturday 1st. Eight bells. Clay Cross Station, Midland Railway. A good attendance is particularly desired.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mellons (Mon.) on Saturday, June 1st, at 4.30. Bells (6) available. Tea will be provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and John W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Woodchurch, Kent, on Saturday, June 1st. Ringing from 3 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The usual monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 1st, at Todmorden Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock; business meeting at 6, when the Vicar (Rev. S. Aspin) will preside.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 1st, at St. Peter's, Staines. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Estab. 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Mortlake, on Saturday, June 8th. Ringing will commence at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the Vestry at 8.15 p.m. All ringers welcome.—C. Walker, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on Saturday, June 8th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m.; tea and business meeting to follow. Members requiring tea are asked to let me know by June 3rd. All ringing friends welcome. Outstanding subscriptions would be greatly welcomed.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the above Guild will be held at Christ Church, Coseley (Staffs), on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.30, conducted by the Rev. J. A. Price, M.A., Vicar and Vice-President. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley Parish Church on Saturday, June 8th, 1918. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Deane, Bolton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The next meeting of the above Association will be held at Wath on June 15th. Ringing from 3 o'clock till 9. Business meeting to be held in the Institute. Subscriptions now due, and to be paid to Frank Willey, Vice-President and Sec. (*pro tem.*), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

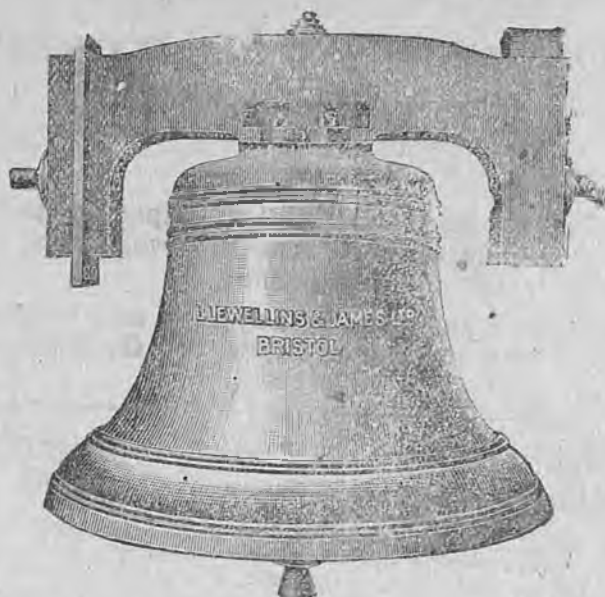
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PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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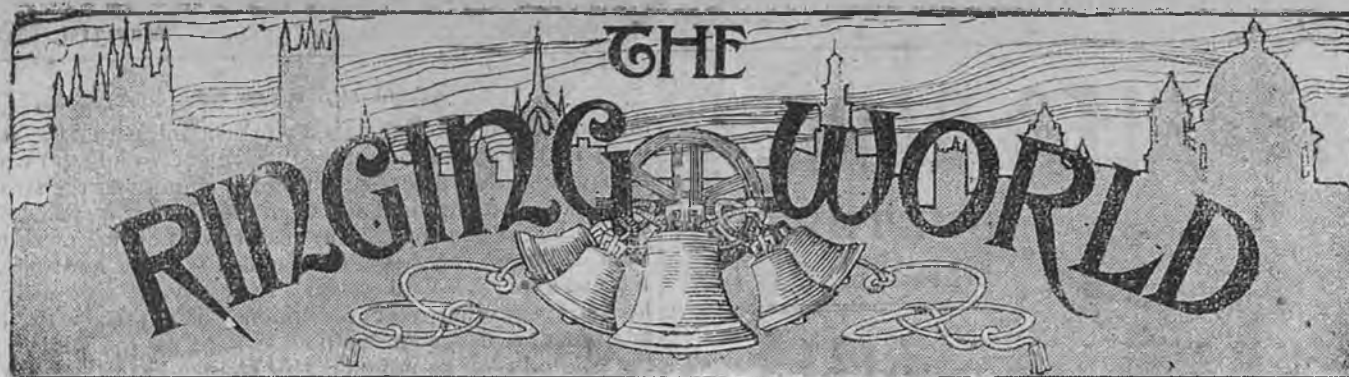


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FRIDAY, MAY 31st, 1918.

Registered at the G.P.O. for
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Price 2d.

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CROYDON, Surrey.

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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 owt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.

MESSES. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BOK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

THE DEFENCE OF THE COUNCIL.

By far the most important as well as the most interesting item on the agenda of the Central Council at its Whitsuntide meeting was the question of the possibility of increasing the Council's efficiency and utility. The Hon. Secretary initiated the discussion by reading a paper, the whole trend of which was in justification of the Council's past, and giving one the impression that, though it is not faultless, any attempt to improve the Council or to increase its usefulness would be to risk catastrophe. The paper was well received—had the Council been composed wholly of critics, it would have commanded respect, coming as it did from so valued a member—but on closer examination it hardly carries conviction to those who believe that the work of the Council might be made, not only more interesting, but more effective. No one, we think, will deny that in the course of its existence, now extending over more than a quarter of a century, the Council has done some substantial work "for the good of ringing," but it is the paucity of results in recent years that has called forth the criticism to which the Hon. Secretary's paper comes as an answer.

With much of what Mr. Davies had to say every thoughtful ringer will agree, and to a large extent it is true that what failure there has been has been due to the fault of the Exercise outside, by failing to give the Council suitable work to do. But, whatever the cause, the lack of results from the last two or three Councils has been most marked. Putting aside the period of war-time hiatus, let us look for a moment at the preceding four years. The meeting in London, which inaugurated the ninth Council, was admitted by practically all to have been a barren meeting. Then, from the official record of the "Acts and Decisions of the Eighth Council, 1912-14," we find that four Committees were reappointed—their work during this period being carried on without the help of the Council—the Committee on Peal Values was dissolved and the Committee on Towers and Belfries appointed, the chief work of the last named resulting, not in action by the Council, but in the private publication by the President of a volume written by himself, Mr. E. H. Lewis and others, on "Bell Towers and Bell Hanging."

But what of all the rest of the work of the Council, which met in those three years in London, Newcastle and Winchester? Three years' labours resulted in four resolutions: (1) protesting against the Welsh Disestablishment Bill; (2) informing the Exercise that a peal of Minor should consist of at least seven true 720's, and that the bells should strike rounds only once at the end of each and

Continued on page 170.

CHARLES GARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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Kindly ask us to inspect, report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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Continued from page 169.

immediately go into the next: (3) declining to take part itself in the formation of a Benevolent Fund; (4) while recognising the value of peal ringing, expressing the strong conviction that the chief aim of all members of Associations should be the encouragement in all towers of ringing rather than chiming the bells for Sunday service and on the Festivals of the Church and their Eves. Can anyone honestly say that four resolutions like this, with the addition of a discussion, without a vote, on the subject of the possibility of an unfavourable change in the attitude of the general public towards bell ringing, as a result of the increasing number of peals rung annually, is an adequate result for the deliberations of three years? We think not, and it is when the average ringer comes to weigh facts like these that he comes to the conclusion the Council should either mend or end. In our view there is no need to end it—it ought to be and is capable of mending its ways.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

**COLLINGHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION**

On Whit-Monday, May 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt.

*SERGT. E. MORRIS, A.S.C. <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE BRITTON 5
†EDWARD RICKITT 2	W. ARTHUR HUDSON 6
WILLIAM CLARKE 3	EDWARD CROWTHER 7
ALBERT NORTH 4	HERBERT PEEL Tenor

Composed by JAMES FLEMING (Halifax).

Conducted by SERGT. ERNEST MORRIS, A.S.C. (Leicester).

First peal of Major on the bells.

* First peal in the method as Conductor. † First peal in the method.

WOOBURN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Monday, May 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qrs. 13 lbs.

*ALBERT DISERENS Treble	CHARLES V. HARE 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER 2	JOSEPH MILNER 6
GEORGE ALLDER 3	WILLIAM H. THEOBALD 7
WILLIAM T. HORNE 4	ALFRED B. PECK Tenor

Composed by F. DAY and Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. William Truss, who was born on March 18th, 1876, in the adjoining parish of Great Marlow, and was killed at Amiens, France, on April 12th, 1918.

* First peal.

STOKE-IN-COVENTRY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE STOKE SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 25, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, STOKE-IN-COVENTRY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

OSWALD J. HUNT Treble	WILLIAM T. COX 5
WILLIAM J. SMITH 2	JAMES F. CLARKE, JUN. 6
HUGH J. BALCOMBE 3	HERBERT KNIGHT 7
WILLIAM H. BRUNSDEN 4	CHARLES FREEMAN Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Adolphus Roberts, on the occasion of their silver wedding. Mr. Roberts is now serving in Palestine.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, May 17, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,
At the Residence of Mr. W. T. Cockerill, Clapham, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 1-2	HERBERT LANGDON ... 7-8
CHARLES F. WINNEY ... 3-4	ALFRED B. PECK ... 9-10
HARRY R. PASMORE ... 5-6	THOMAS LANGDON ... 11-12

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE. Umpire: EDWIN HORREX.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, May 25, 1918, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
At 97, EDENBRIDGE ROAD, BUSH HILL PARK,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

WILBY J. HAZELL ... 1-2	E. MAURICE ATKINS ... 5-6
MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... 3-4	JAMES PARKER ... 7-8

Composed and Conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.

Miss Parker's 100th peal. This is believed to be the first peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major rung "in hand."

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A NEW PRESIDENT.

The annual meeting of the Central Northamptonshire Association of Church Bell Ringers was held at Raunds on Whit-Monday, when the fine peal of eight bells at this historic church were placed at the disposal of the members by the Vicar, the Rev. C. C. Aldred. A service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the President (the Rev. R. Copeman, Rector of Stoke Albany), Miss O. Clarke being at the organ.

Following the service the annual business meeting was held in the Church Institute, when the Rev. F. H. Lang (Rector of Twywell, and one of the Vice-Presidents) was elected President for the ensuing year. He was supported by Mr. Owen Parker, J.P., O.B.E. (treasurer), the Rev. E. G. Atkins, Isham, the Rev. R. Copeman, the General Secretary (Mr. F. Wilford, Northampton), Messrs. T. Law, W. Perkins, W. Wilson, and F. Stubbs (District Secretaries), and about 50 members. Letters of apology were received from the Vicar (who was at Northampton with the Church Lads' Brigade), the Rev. Hugh Bryan, the Rev. W. St. George Coldwell, the Rev. H. E. FitzHerbert, the Rev. G. B. Dalrymple.

The balance sheet showed an increase credit balance of £11 11s. 11½d. and £10 worth of War Bonds have since been taken up.

The annual report showed that one peal had been rung during the year, 14 meetings had been held, and were well attended.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Northampton.

Mr. Owen Parker proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, and remarked upon the Vicar leaving Raunds, saying that what was Raunds' loss would be Northampton's gain. He also proposed a similar vote to the Rev. R. Copeman for his services.

The following bellfries were represented: Northampton, Kingshorpe, Weston Drivell, Burton Latimer, Cranford, Isham, Kettering, Finedon, Orillingbury, Earls Barton, Easton Mauduit, Higham Ferrers, Thrapston, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Titchmarsh, Ringstead, Twywell, and the local ringers.

NEW VICE-PRESIDENT FOR KETTERING DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Kettering District was held on Saturday, May 11th, at Desborough. Although the attendance was small, an enjoyable time was spent. A short service was conducted by the acting Rector (the Rev. G. S. Kingsford), who gave a suitable address, the Rector, who is an hon. member, being away as a chaplain at the Front. At the meeting which followed, the members learnt with much regret of the departure of the President, the Rev. R. Copeman, for Bedfordshire. The Rev. E. G. Atkins—the Rector of Isham—was appointed to succeed him as Vice-President of the District. Seven new members from Isham (including four ladies) were elected, and Kettering was chosen for the next meeting, which will be the annual meeting of the district, and will probably be held on June 29th.

DANIEL PRENTICE FUND.

The following further contributions to the Daniel Prentice Fund were made at the annual meeting of the Norwich Association at Eye on Whit-Monday: Mr. F. Day (Eye), 5s.; Mr. J. Souter (Diss), 2s. 6d.; Mr. F. Knights (Norwich), 2s. 6d.; Mr. C. E. Borrett (Norwich), 2s. 6d.; Mr. T. Fitzjohn (Thetford), 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. E. Bason (Fakenham), 2s. 6d. Contributions should be sent to Mr. W. Motis, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.

RINGERS' TRIP TO SHREWSBURY.

On Whit-Monday, the ringers of St. Giles' Church, Willenhall, accompanied by the Vicar (the Rev. T. H. P. Hyatt), and a few friends, spent a very enjoyable day at Shrewsbury. The party was met at the station by Mr. C. R. Lilley, several members of the St. Chad's Society, and Mr. Weatherby, of Ludlow. The first item on the programme was a visit to the museum, where the peal book of the famous Samuel Lawrence was of particular interest. The next place was St. Michael's Church, where the handy ring of six were set going to Stedman Doubles, and to call changes for the learners. Mr. Lilley then conducted the party to St. Chad's belfry, where the beautiful ring of twelve bells were at their disposal. The tone and go of the bells was greatly admired by all, Mr. Lilley being complimented by the Vicar on the good order in which bells and belfry were maintained. An adjournment was then made to the County Cafe for dinner, after which St. Alkmund's was on the programme. Having a few minutes to spare between dinner and ringing at St. Alkmund's, a walk through the Quarry grounds was enjoyed, the River Severn proving a great attraction, so great in fact that a boat was requisitioned, and St. Alkmund's forgotten, until the party were on their way down the river, with the Vicar at the oars. Returning safely, after an enjoyable trip, tracks were again made for the County Cafe, where tea was partaken of, and then to St. Chad's to ring for evening service, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Major being brought round, and bringing to a close a most enjoyable and successful outing. The visitors wish to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Lilley for his excellent arrangements, also the authorities of the churches who granted permission for the use of the bells.

PLEASANT AFTERNOON IN A SOMERSET VALLEY.**'NOVELTY' TOUCHES AT WRAXALL.**

On Whit-Monday, a number of Bristol ringers, their wives and a few friends from other parts of the country, including Mr. G. Holmes, of the Cathedral Society, Sheffield; Mrs. Holmes; Mr. and Mrs. R. Whittington, and their son, of Cranleigh, Surrey; also Mr. H. Day, of Market Keeping, Lincolnshire, visited the village of Wraxall, which is situated in a beautiful valley, with a fine church tower, with an even finer peal of bells. The party were met at the belfry by one of the best of steeplekeepers, Mr. J. Windsor, whose jovial ways and willingness to do anything for ringers makes it always a pleasure to visit Wraxall. The bells were raised in peal, and the first touch was a well-struck three courses of Stedman Triples. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Cambridge Major followed, the ladies especially distinguishing themselves in their ringing and striking. It was found that the composition of the party enabled a few 'novelty' touches to be rung, and they were as follows: A touch of Grandsire Triples, in which a brother and sister, father and daughter, husbands and wives, took part, the ringers being: Miss Windsor 1, Miss Brown 2, Mrs. R. J. Wilkins 3, Mrs. Whittington 4, R. J. Wilkins (conductor) 5, R. Whittington 6, J. Windsor 7, J. Brown 8. Another was a touch of Grandsire brought round by fathers and sons, viz.: R. Whittington, junr. 1, R. Whittington, senr. 2, Mr. A. Wilkins, junr. 3, Mr. R. J. Wilkins (conductor) 4, G. Condict, junr. 5, G. Condict, senr. 6, J. Windsor, senr. 7, H. Windsor, junr. 8. It would be interesting to know if the above formations of ringers have taken place before. After the ringing, the party, numbering about 24, visited the Battle Axe Hotel for tea, which was appreciated by all after their efforts in the tower on such a hot day. The outing was much enjoyed.

FOR MR. A. W. GRIMES' WIDOW.

It has been decided to extend the closing date for the disposal of the five volumes of 'The Ringing World' (to be sold for the benefit of the widow and family of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes) until June 30th next.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Easter Day, for evening service, at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, E.C., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: W. J. Nelder 1, A. Dierens 2, W. G. Symonds 3, E. Fenn 4, W. A. Alps (conductor) 5, T. Walker 6, T. H. Taffender 7, A. S. Pettelt 8. Arranged to celebrate the birth of a daughter on that morning to the Rev. J. A. S. and Mrs. Bullock.

SHARNBROOK, BEDS.—On Easter Day, for Matins, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: W. Stock 1, W. A. Norman 2, J. P. Duffield 3, A. J. Barcock 4, Cadet W. Duffield 5, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 6. For evensong, 720 Bob Minor: C. Allen 1, A. J. Barcock 2, J. F. Duffield 3, H. W. Gayton 4, Cadet W. Duffield 5, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, April 7th for Matins 720 Oxford Bob Minor: C. Robinson 1, W. A. Norman 2, A. J. Barcock 3, H. W. Gayton (conductor) 4, W. Stock 5, E. P. Duffield 6.

DARTFORD.—Kent County Association.—On May 12th for morning service, at the Parish Church, 504 Stedman Triples: J. Whendon 1, R. Morgan 2, G. R. Ambrose 3, J. H. Cheesman 4, T. Groombridge, junr. 5, S. Bateman 6, T. Groombridge, senr. (conductor) 7, H. Simmons 8.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

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Established
A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

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For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Sussex County Association was held on Whit-Monday at Brighton. Members from a large number of towers in the county were present to the number of about 60. Ringing commenced at 10.30 a.m. at St. Peter's Church, where there is such a magnificent peal of ten bells, and continued during the day till 8 p.m. Service, held at St. Peter's Church, was well attended, and was conducted by the Vicar of Brighton (Canon F. D. Pierce).

The business meeting followed in the Church Room, the Master (Mr. E. R. Tompkins) being in the chair.

All the officers were re-elected, with the exception of hon. treasurer, Mr. Ellman Brown, of Shoreham, being elected to fill this place.

Mr. E. Lindup was elected to represent the Association on the Central Council.

The accounts were received and adopted, and considered satisfactory, as the Association is paying its way.

The proposed new rules were presented by the sub-committee, and after various amendments, were agreed to.—A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Goldsmith for his help in drafting the new rules.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Brighton.

A vote of thanks was passed to the clergy for the use of bells during the day.

Several new members were elected, and ringing in the standard methods was enjoyed at St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' Churches by those present, especially from towers where members are very few, and hands are depleted owing to the war.

FATAL ACCIDENT

WELL-KNOWN SOUTH WALES RINGER KILLED.

A distressing accident, terminating fatally, occurred to Mr. John Cox, of Bridgend, Glamorganshire, whilst following his employment in a coal mine. By trade a miller, after leaving Newport, where he had been engaged in large flour mills Mr. Cox took up the charge of a small mill at Bridgend. He, however, gave this up a few years ago and went into the coal pits at Kenfig Hill, where he was killed. Of most genial disposition, he was much liked by all ringers that came in contact with him. Having moved to Kenfig Hill, which is a few miles from Bridgend, he has not been able to attend the Sunday ringing as he previously had done, but on all special occasions he could be called on when required. He had rung 21 peals altogether, including Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Minor peals, and has conducted peals in each method. His first peal was rung at St. Woolos, Newport, Mon. on April 19th, 1897, and his last he rang at Aberavon just before the outbreak of war, each of these being Grandsire Triples. He has conducted Holt's Original. Cut off in the prime of life, his loss is much deplored by the Llanduff Association, and to his sorrowing wife and family the deepest sympathy is extended.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

WAR MEMORIAL PROPOSAL.

The annual meeting of the Guild was held at Salisbury, on Thursday, 18th May. Only a small number were present, the meeting being solely for business. All officers were re-elected, also the four representatives on the Central Council. A committee was appointed for the purpose of raising funds for a memorial to ringers of the Diocese, who have laid down their lives in the war, and instructed to consider the form of such memorial and report to the next general meeting.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Whittington of Cranleigh, who became life members of the Guild.

Touques of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung on St. Thomas and St. Martin's bells.

KILLED IN ACTION.

It is with much regret that we have to record the death of Mr. F. Causby (of Rushden), who was killed in France on April 20th. Deceased was well known among ringers in Northants, and had rung about 12 peals of Grandsire, Stedman Triples and Double Norwich for the Central Northants Association. He went to France with the 7th Northants in 1916, and came home on leave in September, 1917. After returning he was soon back in London with 'trench feet,' and had only been back in France three weeks when he fell.

As a mark of respect, the bells of St. Mary's, Higham Ferrers, were rung half-muffled, touches of Stedman Triples being brought round by W. Perkin (Irthlingborough), conductor; H. Chapman (Manchester), C. Randall, A. Martin, J. Martin, A. Everett, J. Garratt and A. Chapman (Higham Ferrers), G. Barford, P. Manning, T. Abbott, J. Muir, G. Eitee and H. Eitee (Finedon).

'BELL TOWERS AND BELL RINGING.'

Lady Heywood asks us to state that she will be glad to send a copy of Sir Arthur Heywood's book, 'Bell Towers and Bell Ringing,' to a ringer who can make practical use of it, who will write to her enclosing postage (4d.), addressed Lady Heywood, Dove Leys, Rochester, Staffs.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE PRESIDENT.

As mentioned in the summarised report of the Central Council meeting given in our last issue, the Council had sustained severe losses in members by death since its previous meeting, and a vote of condolence with the relatives of the deceased was passed.

Alderman J. S. Pritchett asked whether the Council could not find some way of perpetuating the memory of the late Sir Arthur Heywood. He suggested that it might be possible to institute a badge, to be worn by the President for the time being, which should bear a suitable inscription, saying that it was instituted in memory of Sir Arthur—a badge similar to those worn by Masters of City Companies, and, he believed, by the Master of the Cumberland Youths. It might also be arranged to leave room for the names of Sir Arthur's successors to be engraved upon it from time to time. He had no wish to rush the matter upon the Council, and merely threw out the suggestion for the consideration of the Standing Committee.

The Chairman said he was sure the Standing Committee would welcome the suggestion, as it welcomed any suggestion. It was very advisable that matters like that should not be sprung upon the general Council, but should come first before the Standing Committee so that they might put them into shape and bring them before the Council in proper form for discussion.

Alderman Pritchett thereupon moved that the Standing Committee be requested to consider the possibility of establishing some permanent memorial to the late Sir Arthur Heywood to commemorate his long connection with the Council.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee said he would like to second the motion, as he believed Sir Arthur Heywood's last appearance among ringers at a public function was at the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association, to which he went specially in connection with the commemoration of his (the speaker's) 25th year as President of the Association. He noticed then how far from well Sir Arthur looked, and although he afterwards received a postcard from him to say he was better, he (Mr. Elsee) could not help having misgivings whether they would again see him in his place at the meetings of the Central Council.

Mr. J. W. Taylor, who succeeded Sir Arthur as President of the Midland Counties Association, supported the resolution, which was unanimously carried.

THE COMMITTEES.

As already recorded the various committees were re-appointed, vacancies caused by the death of members being filled.

Mr. E. H. Lewis suggested that the Council should appoint a chairman for each committee, and make each chairman responsible for placing a proper written report of his committee's work before the Council. A great deal of the most important work of the Council was done by committees, but the Council seldom received more than a hurried verbal account of what had been done. It would be much more satisfactory if a written report was available, and, if possible, published before the meeting of the Council.

Canon Papillon, when reporting on behalf of the Literature Committee, fully agreed with the suggestion that there should be some one person in each committee definitely responsible for seeing that the work was done and done in sufficient time for the proper consideration of the Council. He thought it would also be an advantage if the Council would define a little more clearly what the business of the Literature Committee was. Was it simply to catalogue the titles of books bearing on ringing or was it to have—and this was a very important point—the general supervision of Press references to ringing? The Literature Committee grew originally out of the arrangements for calling more attention in the public Press to ringing matters, and one of the results was the publication of a series of articles in the 'Guardian,' subsequently reprinted in pamphlet form—which called the attention of the clergy in many parishes to the uses and purposes of bells, of which they were in blissful ignorance. He thought the committee should not only get information with regard to the literature concerning bells, but also obtain notices from time to time in the Press on ringing matters.

When the report of the Legitimate Methods Committee was under consideration, the Hon. Secretary said it would be remembered that at the last meeting, he asked the committee to reconsider certain of its rulings with regard to the legitimacy of methods. He was afterwards criticised for the length of time he occupied in putting his views before the Council. He now apologised for taking up so much time, but he had no idea when speaking that he had been so long. Since then, with the consent of his seconder, he had withdrawn the motion, and, instead of again bringing it before the Council, he had written a pamphlet on the subject, under the title 'Lead Ends,' and this could be obtained from him at the price of 1s., just sufficient to cover the cost of production.

BELL FRAMES.

Speaking for the Towers and Belfries Committee, Mr. Lewis said their work was held up for the duration of the war. He had seen it announced in 'The Ringing World' that the committee of the Royal Institute of British Architects, who were conducting an investigation

into the matter, had also held up their work, although it was stated that they had sufficient data in hand for a short paper. He did not know whether that paper would appear during the war. Mr. Lewis added that, during a short holiday last year he visited one of the towers stated by the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings to have been damaged by a rigid bell frame. The society had mentioned six such towers, but he found that this one was the only one that had got a rigid frame. In the others the bells were mounted on girders without cross bracing, and they were the most excellent form of springs. In the case referred to it was a rigid H frame. After the architect had condemned the frame as having done damage to the tower, the top ties were cut, and the local ringers said the bells went as well after the ties had been cut as when they were fixed, and they had less trouble in keeping the frame in order than they had with the subsequent wooden frame. It seemed as if whenever there was trouble with a crack in the tower architects put it down to the bell frame every time, whereas there were a hundred other possible causes, of which no mention was ever made.

The Hon. Secretary said in the tower of the church at Deane (where he has recently become incumbent), there were some cracks that were put down to the bells, but a few weeks ago he had his old friend Mr. Phillott, a well-known ringer and architect, to see him, and he gave it as his opinion that the bells had nothing to do with the cracks, but that the cause was a small settlement of the tower, which showed as Mr. Lewis had said, how everything was put down to the bells when it might be due to any one of a hundred other causes. He had discovered that every ten or fifteen years there was an overflow of springs in the neighbourhood, and then there was often a foot of water round the tower, which was quite sufficient to account for the settlement of the building.

After the adoption of the reports of the various committees, Mr. Lewis proposed a motion embodying his suggestion that the Council should elect a chairman for each committee, who should be responsible for the presentation of a written report of the work of the committee, and that, if possible, the report should be circulated among the members of the Council, or published, before the Council meeting.

An amendment was submitted instructing the committees to elect their own chairmen, and this was agreed to. Mr. Lewis observing that he did not much mind how the chairmen were elected as long as the object of their election was secured.

THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL.

The following had been placed on the agenda by the Hon. Secretary: 'What are the means most likely to conduce to the greatest utility and efficiency of the Council and, if thought desirable, to move a resolution thereon.' The Hon. Secretary read the following paper on the subject:—

During the past two or three years various criticisms have been levelled at the Council. It does this or that that it ought not to do and it leaves undone this or that that it ought to do. Its debates are not interesting. Its debates are too technical. It debates and acts not. It has never done ringers any good. Its meetings are not worth the expense entailed in travelling to them. If change ringing is the object of attack in any part of the country, the Council should take up the cudgels. The Council should act as a labour bureau for the Exercise. The Council should act as a benevolent fund for the Exercise. The Council should become a legislative body, instead of contenting itself with being as it always has been merely an advisory one. Many other complaints have been urged against the Council but these few will suffice as specimens. I do not say that the Council is faultless. I do not say that it cannot be improved. I do not say that everything that has been said of it by way of criticism is wrong, but I do say that of the plights I have mentioned most will not stand examination, and that even so far as they are true the fault does not lie with the Council. Some of them are mutually contradictory. It has been said, on the one hand, that the Council should have on its roll the 'best ringers.' In some ways I quite agree with this, but not without reservation, as I will explain presently. It has also been said that the debates are too scientific, too technical, too abstruse. Now if you insist on having the 'best ringers' it follows of necessity that these are precisely the men capable of discussing the technical and so-called abstruse questions. Are you going to elect them and then muzzle them? If so, they will decline election, and you will not get the best ringers. And not only so, but if such subjects are not to be threshed out at the Council, where are they to be brought forward? Ruling them out you degrade the Council at once to a second-rate assembly. It loses respect, and good-bye to it. But this is not the only remark I have to make on this point. I have yet to learn that the Council was instituted to provide interesting debates for its members, or even for visitors. We meet here for business and not for pleasure. The Council is not a concert, nor a penny reading, nor (may I add?) even a sermon. I do not deny that an occasional variation in the way of a debate on a lighter subject is otherwise than pleasant when the stiffer work has been done. It is, of course, also delightful to meet friends, and in this way the Council is most agreeable, but it is first of all a meeting for business and not for pleasure. For enjoyment of it in its latter aspect the conversation in the evening is the proper occasion, and most enjoyable it has practically always been.

THE GOOD OF RINGING.

Let me notice one more of the objections aimed at the Council. It has been said of it that it has never done ringers any good. When I first heard this remark I confess that I was quite taken aback, as it had never occurred to me that the Council was instituted for the good of ringers. I always thought that it was for the good of ringing—a very different thing. Let us look for a moment a little more closely at the phrase, 'the good of ringers.' It is really illuminating, and throws a light on not a little of the dissatisfaction that has been expressed in regard to the Council. The 'good of ringers.' This may have more than one meaning. It may mean greater facilities for learning and practising the art. As regards learning the art I hold that the Council has distinctly worked for their good, if in no other way than at least by its publications—its 'Glossary' and its 'Collections of Peals.' As regards practising the art, it has published its model sets of rules for a local company and for an Association, thereby tending to smooth the way for friendly relations between the clergy and ringers, and for setting ringing upon a proper and dignified footing among the energies of the church. And where ringing is thus respected and honoured there ensues without fail a proper regard among church authorities for the preservation of bells and their fittings, and for the cleanliness, comfort, and well-lighting of belfries. This is all for the good of ringers, and in all these ways I strenuously assert that the Council has worked and is working for the good of ringers. But I fear that some who have employed the words 'the good of ringers' have had in mind the good of the pockets of ringers. It is some such sense of the words that is at the back of the cry for benevolent and such funds. This brings me to two observations. The first is that with which I began, viz., that in this sense the Council was founded not for ringers, but for ringing. It is for the good of ringers, so far as concerns their ringing, but not beyond that, as far as I know. My next observation is a very important one—at least, in my opinion, and I have thought a good deal about it. It is this. Once let the Council embark on the management of a benevolent fund, or allow itself to take over the management of any money, on trust, or for any purpose other than those of its own work as a Council, and—mark my words—you seal its death warrant. Instead of being, as it has hitherto always been, an assembly for the deliberation of questions connected with the science and art of change ringing, and of the best ways and means towards its advancement, and the right and proper appreciation of ringers as church workers, it would become torn into factions of money questions, and would in this way go from bad to worse, and end in disruption. No, if the Council is wise it will refuse to listen to those who would have it undertake money schemes and the custody of money. It is quite another matter for it to express approval or disapproval of such schemes if undertaken by other bodies of ringers instituted or elected for the purpose. It has expressed such opinion in the past and may very well do the like again.

(To be Continued.)

REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

In acknowledging his election to the Presidency of the Council, the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey has written the following letter to the Hon. Secretary:

Trinity College, Cambridge.
May 25th, 1918.

My Dear Davies,—

Thank you for your very kind letter. Can you in any way express to the members of the Central Council my gratitude for their unanimous election of me as President, and my deep sense of the honour which they have conferred upon me? As you know, I was hoping to be able to attend the meeting last Tuesday, and I was very sorry that at the last moment I was prevented. If I had been present, I fear I should have asked to be excused from the office for I hoped that the Council would elect someone younger, abler, and more vigorous. As, however, they have done me this great honour, I feel I must not refuse after the election is over. I can only say that I will endeavour to do my best to carry on, for a short time, the work which was so excellently done by my dear friend Arthur Heywood.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) A. H. F. BOUGHEY.

LADY RINGER AS RED CROSS NURSE.

ROLL OF HONOUR OF ST. GILES' SOCIETY, READING.

The St. Giles' Society, Reading, has lost the services of a very active member, in Miss E. Goodship, who has offered her services to the King and country as a Red Cross nurse. Miss Goodship has been a member of the society for several years past, and her services will be greatly missed. The members are naturally very sorry indeed to part with her, but nevertheless wish her every success, and hope they will soon welcome 'peace' and the return of their brother and sister ringers. Miss Goodship's brother served as an officer in the army, and is now a prisoner of war. The following is the society's roll of honour: A. Baker, A. Bailey, R. Bishop, W. Dormer, A. Durman, wounded; G. Goodship, prisoner of war; E. Haynes, H. Osborne, G. Wheeler, C. Higgs, A. Phillips; F. Griffin and H. Smith, killed in action; L. T. Osborne, L. Leach and A. J. Harding, discharged.

NOTICES.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Martley on Saturday, June 1st. Service at 5 p.m. prompt; business meeting afterwards. The bells will be available. Tea at the Rectory. Motor from "Reindeer," Worcester, 3 p.m., returning from Martley 8.30 p.m.; fare, 2/- return.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Sec., Madresfield, Malvern.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at the Parish Church, Slough, on Saturday, June 1st. Ringing from 3.30; service at 5.30; tea and meeting at 6.15. Members and friends cordially invited.—E. K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at Shenley on Saturday, June 1st. Service at 3.30 p.m., with business meeting to follow. Bells (6) available both at Shenley and Loughton from 2.30 p.m. No tea can be provided.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The spring meeting will be held at Bennington as usual on June 1st, when the bells will be open, by the invitation of Canon Mills, during the afternoon and evening. Canon Mills will kindly provide tea as far as provisions are procurable, but no sugar. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Dist. Sec., Little Munden, Herts.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The June meeting will be held at North Wingfield on Saturday the 1st. Eight bells. Clay Cross Station, Midland Railway. A good attendance is particularly desired.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mellons (Mon.) on Saturday, June 1st, at 4.30. Bells (6) available. Tea will be provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and John W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The usual monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 1st, at Todmorden Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock; business meeting at 6, when the Vicar (Rev. S. Aspin) will preside.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 1st, at St. Peter's, Staines. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Tong on Saturday, June 1st, 1918. Bells will be available from 3 to 9 p.m. A business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall at 7 p.m.—Win. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on June 4th and 18th for general business, and on the 13th and 27th for handbell practice, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Estab. 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Mortlake, on Saturday, June 8th. Ringing will commence at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the Vestry at 8.15 p.m. All ringers welcome.—C. Walker, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on Saturday, June 8th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m.; tea and business meeting to follow. Members requiring tea are asked to let me know by June 3rd. All ringing friends welcome. Outstanding subscriptions would be greatly welcomed.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the above Guild will be held at Christ Church, Coseley (Staffs), on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.30, conducted by the Rev. J. A. Price, M.A., Vicar and Vice-President. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley Parish Church on Saturday, June 8th, 1918. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Deane, Bolton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Kingsdown, on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; service at 4 p.m.; to be followed by business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Branch Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—The next meeting will be held at Worplesdon on Saturday June 8th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock; service at 5; tea at 5.30 on the Rectory lawn, bring your own rations; 9d. will be allowed towards cost.—J. J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The next meeting of the above Association will be held at Wath on June 15th. Ringing from 3 o'clock till 9. Business meeting to be held in the Institute. Subscriptions now due, and to be paid to Frank Willey, Vice-President and Sec. (*pro tem.*), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting and six bell contest will be held at Meltham, near Huddersfield, on Saturday, June 15th, 1918. Tenor 13½ cwt. Draw for order of ringing at 3.45 p.m. Tea will only be provided for those who send in their names to me not later than June 10th.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Flixton, on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available during the afternoon and evening. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

IN MEMORIAM.

In loving memory of Ernest E. Huntley, founder and for 21 years Master of the Bushey Society of Change Ringers, who died June 3rd, 1915, aged 53 years.

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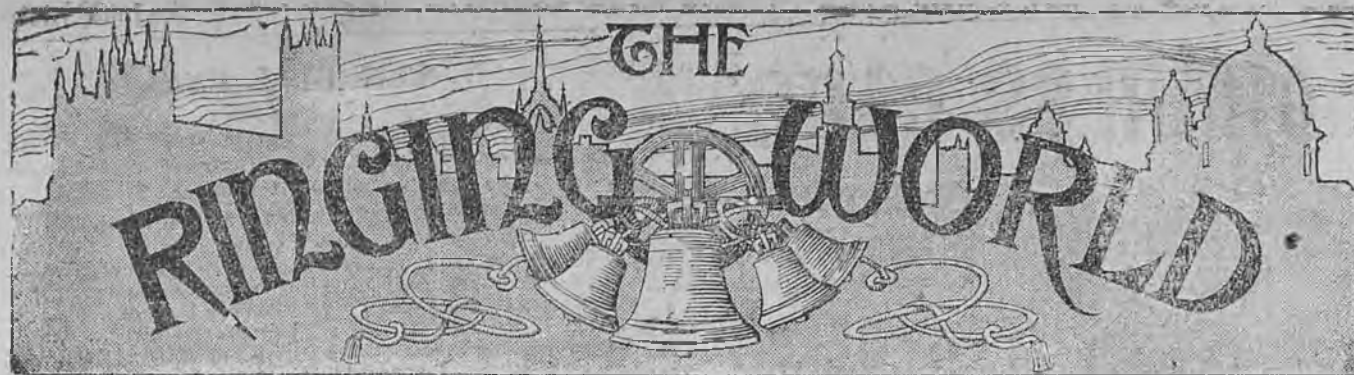


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WULFRUN CHAMBERS WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 6th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK.

THE COUNCIL'S FUTURE.

In our article last week, dealing with the Central Council, we put our finger, we believe, upon the spot on which much of the criticism of the Council is based—the paucity of results in the last six or eight years. The Council's own published record is proof of its comparative failure, and we may be forgiven if we say that in the future it will have to show that it is capable of something better if it is to justify its existence. That the cause of these poor results is to a considerable degree due to the Exercise at large in not finding suitable work for the Council to do is true; but this points to one of two things, either that the Exercise is indifferent to the Council and prefers to get on without it, or the Council has failed to find a method of keeping in practical touch with the Exercise, which it is supposed to represent.

Let us hope that it is not the case that the Council has outstayed its welcome. We would rather believe that it has not succeeded in maintaining that direct touch with the various county and diocesan ringing organisations, which it must have if its work is to be of practical use and its future assured. In the discussion which followed the Hon. Secretary's paper, a good deal of stress was laid upon the need for establishing closer relations with the clergy; but, while this is necessary, it is equally important that the Council should come into much nearer contact with ringers. Although the Council consists principally of representatives of ringing associations, it remains a fact that the average ringer has no sense of allegiance to the Council. He looks upon it as a body apart, his interest in its proceedings is merely superficial, and for its judgment he cares not one jot. This may be unkind, but it is true.

The remedy, as we have pointed out before, and as Mr. Cyril Johnston emphasised at the meeting, is for the Council to get into closer touch with the ringers. Let it provide the Exercise with a means of imbibing a real, live interest, in a real, live concern, and the Council will have a future before it which will not outlast its usefulness. The goodwill of the clergy is necessary, but all the clerical goodwill in the world will be of no avail without the confidence of the ringers themselves. The Council is going to take a year to think the matter over—it has already had it brought before it, as forcibly as pens can do so, for years past—and we hope that its ponderings will produce something practical. Pious expressions of opinion will do no good. It is action that is required, and the first step should be to lay hold of the ringers, by coming into real touch and giving them a direct interest in the concern. Without this the rest will be in vain.

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**OPINION OF OUR
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Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 25, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Dunstan, Stepney,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANCES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... ..	... Treble	REUBEN SANDERS... ..	6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	2	CHARLES S. BURDEN	7
FREDERICK G. SYMONDS	3	ALFRED B. PECK	8
HARRY R. PASMORE	4	EMANUEL HALL	9
JAMES SCHOLES	5	GEORGE BARRELL... ..	Tenor

Composed by G. R. FARDON and

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Messrs. H. Springall and W. Truss: the latter killed at Amiens, France, and both connected with the local ringing.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT EYE.

A general meeting of this Association was held at Eye on Whit-Monday, in accordance with the decision of the committee at their last meeting. The bells of the Parish Church were available throughout the day, and many excellent touches in various methods were rung upon them. Owing to food restriction no lunch could be provided, but a meeting of members was held in the Reading Room, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. L. Duffield, at which over 50 members were present, including Messrs. F. Day, J. Motts, G. E. Symonds, D. Hayward, and T. Fitzjohn (district secretaries), Rev. H. Drake and C. E. Borrett (secretary), and representatives from about 20 different towers.

The Secretary read a summary of the work of the Association since the last meeting, and proposed votes of sympathy to the families of the late Dr. F. E. W. Meadows, of Olney, and the late Mr. W. L. Catchpole, of Ipswich. These were carried in the usual way.

Some discussion took place as to future meetings, and it was finally decided that a meeting—to count as an annual meeting—be held on August Bank Holiday, at Ipswich, if the bells there are available.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the members were most hospitably entertained to tea by Mr. E. F. Poppy, a member of the Eye band, and to whom a very hearty vote of thanks was passed, on the proposition of the Rev. H. Drake. It was noteworthy that five of the six surviving members of the Dohenham long peal band were present, viz., Messrs. J. and W. Motts, R. H. Brundle, D. Collins and W. G. Crickmer.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

MEETING OF THE MIDLAND DISTRICT.

On Saturday week, a very successful and largely attended meeting of the Midland District of the Ladies' Guild was held at Solihull. The ancient church is situated very pleasantly in the midst of pretty country surroundings, and the steeple contains a very handy ring of ten bells, whose music, by the efforts of the local ladies, welcomed the visitors. A little later more visitors arrived from Clent, Cosleay, Erdington, Smethwick, Birmingham, and neighbouring districts, and the bells were kept going to touches of Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples, as well as in rounds for the learners, until service time, ladies taking part in all the ringing.

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. T. B. Harvey Brooks), who extended a very hearty welcome to the visitors. His address on the origin of bells and bell ringing was very much enjoyed. After service a very substantial war-time tea was provided at an adjacent hostelry, about 40 members and friends sitting down.

After tea the meeting took place. The gentlemen were invited to stay, but decided to repair to the tower for Stedman Caters instead. Ten new members were elected, viz., eight ringing and two life members.

It was decided to hold half-yearly business meetings, together with monthly meetings for practice during the summer, the first of these to take place at Clent about the end of June.

A small committee was elected, so that branch matters may be discussed, as it was thought this would improve the organization of the branch.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed and unanimously carried, to the Rector for his hearty welcome and the services in the church, to Mr. Martineau for having everything in readiness, and making all necessary arrangements, and to brother ringers for their attendance and support.

This brought the meeting to a close. The tower was again visited, and ringing indulged in until about 8.30, when the bells were lowered, and a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells in which two ladies took part, brought a very successful and enjoyable meeting to a close.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT SAFFRON WALDEN.

The annual meeting of the Essex Association was held on Whit-Monday at Saffron Walden, this being the first occasion upon which the annual gathering of the county organisation had been held in that town, where, a year or two ago the bells were augmented to twelve. The attendance was not large, but there were representatives present from every district. The restricted train service, and the inaccessibility of Saffron Walden, made travelling difficult, but a number of earnest ringers made the journey to the North Essex town, many being attracted by the prospect of ringing on the twelve bell peal. Needless to say, the bells were kept in constant service by bands of ringers practically throughout the day, and if stoppages were frequent—short touches being the order of the day—it was to enable everyone to try his hand on twelve bells, and much useful instruction was received. The practice was as keenly sought as it was thoroughly enjoyed. The Saffron Walden Society has been in existence for over two centuries, and the town has long been noted as the home of good ringing. Several of the present day exponents, notably Mr. Fred Pittsow, gave directions to the visiting ringers on Whit-Monday. Among those present were: Mr. C. H. Howard (Braintree), Master of the Association, and his son, Master Norman Howard; the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, hon. secretary and treasurer to the Association (who announced his intended resignation at Michaelmas next of the living of Great Totham, although he will reside at Witham, and continue in office with the Essex Association); Messrs. W. Pye, G. R. Pye, T. Faulkner, F. J. Pittsow, E. J. Butler, W. Watts, H. J. Tucker, W. J. Nevill, H. F. Cooper, W. H. Lawrence, J. F. Penning, H. Chapman, and others, including a few welcome visitors in khaki. In the morning the bells were rung, and after an excellent lunch, the ringers attended service at the parish church. The Rev. L. H. Hughes (Vicar) was the preacher, and the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre read the lesson.

THE WORK OF THE PAST YEAR.

In the afternoon the annual meeting was held at Church House, Alderman N. Myhill, Mayor of Saffron Walden and churchwarden, accompanying the officers and committee on the platform. The Master read his report as follows: The continuance of the great war and the call for more men to the colours has affected every stage of our work during the past year, but in spite of all the difficulties with which we have been faced, and notwithstanding the restricted train service which has greatly curtailed the possibilities of travelling, I am pleased to be able to report to the annual meeting that our organisation has been maintained, and that we have every reason to hope that, with the continued assistance of the older members and the addition of younger ones, we may be able to continue our work unbroken till the blessing of peace is restored to us. It is a pleasing feature that during the year we have recruited to our ranks a considerable number of lady ringers, without whose help it would have been impossible in many parishes, for the message of the bells, summoning worshippers to Divine service, to have been proclaimed. In some parishes entirely new bands of youths and ladies have been formed during the war, thus being necessitated by others receiving the call to the forces. I am glad to state that with all the drawbacks, our total membership stands at 763. Honorary members have decreased by ten. Ringing members show an increase of four. We cannot expect to enrol honorary members in present times as in the past, and, therefore, we must rely more than hitherto upon the support of active members. Considering the loss of income due to the decrease of honorary members and that our members on active service are excused payment of subscription, our finances are in a pre-eminent satisfactory condition. The total income shows a decrease of £7 18s. 3d., but there is a corresponding decrease in expenditure, brought about by careful management by the general secretary and district officers, thus enabling us to transfer the sum of £4 19s. 6d. to reserve fund, and still show the substantial balance in hand on general account of £17 12s. 4d. The annual meeting was held at Romford on Whit-Monday, and was well attended. Meetings have been held in the districts as usual and were generally well attended. For the first time in the history of the Association no peal has been rung during the year, an unique record which is due entirely to the restrictions of the war. There are now 165 members serving in the navy and army. Our roll of honour, I regret to say, is increasing, twelve more members have made the supreme sacrifice during the year, making a total of 22 in all. It would be lacking on my part if I did not, on behalf of the members, tender my thanks to the officers of the Association for their co-operation in difficult times, and I can only hope that next year we may meet under happier circumstances.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The adoption of the report and balance sheet was carried without comment. Mr. C. H. Howard was unanimously re-elected Master, and the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, hon. secretary and treasurer.—Mr. Howard, in returning thanks for his election, said he had occupied the post of

Master since 1909, and the office had been a pleasure to him. He had never once asked anyone to propose him, but had always felt he had the confidence of the members of the Association (hear, hear). At the present time it was difficult to carry on, but he had the greatest assistance from the district officers, which made the duties very pleasant, and he should be very pleased to continue. They wanted to carry on the Essex Association until the younger members returned from the war (hear, hear). It was very satisfactory to know that the resignation of the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre from Great Totham had not caused him to resign his office as hon. secretary and treasurer of the Association (hear, hear). It would be a great loss to the Association when the time came to find another general secretary and treasurer (hear, hear).

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, in accepting office, said he was removing from Totham Vicarage to reside at Witham, which was on the railway, and he was willing to continue in office for another year (hear, hear).

Messrs. T. Faulkner and G. A. Black (the latter on active service) were re-elected auditors, and the peal committee was re-appointed.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Chelmsford.

After discussion, it was decided to reduce the size of the annual report (in conformity to the paper restrictions), by having printed and circulated to members only the Master's report, balance sheet, and list of officers.

The Master reported that it was proposed to erect a memorial to the Rev. H. A. Cockey in the Parish Church at Oldlands, Bristol; the memorial was to be a recedes, which was the ambition of Mr. Cockey's life. The Rev. H. A. Cockey, formerly curate of Galleywood, Chelmsford, was the most practical general secretary the Essex Association had in its early days, and among the older ringers in Essex he was remembered for the splendid work he did in putting the Association upon the footing it had maintained ever since. The Master announced he was going to subscribe to the memorial to the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and he invited other older ringers who knew the Rev. H. A. Cockey to do likewise.

A suggestion was made that a grant should be made from the funds of the Essex Association to the Cockey memorial, but it was agreed that the subscription should be personal from those members who wished to be identified with the memorial.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the service given, and the welcome extended to the ringers at Saffron Walden.—Mr. C. H. Howard, in seconding, thanked also the Saffron Walden Society for the excellent arrangements they had made in difficult times. He specially welcomed the presence of the Mayor of Saffron Walden, Alderman Myhill, who besides being Mayor, was also churchwarden (hear, hear). It showed the interest the Mayor took in church affairs, that he was willing to give up some of his time on Bank Holiday to meet the Essex ringers visiting Saffron Walden, and that in the present strenuous times, when the demands upon the time of a Mayor and churchwarden were very great. It was a unique honour for the Essex Association to be favoured by the presence of a Mayor at the annual meeting; they had had an M.P. before, but not the Mayor of the Borough visited, so the honour was most exceptional (applause).

The Mayor of Saffron Walden warmly welcomed the ringers to the borough, where he said the time-honoured ceremonials of ringing were greatly honoured. In the present times duty must come first, and he acknowledged the duties rendered by ringers who regularly summoned the people to church. He hoped brighter times were ahead, when the ringers throughout England would be able to proclaim a glorious victory and a splendid peace (applause).

A very successful meeting of the South Western Division was held at Loughton on Saturday last. The bells were available from 3.30, and were kept going till 6.0 p.m., when an adjournment was made for tea, provided by Mrs. Holland. This was followed by the business meeting, at which it was decided that the present officers should carry on till the annual district meeting, to be held in November. One life non-resident member was elected, together with five resident ringing members.

Hornchurch was decided upon as the place of the next meeting to be held in July.

A vote of sympathy was passed with the relatives of the late W. Truss, of the West Ham band, and H. P. Saffell, of the Lortonstone band, both of whom have recently been killed in action in France.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Loughton (the Rev. P. N. Maitland) for presiding at the tea and meeting. In the course of his reply, he extended a hearty welcome to the members with the hope that they would very shortly pay another visit to his church.

During the afternoon and evening about 30 members and friends visited the tower, and touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative were rung, together with a course of London Minor.

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THE LATE MR. WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.

FUNERAL AT IPSWICH.

The funeral of the late Mr. William L. Catchpole took place on Wednesday afternoon, May 15th, at the Ipswich Cemetery, amid widely evinced testimony of sorrow and respect, the deceased being known to a large circle in Ipswich and Suffolk generally by reason of his connection with the Foresters and Oddfellows, as well as with campanology. His old friend, Mr. Edward Reeve, was present at the graveside, while Mr. William Motts attended the service at the church, and was also at the cemetery. In the evening the members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, as a last token of respect, rang upon the bells, with half-muffled clappers, touches of Stedman Caters and Grandsire Cinques, conducted by Mr. James Motts, the following taking part: Messrs. S. A. Boar, W. P. Garrett, E. Pemberton, W. Motts, R. English, W. Drew, E. Evans, H. C. Gillingham, W. Burgess, R. H. Brundle, C. Crapnell, J. Smith, and E. Reeve.

At the meeting of the Norwich Association, at Eye, on Whit-Monday, the Secretary (Mr. C. E. Barrett) suitably referred to the sad loss which the St. Mary-le-Tower Society and the Exercise at large had sustained by the death of such a brilliant member.

Mr. Catchpole's connection with ringing extended over a long period of years, and he was one of a band that made history in the progress of practical ringing, for Ipswich did a great deal about 20 years ago and more recently to introduce the ringing of the more intricate methods on the higher numbers of bells. In this Mr. Catchpole was a leading spirit, and we believe we are right in saying that he spent a good deal of time in investigating the extension of London Surprise above eight bells, and obtained a method on ten which was one of the truest extensions that were found. The following list of peals rung by Mr. Catchpole show the versatility of the band of which he was an honoured member, and his own prowess in the realm of practical ringing: Cambridge Maximus 2, Double Norwich Maximus (composed and conducted) 4, Double Norwich Royal 5, Double Norwich Major 37, Cambridge Surprise Major 15, Kent Treble Bob Maximus (composed) 8, Oxford Treble Bob Maximus 1, Oxford Treble Bob Royal 2, Kent Treble Bob Royal (conducted) 4, 17, on handbells 1, Kent Treble Bob Major (conducted) 1, 18, on handbells 1, Oxford Treble Bob Major (conducted) 2, 13, Duffield Major 1, London Surprise Major 7, Superlative Surprise Major 23, Bob Maximus 1, Bob Royal 2, Bob Major (conducted) 1, 7, on handbells 1, Stedman Cinques (conducted) 2, 21, Stedman Caters (conducted) 2, 19, Stedman Triples (conducted) 1, 18, Grandsire Cinques (conducted) 4, 4, Grandsire Caters (conducted) 1, 12, on handbells 3, Grandsire Triples (conducted) 1, 15, on handbells 1, Bob Triples 2. He also took part in a peal in seven methods of Minor and one on five bells. The total number of peals rung by the deceased for the Norwich Association was 286; he also rang one peal in Sussex, and a peal of Stedman Cinques, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, with the members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London. He was a most valued member of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, where his wise counsel and practical advice was appreciated by all with whom he came into contact. His fellow members deeply deplore the loss of such an energetic and practical ringer and so respected a friend.

The late Mr. William L. Catchpole was a member of the St. Mary-le-Tower choir for a number of years.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTH BUCKS. FINANCIAL POSITION.

The annual meeting of the North Bucks Branch was held at Shenley on Saturday last, when about 30 members attended from Blotchley, Beachampton, Stony Stratford, Newport Pagnell, Linslade, Chicheley, Old Bradwell, and the local tower. A service was held, conducted by the chairman of the branch (the Rev. J. R. Vincent) to whom a hearty vote of thanks was extended for his very interesting address, and for so kindly allowing the use of his grounds.

The business meeting was held on the lawn, with the Rev. J. R. Vincent in the chair, supported by the Rev. Mitcheson, of Newport Pagnell.—The balance sheet was submitted and approved, showing an appreciable balance, which was all that could be expected during such unsettled times. An important factor in this good result was the fact of those members that are left are paying the subscriptions of the members for their respective towers who are serving in the forces, with the idea of keeping the financial strength of the branch up until after the war. It was pointed out that about 80 of the members are already serving, and more are going. The depletion of strength was most noticeable at the annual meeting. Only 25 subscriptions remained unpaid for last year, and the towers were asked to respond again in the same manner and spirit to keep the flag flying till the boys come home.

After the transaction of other business, the bells both of Shenley and Loughton were kept going until about 7.30 p.m., the following methods being rung: Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, Cambridge and London Surprise Minor.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

THE HON. SECRETARY'S PAPER.

We printed last week the first part of the hon. secretary's paper, on the question of improving the utility of the Central Council, the rest of the paper follows below.

I pass next to one or two remarks on the idea that has been advanced that the Council should take legislative powers to itself and enforce its laws on the Exercise. A moment's serious thought is surely sufficient to show the absurdity, not to say folly, of such a course. No law can be enforced without the power of the Law Courts behind it. To enable the Council to impose obedience on the Exercise it would be requisite for every member of the Exercise to swear fealty to the Council, or to enter into some legal bond to obey it, and all I can say is that if you come and ask me to do either of these—well, I laugh at you. Of course, the whole idea is pure nonsense. Two or three minutes ago, I was noticing a remark that had been made to the effect that if the Council were invested with legislative powers the 'best ringers' would then be elected on it, and I said that I agreed with this, but with a certain amount of reservation. I do want to see the best ringers on it, I want more, I want to see the best men. Let me explain. It is true that we are an assembly of ringers, and it is natural and fitting that ringing capabilities should form a very important factor in the choice of members sent here to deliberate. But it is not for actual ringing that we meet. We meet to consider and consult together, and the first essential qualification in our members should be not necessarily that they have rung so many peals, even long peals, as that they should understand the subject of ringing, the science of it, the art of it, its bearings in general, the relation of ringers to each other, to the church and church officials, and to the world at large. The range of our deliberations is large and wide, and for these things we want large-minded men with as wide experience as may be. We want also men who view things from different points. We want ringers to view things as ringers. We want clergy to view things as clergy. We want public men to view things in yet other ways. There are many capital, excellent men among the ranks of ringers who can write excellent English, who can add up a column of £ s. d. more quickly than I could add the pence, who are better composers and far better conductors than most of us, able, acute, well-educated men whom the Council is proud to reckon on its roll, and without whom it would be difficult if not impossible, to get on. But besides them there are others without whom we should soon go astray—nay, more, without whom I am confident that we should go to the rocks altogether—men, I mean, of wide experience and ripe judgment in human affairs, men who by years of discipline and years of responsibility have earned for themselves a position and weight of counsel which can be got in no other way. It is such as these that we want above all, and for this reason it is that, when speaking of those whom we wish to see on the Council, I prefer to say that we want not necessarily the best ringers, but the best men. It is because the Council has always had and still has a large proportion of men of this stamp that it has been saved from more than one pitfall into which some ardent but short-sighted enthusiasts would otherwise have led it. Once or twice I have been able to save the Council's time, and to save from subsequent disappointment the would-be proposer of some impracticable or inadmissible resolution by pointing out to him the reason why the Council could not entertain it. But that such proposals should have been even suggested shows the need of the judgment and experience of which I have been speaking.

WHERE THE EXERCISE FAILS.

I come now to the consideration of that which is the real problem before us, i.e., how to render the Council still more useful than it has been, and more efficient. At the outset, I said that I do not consider it faultless. It would not be human if it were so. The problem divides itself into two main parts (1) the constitution of the Council, and (2) the work of the Council. Of its constitution I have already said most of what I have to say, namely, that we want it to consist of all the very best men that the Exercise contains. Some three or four, or five or six years ago some of our best, most experienced and most useful men failed to be returned by their Associations, and the late President once remarked to me on the fact with evident disappointment and regret. The Council itself to a great extent remedied the defeat by securing most of them as honorary members. Therefore, I say to the Associations, 'Elect men of the widest experience and ripest judgment. If you elect your second-best, what can you expect but a second-best Council? The Council, except as regards its honorary members, does not make itself. It is what the Associations make it. Then as to its work. Again, the same is true. It is the Exercise that is supposed to supply the Council with matter for deliberation. But does it? I can answer with certainty that of the questions that have been brought forward for discussion, not more than about one in ten has come to us from a source external to the Council itself, and a large proportion of our most interesting discussions has come from one unsuspected source. One of the complaints brought against the length of my speech at the last Council was that it had left no time for the consideration of the item on the agenda

relating to the increasing abandonment of raising and falling bells in peal, the discussion of which promised to be of no little interest and value, and I dare say that there were some who pictured to themselves the keen disappointment thereby caused to the two members of the Council who had spent time and pains in gathering statistics and preparing the speeches with which they were eagerly looking forward to propose and second some practical and useful resolution on the subject, but were too modest, too long-suffering, and too self-sacrificing to complain. Now, a little bird whispered a great secret to me, and if you are very good I will tell you as a great treat, and in the strictest confidence, who those poor, defrauded, and ill-treated members were. They were the late President and your humble servant. The plain matter of fact is that the Exercise does not provide the Council with work to do. Perhaps it will not. Perhaps it cannot. Perhaps there is none.

THREE POSSIBILITIES.

And now, what is to be done? So far as I can see at this moment there are only three possibilities: (1) The Council continues as it is, or (2) it alters in its composition or meetings or work or in all of these, or (3) it ceases. Taking the first of these, i.e., that it goes on as it is, then it is evident that the Exercise must somehow be galvanised out of its torpor. Try it. The plain matter of fact is that the rank and file of the Exercise are like Gallic—they care for none of these things. Take any six or eight bell tower: go there on a practice night, and how many will you find that can prick by lead ends, or that you could even persuade to listen to you for five minutes if you were to try to teach them how to do it. Trying to stir up the body of the Exercise is like trying to lift a feather-bed with a teaspoon. Indeed, I am more and more coming to the conclusion that the Council, far from being not good enough, has been too good for the Exercise. The Exercise has not provided it with work, and, rather than be idle and fruitless, it has provided itself with work. It has done nobly. It has worked hard. It has conscientiously spent its money in publications for the good of change ringing. Though its publications are sold at what is practically cost price, the Exercise, judging by the slowness of their sale, does not seem to appreciate them; and so completely did the hon. secretary of our Association fail to grasp the nature of the Council and its unpaid labour that he thought the Council grasping when it asked for a list of the publications to be inserted in the Association's annual report—as if the Council were a money-making concern. Yes, the Council is, if anything, too good for the Exercise. Unless, therefore, the Exercise is prepared to bestir itself, it seems evident that the Council cannot continue as it is. Thus much regarding our first alternative. Omitting the second for a moment, let us take the last—that the Council come to an end. Without the least hesitation, I say that this would be a thousand pities. When I say this I say it quite disinterestedly at least in one respect, i.e., as a clergyman. The one set of people who would not suffer in the least by the extinction of the Council are the clergy. They would still remain, as they have always been, masters of their own towers, and holders of the key. It is entirely on the side of ringers and for the good of change ringing that I plead for the continuance of the Council. During the past year, the incumbent of a church in a large country town was threatened with legal proceedings on the part of a very small knot of bell-haters living in the neighbourhood, and wrote to me under the evident impression that the Central Council was a wealthy corporation in the enjoyment of large funds for the defence of ringing—in the Law Courts, if need be, and ready to defend him as law. Of course, he was mistaken. But, nevertheless, though we could not do just as he seemed to expect, it was a comfort to be able to assure him that ringers actually possessed a central consultative body, able and willing to advise, and to give the benefit of its knowledge to those in need of it. And so in many ways the disappearance of the Council would be a real and serious loss to the Exercise. The thought of such a thing cannot be entertained.

'GOOD WORK WELL DONE.'

We are left, therefore, with the second of our three possible courses of action, i.e., we must seek for some modification either of the Council itself, or of its meetings, or of its work—of any, or all three of these. At this moment there are 41 Associations affiliated to us. We might decide to confine the representation of each to one member. This, with the honorary members, would mean that the Council would become a large committee of about fifty members. Or, leaving the Council as it is, we might ordain that its present and future committees should meet every year, the whole Council to meet only once in three years. Or, again, the Council might elect a committee of its members, say, twenty or thirty in number, to meet in each of the two years intervening between the triennial meetings of the whole Council. Or, once more, the Council might meet in every third year, leaving the intervening years blank altogether. Indeed, I am not sure that I am not coming to the conclusion that this last is not the best solution. For, although I have named the possibility of some modification in the work of the Council, I must confess that I do not see in what way its work can or could be altered. As I have said already, the plain truth is either that the Exercise has no suitable work for it to do, or is too supine to set it that work. I purposely say 'suitable' work. There have been plenty of attempts to set it work

far from suitable, or even possible—work that would have been most unwise, and would soon have wrecked it, and would infallibly still wreck it. The fact remains that in default of work found for it the Council has found work, good work, for itself, and has done that work well. To some its work may have seemed dull and its debates uninteresting, but it has at least had the wisdom to keep within its own limits, and to eschew paths perhaps more showy, but certain to lead to catastrophe.

(To be Continued.)

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. ASHFORD DISTRICT TOUR.

A meeting of the Ashford District of the Kent Association was held on Whit-Monday, and taking all things into consideration, proved an unqualified success, between 30 and 40 ringers taking part in the proceedings during the day. Ringing began at Headcorn soon after 8 a.m., and several touches were brought round till 10 o'clock, when a move was made to Biddenden, some of the visitors cycling, and others going by train. From about 10.30 until 2 p.m. the bells were kept going in the four standard methods, and were then lowered in peal. Tentertun was the next order by road and rail, and after hearing the chimps play 'The last rose of summer,' the bells were raised, and a touch of Stedman, followed by touches in other methods, was rung. Tea was partaken of at the Temperance Hotel, the company sitting down in two parties. Subsequently further touches were brought round, and at 8 o'clock the bells were lowered in peal.

A very cordial welcome was extended to the visitors from outside the district, viz., Mr. Shepherd, of Swindon; Miss E. Goodship, of Reading; Mr. W. Haigh and others from Chatham; Mr. W. Spice and others from Sittingbourne; Mr. H. Sone and his son, Major Sone, R.A.M.C.; and Mr. D. Hodgkin, from Marden.

A notable feature of the meeting was the attendance of no less than seven lady ringers, including Miss Goodship, Mrs. Gatehouse, and five others from Mersham, who, when they got settled on their bells, rang rounds in capital style, and promised well for the future. It was certainly a unique experience for the district to see Miss Goodship on the 7th at Biddenden, and calling the bells to a touch of Stedman. It says much for what lady ringers can attain to, and it also reflects credit on the bell hanger. The secretary of the district (Mr. C. Tribe) has received two letters from the visitors, expressing their thanks for the enjoyable time they had spent, which goes far to repay him for the time and trouble of arranging the meeting.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch was held last Saturday, at Todmorden Parish Church, when there was a good attendance of members and friends from Todmorden Parish and Unitarian Churches, Middleton, Milnrow, Newhey, Mirfield, and Burnley. Owing to a fête being held by the Roman Catholic community near the church, no ringing was done before 5.30 p.m., when the bells were set going in touches of Grandsire Triples, Kept Trouble Bob and Bob Major and Minor.

The business meeting was afterwards held. The Rev. A. Aspen should have been in the chair, but owing to another unforeseen engagement could not attend. In his absence, Mr. E. Schofield (Milnrow) presided.

Middleton was chosen as the next place of meeting, on Saturday June 29th, and a cordial vote of thanks was given to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the tower and bells, and also to the local ringers for having everything in readiness.—The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD BRANCH.

A capital meeting of the above Branch was held at Poolstock, Wigan, on Whit-Monday, and there was a large gathering of ringers from Grassendale, Garston, Birkenhead, and Wigan local company. The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob Major. A service at 5 o'clock was addressed by the Vicar (Rev. A. White), who also presided at the meeting afterwards. The Rev. A. White was proposed as an hon. member, and Mr. Burland a life member. Messrs. J. Brown, B. Birnall, D. Forshaw, W. Bushby and F. Hall were duly elected members.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his admirable ringing address, also to the wardens and ladies of the parish who affably dispensed the tea kindly provided by the Poolstock ringers. This was one of the most enjoyable and successful meetings of the year.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The members of the S. and W. District of the Middlesex Association held a meeting on Saturday last at St. Peter's, Staines. Although not largely attended, the gathering was very successful, and good use was made of the bells.

At the close of the ringing, a short business meeting was held in the belfry, with the District Master (Mr. T. Beadle) in the chair.

Harlington was suggested as the place for the next meeting, and the proceedings concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Estab. 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Mortlake, on Saturday, June 8th. Ringing will commence at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the Vestry at 8.15 p.m. All ringers welcome.—C. Walker, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on Saturday, June 8th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m.; tea and business meeting to follow. All ringing friends welcome. Outstanding subscriptions would be greatly welcomed.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the above Guild will be held at Christ Church, Coseley (Staffs), on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.30, conducted by the Rev. J. A. Price, M.A., Vicar and Vice-President. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley Parish Church on Saturday, June 8th, 1918. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Deane, Bolton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Kingsdown, on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; service at 4 p.m.; to be followed by business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Branch Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Summer meeting at Bucklebury on Saturday, June 8th. Hearty welcome to all ringers.—Rev. E. M. Thorpe, Hon. Sec., Bucklebury Vicarage, near Reading.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on June 18th for general business, and on the 13th and 27th for handbell practice, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The next meeting of the above Association will be held at Wath on June 15th. Ringing from 3 o'clock till 9. Business meeting to be held in the Institute. Subscriptions now due, and to be paid to Frank Willey, Vice-President and Sec. (*pro tem.*), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting and six bell contest will be held at Meltham, near Huddersfield, on Saturday, June 15th, 1918. Tenor 13½ cwt. Draw for order of ringing at 3.45 p.m. Tea will only be provided for those who send in their names to me not later than June 10th.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Flixton, on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available during the afternoon and evening. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Members and friends are holding a meeting for practice (by kind permission) at St. John's Parish Church, Windsor, on Saturday, June 15th, at 6.30 p.m.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual Guild festival will be held at Winchester on Saturday, June 22nd. The Cathedral bells will be available from 11 a.m.; annual meeting, 2.15 p.m., at St. Maurice's Hall; service at Cathedral 4 p.m.; tea 5 p.m. Half rail fares and half cost of tea allowed for those attending annual meeting. Members intending to be present will oblige by letting me know by the 18th.—George Williams, Hon. General Sec., West End, near Southampton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Northowram on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until 9; tea at 5.30 p.m., members to bring their own rations, cups of tea will be provided; business meeting immediately after. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. District Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the South-Eastern Division will be held at Boreham on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells available from 6 o'clock till 9; business meeting during the evening.—F. W. Edwards, Writtle.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells ready at 4; service at 5.30; meeting at 6.—Rev. E. E. Collier and Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wollaston (Stourbridge) on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m.; service in the Church at 5; business meeting in the School after the service.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, St. Edward's Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

EDUCATED GIRLS WANTED for special work in large munitions factory; well known to the clergy and ringing world; Croydon district.—For particulars please apply Box 1, "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

SAWYER WANTED, over military age; accustomed to cutting round timber on a rack bench; change ringer.—Apply Morriss & Son, Builders, The Priory, Shrewsbury, Salop.

A HELPING HAND.

A collection in the Bolton Branch of the Lancashire Association, on behalf of Mr. John Moscrop, of Deane, who has been laid aside by sickness for a long period, realised £3 8s., subscribed as follows: Rev. H. J. Elsee, 5s.; H. W. Jackson, 1s.; Deane ringers, 11s. 6d.; St. Saviour's, 8s.; Parish, 3s. 6d.; St. George's, 6s.; St. Bartholomew's, 5s.; Newchurch, 2s. 6d.; Leigh, 5s.; Walkden, 7s. 6d.; Tyldesley, 7s.; Horwich, 6s.

In the footnote to the handbell peal at Enfield, published last week, it should have been stated that it was the first 'short course' peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major rung on handbells. By bobs before in every course the leads with the tenors parted are cut out. The composition will be published as soon as space permit.

Owing to pressure on our space other articles are also unavoidably held over.

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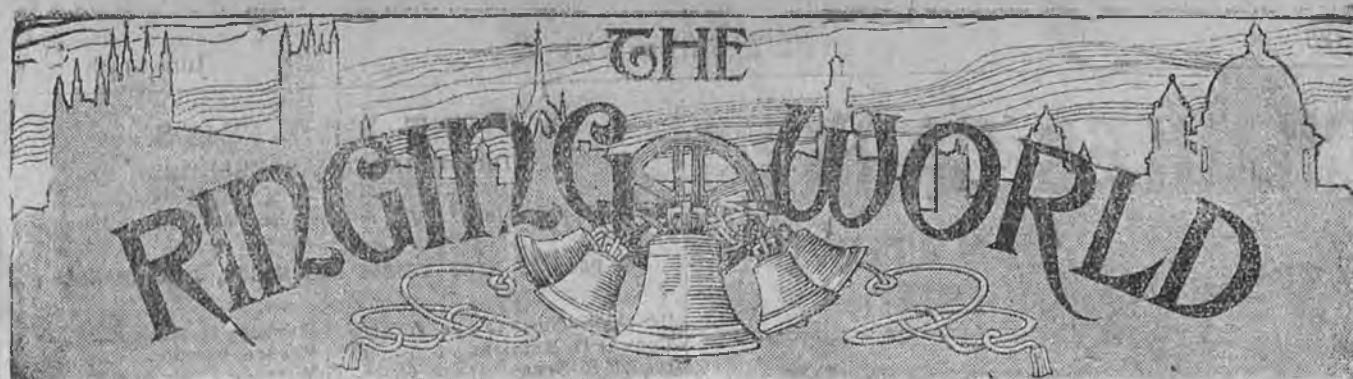
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FRIDAY, JUNE 14th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, Feb March, 1918
Bantlines.

The re-casting of the post of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BROW.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

THE ASSOCIATIONS' PART.

In this column last week we emphasised the supreme importance of the Central Council coming into closer touch with the Exercise if it is to establish itself in a position of greater usefulness to ringers as a whole. That there has been a good deal lacking in this respect in the past is, we believe, very generally admitted. It is quite true that the Council can claim to be composed of the representatives of some 40 county, diocesan and other ringing organisations, but this does not necessarily mean that the ringers who constitute these various associations are linked up in any practical sense with the Council, nor does it imply that even the official portions of all these societies are seriously concerned with what the Council does.

As we have already pointed out, the fault by no means rests entirely on the Council. Much of it is due to the supineness of the large majority of ringers. It is comparatively seldom that one hears of a discussion taking place at a branch or district meeting of matters of general importance to an association. Such debates are left for annual general meetings, whereas preliminary discussion at the smaller meetings would often lead to a wider expression of opinion, and sometimes a more accurate gauge of the desires of the members. In the absence of discussions concerning the welfare of the associations themselves, it is not surprising that subjects of interest to the Exercise at large which could fittingly be sent on to the Central Council for consideration are seldom, if ever, forthcoming.

This is one of the points upon which we have often dwelt in the past. The associations which maintain the Council should be prepared to supply it with material for debate, and if only three or four subjects in a year could be placed on the agenda from the various societies—this surely is not much to ask from the two score organisations which are affiliated—there would be no lack of matter for the Council to discuss at its annual gatherings. On the other hand, there would still be much left to the initiative of the Council itself. It has unquestionably, as a body, neglected its opportunities in the past, for we are told that most of the motions on the agenda have been inspired from one source. The Council should make it their business to consider how best to bring the associations into fuller realisation of their opportunities and maintain an interest in the Council's doings. It ought not to be difficult to find some practical scheme which would bring the Council and the associations into closer co-operation, and the associations themselves might lead the way by discussing the subject and making recommendations to the Council before the next meeting. Suggestions would, we are sure, be welcomed by the Council, and would in themselves be the first step towards that co-operation to which we have referred. The Council is anxious to serve the Exercise, now is the opportunity for the Exercise to say how it can best be served.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DRIFHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 1, 1918, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

BENJAMIN THORP Treble	HERBERT HAIGH 5
THOMAS B. KENDALL 2	FRANCIS BARKER 6
JOSEPH E. SYKES 3	WILLIAM E. H. ASH 7
WILLIAM JOYCE 4	GEORGE A. C. NETTLETON Tenor

* Composed by WILLIAM SOTTENSTALL.

Conducted by THOMAS B. KENDALL.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. D. F. E. Sykes, of Marsden, the mother of Mr. Joe E. Sykes.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 3, 1918, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Taylor's Bob and Single. Tenor 16½ cwt.

JAMES GOODSSELL Treble	TRAYTON BOOTH 5
CHARLES TRIBE 2	ALBERT E. EDWARDS 6
WALTER H. PERRY 3	WILLIAM H. HOAD 7
JOHN BLAKE 4	LOUIS FRENCH Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

Rung in honour of the 53rd birthday of His Majesty the King.

LEWISHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 6, 1918, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Original. Tenor 22 cwt. 3 qrs.

GEORGE R. SIMMONDS Treble	WILLIAM W. FOX 5
CHARLES H. WALKER 2	WILLIAM A. MARTIN 6
EDWIN J. PANNETT 3	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES 7
FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON 4	HERBERT G. GOODWIN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Lance-Corporal M. R. Warnett, of the Royal West Kent Regiment, and a member of this tower, who fell in action in France on May 16th, 1918.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, June 8, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Ten-Part. Tenor 21½ cwt.

JOSEPH HALL Treble	FRED GRUNDY 5
ARTHUR RIDYARD 2	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE 6
GEORGE ASTBURY 3	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 7
JOHN POTTER 4	WILLIAM JONES Tenor

Conducted by A. RIDYARD.

* First peal as conductor. † First peal with Bob bell.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late J. H. Ridyard, who was a member of this company for 40 years, and who died on June 2nd; he was interred at this church on June 6th.

The ringers of 1 and 2 hail from Miles Platting, 3 from Stockport, 4 from Walkden, 7 from Ashton-under-Lyne, the rest are of the local company.

EDGBASTON.—At the Old Church recently, for Divine service, 720 Double Oxford Minor: J. Johnson 1, A. Chambers 2, W. Bryant 3, G. Pigott 4, J. Eaton 5, H. Withers (conductor) 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: C. Webb 1, W. Bryant 2, T. Elcox 3, J. Eaton 4, G. Pigott 5, H. Withers (conductor) 6.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Easter Day, after morning service, at Bishop Ryder's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes, composed by A. Pitman), in 88 mins.: S. Coley 1, J. B. Collett 2, J. Porter 3, A. E. Norman 4, W. F. Webb 5, A. T. Scrivens (conductor) 6. J. George 7, T. Pearce 8.—At St. John's Church, on Easter Day, after evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins.: S. Coley 1, J. George (composer) 2, J. Porter 3, J. B. Collett 4, A. E. Norman 5, A. T. Scrivens (conductor) 6.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, June 7, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes.

At THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. T. COCKERILL, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL...	1-2	HERBERT LANGDON	...	5-6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY	...	3-4	ALFRED B. PECK	...

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

Umpire: EDWIN HORREN.

This was A. B. Peck's 200th peal.

CHESTERFIELD.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Sunday, June 9, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

At 42, FOLJAMBE ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANCES;

GEORGE HOLLIS	...	1-2	WILLIAM J. THYNG	...	5-6
3rd WTR. C. GLENN, R.N.	...	3-4	ALBERT H. WARD	...	7-8
ARTHUR KNIGHTS	...	9-10			

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

A FALSE RUMOUR.

DESTRUCTION OF MANUSCRIPTS UNTRUE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It has come to my ears, from a reliable source, that a rumour is being circulated among ringers in East Suffolk and Norfolk that the historical ringing books and manuscripts of the late Samuel Slater have been burnt. This I beg leave to say is entirely false. They are still intact just as he left them, and they are in my possession. I hope those who have been busy circulating these rumours will cease from doing so, as we have not burnt anything of any value, and do not intend to do so. It is our intention, when we feel disposed to part with them, to offer the Norfolk manuscripts to Norwich, and the Suffolk books and manuscripts to Ipswich, where I hope they will be kept so that they can be referred to at any time.

We (myself and mother), in whose possession the books and papers are, strongly repudiate the accusation made against us, and we hope that this letter will put an end to these false and unfounded rumours, and we hope that those who have been forward in publishing these false reports will acknowledge their faults like men. Thanking you for the space I have taken up in your valuable paper.—Yours truly,

THEODORE E. SLATER.

Hunt's Hill, Glemsford, Suffolk.

June 8th, 1918.

MISS PARKER'S 100 PEALS.

Miss E. K. Parker is the first lady to reach the 'century' in peal ringing. This she accomplished the other day, and the following is the list of her performances:—

	Tower Bells.		Handbells.	
	Rung.	Cond.	Rung.	Cond.
Grandsire Triples	3	2	8	1
Stedman Triples	15	11		
Bob Major			4	
Little Bob Major			1	
Canterbury Pleasure Major			1	
Kent Treble Bob Major			2	
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	3			
Superlative Surprise Major	17	11		
Cambridge Surprise Major	1			
New Cambridge Surprise Major	3	7		
London Surprise Major	16	10		
Bristol Surprise Major	2			
Norfolk Surprise Major	1			
Gloucester Surprise Major	1	1		
Cumberland Delight Major	1	1		
Grandsire Caters			4	
Stedman Caters	1	1	1	
Bob Royal			1	
Kent Treble Bob Royal			1	
Forward Royal	1			
Cambridge Surprise Royal	1			
Stedman Chimes	3	2	3	
	74	48	26	1

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MONMOUTHSHIRE MEETING.

Favoured with beautiful summer weather, members of the Llandaff Diocesan Association wended their way to St. Mellons (Mon.), on Saturday week where a quarterly meeting was held. The attendance was good, and the first visitors to put in an appearance were some half-dozen members of the Llanelly tower, Breconshire, who had cycled about thirty miles to be present. These, too, raised the bells, with the assistance of one enthusiastic member from the remote tower of Llangynydd, Glamorganshire, where, by the way, the present Vicar of St. Mellons was formerly Vicar. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor were immediately rung, and by this time quite a number of ringers began to arrive from Newport, Cardiff, Penarth, Llandaff, Llantrisant, Caerphilly, Llanbradach, etc. At 4.30 a move was made to the vicarage lawn, where an excellent tea was in readiness, kindly provided by the Vicar's wife and a lady friend. There was an abundance of everything, notwithstanding the regulations of the Food Controller, which proves that where there is a will to do anything there is always a way.

At the conclusion of the tea, the business meeting was held, the Vicar (the Rev. Stephen Jackson) presiding, supported by the Master (Mr. W. Bolton) and the hon. secretary (Mr. J. W. Jones). At the outset, the Vicar read the report, which appeared in a previous week's issue of the 'Ringing World,' of the fatal accident to Mr. John Cox, of Bridgend, and, after a few fitting remarks, asked all present to stand in silence for a few moments, as a last tribute to one who in the past had done so much in the interests of change ringing.

The representative to the Central Council (Mr. J. W. Jones) read his report of the meeting, and on the proposition of Mr. Bolton seconded by Mr. Dawe, was thanked for it. The letter was also read that had been sent out by the Central Council to the Bishops on the ringing of the bells.—The Chairman made some comments on this, and said if all the clergy of the country felt as he did, ringers need have no fear that there would be any curtailment of ringing.

The election of new members included the whole of the ringers at Bonvilston and Bedwas, this bringing in two more towers to be affiliated to the Association.

The place for the next Monmouthshire meeting was discussed, Trevelin and Matherne being proposed, and on going to the vote, Matherne was carried by a large majority.

In replying to a vote of thanks, the Chairman mentioned that he hoped, when the war was over, the bells would be increased by two to complete the octave. Connected with the parish is also the Church of Llanderne, which contains a ring of five bells now in a state not fit to be rung. These, too, with the restoration of the church, when the war is over, are to have attention.

The Vicar of St. Mellons has a splendid record in the Llandaff Diocese for restoration work, which now includes two rings of bells and several churches. St. Mellons bells have been restored during his incumbency.

The bells were kept going until late in the evening, and a party was also formed to go to Marshfield to ring on the eight there. The meeting was most successful.

Mention must be made of Bedwas, where a new young band is formed, anxious to learn change ringing. Mr. Cook, of Caerphilly, has promised to give all the assistance he can.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On a glorious first of June day, a quarterly meeting of the Western Branch was held at Martley. Though this place is situated several miles from a railway station, a good number of members attended. Alas! through the claims of war, the younger men were missing, but the old members were to be seen trundling bicycles towards Martley, being in some cases the only remaining representative of their tower. The Rector of Martley had not only invited the ringers, but started the proceedings by raising the treble in peal, and taking part in the ringing afterwards. At service later on, the Rector preached from the 87th Psalm. Tea followed, served on the Rectory lawn, and was much appreciated.

At the business meeting a vote of condolence was passed to the widow and family of the late Mr. B. S. Hill, of St. John's, Worcester, whose face was sadly missed. The writer never remembers him being absent from a quarterly meeting.

One new member was elected, and a quarterly peal is to be attempted at Martley, Mr. R. G. Knowles to be conductor.—The next meeting was fixed for St. Helen's, Worcester, in the autumn.—The usual votes of thanks were passed to the Rector, organist and choir.

Before dispersing, a stroll had to be taken round the Rector's garden, which looked very flourishing, and though the Rector has well kept lawns, he may be seen at times in his shirt sleeves, working a piece of land, with the aid of his cob and implements, thus helping to provide food for the country.

Ringing was kept up till members had to make for their several homes, after a very pleasant and successful meeting.

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SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

PRESENTATION AT NORTH WINGFIELD.

The meeting of the Sheffield and District and Old East Derbyshire Society on Saturday week was somewhat reminiscent of what we were accustomed to have in pre-war days. A glorious day, with the country looking its very best, was, perhaps, in some measure responsible for such a good attendance, some 60 ringers being present from Bolsover, Bolsterstone, Bottisford, Beighton, Chesterfield, Eckington, Long Eaton, Mansfield Woodhouse, Handsworth, New Mills, Norton, North Wingfield, Sheffield Cathedral, and Staveley. The bells, which are a peal of eight of various dates, with a 16 cwt. tenor, were raised shortly after three o'clock, and kept in almost continuous use until 4.30, when, through the kindness of Canon C. J. Boden, the Rector, the whole company assembled on the rectory lawn beneath the—to many—familiar weeping ash tree, where a short business meeting was held, the usual routine being quickly disposed of, including the election of four new members.

Afterwards, the representative on the committee of the unattached members (the Rev. A. T. Beeston), in moving a vote of thanks to the Rector for his kindness in granting the use of the bells and grounds, sprang a little surprise on him in the way of asking his acceptance of a silver inkstand, in the shape of a bell, as a slight token from the members of the society of their gratitude for his many acts of kindness to them extending over a great number of years.—Mr. Beeston, in a happy little speech, spoke of the many occasions they had been entertained in those grounds to tea, and the freedom they had enjoyed in being allowed to indulge in games and roam at will about the garden, not forgetting the permission, always freely granted, to use the bells for peals or to practise any method desired. He reminded the Canon that by so doing he had helped in no small degree in furthering the advancement of the art of change ringing. A further surprise (that of Canon Boden had been preceded by the ringing of Superlative and London), and perhaps the happiest of all, was when Mrs. Boden was asked by Mr. Beeston to accept a copy of the Church Services, and wishing Canon and Mrs. Boden both a happy future in their new sphere of activity at Nuttall, Nottingham.

Mrs. Boden briefly thanked the ringers, and the Canon, in reply, apologised for not being able to provide a cup of tea owing to the circumstances, and times. He valued the present, and valued more the spirit which prompted it. He did not know anything about Surprise methods, as practised in the belfry, but they had taken him by surprise. He was very sorry to leave North Wingfield and its associations. Nuttall Church only possessed five bells, and if they cared to go over at any time they would be made as welcome as he and Mrs. Boden had tried to make them at Wingfield.

After the meeting the bells were again put in motion while others indulged in games or strolled around the grounds. The ringing included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise, and Kent Treble Bob Major.

The silver inkstand was supplied by Mr. J. Comber, of Woking, and was much admired.

DEATH OF JAMES HENRY RIDYARD.

ONE OF THE 'FIRST HUNDRED'

In the quiet churchyard at Worsley, on June 8th, were laid to rest the remains of James Henry Ridyard. The last sad office was read by the Rev. C. B. Hulton, Vicar, and the Rev. H. J. Elkes (Bolton), President of the Association. Ringers to the number of about 20, representing eleven towers in the Manchester and Bolton branches, were present, eight of them acting as bearers. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by: J. Eachus, J. W. Washbrook, S. Wood and H. Chapman. By special request of the family the tower bells were silent until they had returned to the house. Afterwards, as there was no time for a peal, touches were rung of Grandsire, Stedman and Treble Bob (all service time).

Born in 1857, the late Mr. Ridyard commenced ringing when the bells at Worsley were made into eight. Joining the society in 1878, he was amongst the spade workers, with his brothers Dick and Joe, and the Derbyshire family, all of whom are gone before him. His peal record was 94 in the standard methods, and Double Norwich and Erin, many of which he conducted. Most of his peals were rung locally, Worsley being the home of Double Norwich in the district, he rung in a number of peals in that method. His first peal was rung on January 16th, 1882. There are only two remaining of that band now. His last was on May 15th, 1915, on the occasion of the birth of Lord Brackley, son and heir to the Earl of Ellesmere, for whom he worked all his life.

Deceased was taken ill in September, 1916, and has not been to work since, having suffered a great deal during the latter months. He was number 100 on the first list of the Lancashire Association, a number which has dwindled down to 13 survivors. Now we leave him, laid among his brother ringers, within the sound of the bell, of his Parish Church, of St. Mark, which he loved so well.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 182.)

CO-OPERATION OF CLERGY WANTED.

In the discussion which ensued, Mr. A. T. King thought the hon. secretary had shown them one way in which matters might be improved, viz., by reading a paper. He thought it would help the Council very much if these papers were always forthcoming from capable persons who would have time to prepare them in order that they might be circulated beforehand among the members of the Council to enable them to make up their minds on any particular question. They had suffered very much in the past from the absence of some such method as this, for sometimes people brought forward something very scientific, and somebody else, equally scientific, ventured to contradict what had been said, and without the details before them they were unable to fully appreciate the arguments. But they were not mostly fools, and if they were not all practical ringers, they were men in the street able to compare one thing with another, and form a very good impression of what was right and what was wrong. It would shorten their debates if the papers were printed and distributed, and where there were now only a few ready to reply they would find almost everybody able to say something because they would have had time to think over the subject. The paper which had been read was a very admirable one, but there was one thing left out. Whatever they did as a Council they could put very little of it into operation, except with the co-operation of the clergy. As long as the clergyman was a ringer he knew the needs of ringers better than anybody else, and was able to sympathise with them. But there were many persons who were very "hot stuff," and if they were talked to about what they should have in their belfry they very soon let people know that they would have no interference whatever. Among men of this type there was too much neglect of the ringers, and he had had the greatest difficulty in many places in getting the parson to arrange for someone to attend in the belfry, when the ringers assembled, to open the proceedings with a simple prayer. They would not do it simply because it was suggested to them, and out of the number of little belfry offices which he had printed and distributed throughout the towers of Middlesex, he doubted if they would find half a dozen in their place in the belfry. He thought there was something about this that needed thinking over. They could not do or say anything as a Council that would come into conflict, so to speak, with the clergy, but if they were to be made better men as well as better ringers, they must try to enlist from the clergy more of the guiding hand.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall suggested that one improvement in the Council's methods which might be introduced was to fix a time-table for their business.

DEFENCE OF THE RIGHTS OF THE BELFRY.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards said one of the most entirely useful ways in which the Council could employ itself was precisely that illustrated by the letter written to the Bishops last year. It appeared to him that the very first object of the Council should have been the defence of the rights of the belfry. They lived in times when legislative interference had reached a pitch unknown in this country for a century. Owing to the action taken by the Standing Committee last year, they escaped a threatening position by which their rights might have been arbitrarily curtailed, because it was often easy for a small but noisy section of the community to get their views considered, and there was no knowing at what moment there might not be a further outbreak of hostility to the activities of ringers and for practical expression to that hostility to be shown by forcibly restricting the activities of ringers by legislation. The ground on which the rights of the belfry might be upheld and such encroachment most vehemently resisted was that ringing was an essential part of the rights of the Catholic Church, and that no secular authority whatever had any right, without incurring the charge of sacrilege, to attempt to curtail the proper use, under the directions of the Bishops and clergy, of the church bells. Provided that the Council, together with the authorities of the church—who, he trusted, would be more and more drawn into harmony with the Council in this connection—took their stand strongly and immovably upon this ground, he thought they would have little to fear from any attempts at interference from Parliamentary or local authorities. But if once they allowed themselves to take their stand on any lower ground than that they would have lost their first line of defence. To his mind, the Council could do the greatest good, not only in the interests of the ringing section of the community, but thereby of the church at large, the Established Church of England, which is the ringing church of the world, by being always on the alert to use whatever powers it could to uphold the principle of the uses of the bells on the solemn feasts of the church, and in giving voice to the joy and thanksgiving of the nation on proper occasions as one of the immemorial rights of the church itself, which was in itself a religious observance, and, as such, any secular attempt to interfere with it was simply to incur a charge of religious persecution and sacrilege. Some steps should be taken to put the Council and the Standing Committee in a stronger position to deal with this matter, and to be ready at any moment with the utmost facility of communi-

cation and action to take up the cause of the belfries against any attempt that might be made on the part of secular authority to encroach on the rights of the Church to the use of her own bells.

Mr. J. W. Taylor said he did not think they could come to any sort of decision that day; it was too big a matter to vote on at once, and he would like to see the subject adjourned until the next meeting.

Canon Baker supported this suggestion so that the members might have further opportunity of considering the hon. secretary's paper. He hoped it would be printed and circulated and then brought up again next year.

GETTING AT THE CLERGY.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall said the one thing they wanted to be able to do was to get at the clergy who at present did not take an interest in ringing. He suggested the Council might issue to the clergy, who had bells under their control, a statement of the objects of the Council, so that they might know where to apply for advice, and what kind of advice could be given them. By that means the influence of the Council might spread further than it did.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards suggested that whatever was issued should be communicated also to the heads of theological colleges so that it might reach the clergy before they were ordained.

The Hon. Secretary said the Rev. C. C. Marshall's suggestion was much to the point, but it would involve a large expense, first in regard to printing and then for postage, and then there would also be the question where were they to get the list of clergy? He thought the only way for this to be done was through the secretaries of affiliated associations, who should undertake to distribute as many copies as they had towers in their districts.

Mr. King asked whether it would not save trouble and expense if those who were responsible for association reports were asked to print it in the reports, and make a present of a copy to the clergy wherever there were bells.

Canon Baker said he once sent a valuable print issued by the Council to every incumbent in his Archdeaconry who had bells under his control, but it had no effect.

Mr. F. Wilford said he had written to 30 clergymen in his Association's district about a matter connected with ringing, and had only two replies.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee thought the suggestion to approach the clergy would be best carried out through the Associations, as, speaking for his diocese, he knew that more notice was taken of matters that came from the diocesan organisations than from a central body in London. He was not sure that it was the function of the Council. The Council was to be a connecting link between the different associations, and an official body for them all, but he did not think that it was intended that the Council should come into direct relations with all the parish clergy and all the towers. The associations connected with it were to be the intermediaries. Of course, the Council had done most valuable work, especially, perhaps, in its earlier days in printing and circulating information about bells and belfries. He had no doubt that the "Report on Bells and Belfries" had done not a little to improve their condition, but he thought the Council would be rather losing its true opportunity of service, if it tried to deal directly with all the parishes, and not through the associations who sent members to it.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall said he did not want to rule that method out of his suggestion. He did not mind, so long as the object was reached, how they got there. He quite agreed that the associations should be the means by which the work of the Council should be made known not only to ringers, but to the clergy, who at present did not take much interest in ringing.

COUNCIL OUT OF TOUCH.

The Rev. F. J. Helmore said the secretaries of associations did get into touch with some of the clergy, and they found as a rule that they were favourably disposed towards them, but they all knew there were hundreds of subjects that came before the clergy, and unless they had a leaning towards ringing they could not take a practical interest in the art. He was perfectly ready to bring before them, through his association's report, some of the work of the Council, and he hoped the clergy would thereby be edified. He had always found, when the existence of the Council was mentioned to bishops or clergy, that they were intensely delighted to hear there was such a body. It was quite wrong to believe clergy were not favourably disposed towards ringers. From his experience he knew many bishops and clergy were well disposed towards them, although they did not take much practical interest in the art.

The Rev. H. S. T. Richardson said when he was in the North, belonging to the Durham and Newcastle Association, they always used to have a report from their representatives on the Council, and he knew of some other associations who did the same, but he thought it would be a very useful thing if all associations looked for a report from their representatives and had it on the agenda at their annual meetings.

The Chairman said in the Oxford Guild he had done that for the last 25 years, and it was always received with great interest.

Mr. Hoggood: I'm afraid that's due to the way you put it (laughter).
Lieut. O. F. Johnston said it seemed to him that all the arguments tended to one thing, that the associations were not enough in touch

with the Central Council. Was there no way by which secretaries of County Associations and Diocesan Guilds could be in direct touch, say, once in three months, with the secretary of the Central Council? Until the Council kept in touch with the associations, learned their little troubles, compared notes, and gave their assistance, the Council would always have great difficulties.

Mr. F. Hopgood said there was one thing in the hon. secretary's paper with which he did not agree, and that was on the question whether they should be a legislative body or an advisory body. As an advisory body they were wasting their time. If they could make a thing compulsory they could make it a success, but when everyone was left to please himself, the result was failure.

The Hon. Secretary: How can you make it compulsory?

Mr. Hopgood: I don't quite know (laughter). But if we can't do that, my opinion is that we are absolutely useless.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A most enjoyable and successful meeting of the London County Association was held on Saturday last, at the Church of St. Mary, Mortlake. The delightful weather no doubt contributed to the good attendance of members, numbering nearly 40, from all parts of the Metropolis. Ringing was carried on from 5 to 8.30 p.m. without a break, every well-known method being practised.

A business meeting followed, which was held in the Vestry adjoining the church, and was also well attended, the Master, Mr. T. H. Taffender, presiding.

Sympathetic reference was made to the loss the Exercise had recently sustained by the death of two well-known London ringers, Messrs. J. Barry and C. Lee, the latter for many years a member of St. Paul's Cathedral company.

The hon. secretary was requested to write a letter of condolence in the name of the Association to their relatives.

A letter was read from Mrs. W. Truss acknowledging the letter sent by the hon. secretary on the receipt of the sad news of the death of her husband, Mr. W. Truss, recently killed in France.

News had been received that Spr. R. F. Deal, R.E., who had contracted trench fever whilst serving in France, was now in a military hospital at Lincoln.

A statement of the business conducted at the Central Council meeting, on Whit-Tuesday, was made by the Master for the information of members.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Mary's for permission to ring there, and for their kindness in placing the Vestry at the disposal of the ringers, also to Mr. T. Pullen (steepkeeper) for his pains in having everything in readiness.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, July 13th, notice of which will appear in the 'Ringing World.'

LEWISHAM RINGER KILLED

News has been received by the parents of the death of Lee-Corpl. M. B. (Mickie) Warnett, of the Royal W. Kent Regt. (1/20th County of London). He joined up on August 15th, 1914; trained at Hatfield, and proceeded to France March 9th, 1915, his first day in the trenches being Good Friday. He had taken part in many engagements, and was at Loos, in September, 1915, where his regiment captured the two guns, which are now at Blackheath. He was the second son of Mr. Harry Warnett, the well-known and respected captain of the Lewisham tower.

On Sunday morning, May 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 50 minutes, with the bells half-muffled, by: H. Warnett, senr., 1. C. H. Walker 2. E. J. Pannett 3. G. R. Simmonds 4. H. Warnett, junr., 5. H. Walker 6. W. W. Fox (conductor) 7. H. G. Goodwin 8.

OXFORD GUILD.

On Saturday last, at the summer meeting of the Newbury Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, about 30 members spent a most enjoyable afternoon at Bucklebury. Some good practice was made on the handy peal of eight, and a very nice tea was provided on the Vicarage lawn by the kindness of the Rev. E. M. and Mrs. Thorp, and other friends. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Stedman Triples were brought round, the longest being 504 Stedman Triples by: Canon Coleridge 1. W. Hibbert 2. C. W. Davis 3. Miss S. Davis 4. J. Hands 5. R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 6. H. Tucker 7. ex-Sergl-Major Hibbert 8.

WEDDING BELLS.

On Saturday, June 1st, the wedding of Miss Erica Bowen Cooke (third daughter of Mr. C. J. Bowen Cooke, C.B.E., Master of the Chester Diocesan Guild), and Capt. A. D. Robinson, A.S.C., M.P. (son of the Rev. E. Robinson, Rector of Glengary, Kingston), took place at St. Pancras Church, Euston. To celebrate the event, an attempt was made by the Crewe ringers for a peal of Grandsire Caters, which came to an abrupt conclusion through the breaking of a rope. Time not permitting another attempt, after repairing the rope, short touches of Bob Royal and Grandsire Caters were rung.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The next meeting of the above Association will be held at Wath on June 15th. Ringing from 3 o'clock till 9. Business meeting to be held in the Institute. Subscriptions now due, and to be paid to Frank Willey, Vice-President and Sec. (*pro tem.*), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting and six bell contest will be held at Meltham, near Huddersfield, on Saturday, June 15th, 1918. Tenor 13½ cwt. Draw for order of ringing at 3.45 p.m.—F. Salmon, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Flixton, on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available during the afternoon and evening. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Members and friends are holding a meeting for practice (by kind permission) at St. John's Parish Church, Windsor, on Saturday, June 15th, at 6.30 p.m.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on June 18th for general business, and on the 27th for handbell practice, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual Guild festival will be held at Winchester on Saturday, June 22nd. The Cathedral bells will be available from 11 a.m.; annual meeting, 2.15 p.m., at St. Maurice's Hall; service at Cathedral 4 p.m.; tea 5 p.m. Half rail fares and half cost of tea allowed for those attending annual meeting. Members intending to be present will oblige by letting me know by the 18th.—George Williams, Hon. General Sec., West End, near Southampton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Northowram on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until 9; tea at 5.30 p.m., members to bring their own rations, cups of tea will be provided; business meeting immediately after. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. District Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the South-Eastern Division will be held at Boreham on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells available from 6 o'clock till 9; business meeting during the evening.—F. W. Edwards, Writtle.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells ready at 4; service at 5.30; meeting at 6.—Rev. E. E. Collier and Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wollaston (Stourbridge) on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m.; service in the Church at 5; business meeting in the School after the service.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, St. Edward's Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bury, on Saturday, June 22nd, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.30. A good attendance is earnestly requested.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Arundel on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells available from 4 o'clock till 9. Tea 1/- each, to all who let me know by June 19th.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

LAVENHAM.—The tower will open for ringing on Saturday, June 22nd, from 12.30 p.m. till sunset. Cycles can be left in the tower entrance, west end.—A. Symonds.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Penkridge on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available at 3; service in church, with address by Rev. J. A. Burton, at 4.45; tea and general meeting at "Littleton Arms" Hotel at 5.30. Tickets for tea will be 1/- for fully-paid members who send names by Tuesday, 25th inst., to others 1/6.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Quorn on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 2 o'clock; committee meeting at 4.30; tea (1/- each) at 5 o'clock, followed by general meeting in the National Schools. It is important that those who intend being present for tea should notify Mr. A. Burrows, Cotesdale, Quorn, not later than the previous Thursday morning.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Taunton on Saturday, July 6th. Particulars to follow.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, July 6th, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

EDUCATED GIRLS WANTED for special work in large munitions factory; well known to the clergy and ringing world; Croydon district.—For particulars please apply Box 1, "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

SAWYER WANTED, over military age; accustomed to cutting round timber on a rack bench; change ringer.—Apply Morriss & Son, Builders, The Priory, Shrewsbury, Salop.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

Wanted good secondhand set of handbells for tune ringing.—'Bells,' 'Ringing World' Office, Woking.

CANTERBURY PLEASURE.

Mr. E. M. Atkins writes: 'I have just had a note from Mr. Borrett, of the Norwich Association, stating that a peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major was rung "in hand" in short courses, on March 7th, 1894, composed and conducted by J. A. Trollope, so that the peal at Edmonton was not the first after all.'

FINEDON, NORTHANTS.—On April 21st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triplets (1280 changes), in 48 mins.: G. Ette 1, P. Manning 2, H. Ette 3, H. Tompkins 4, J. Main 5, T. Abbott 6, G. Basford (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, A. Tompkins 8.

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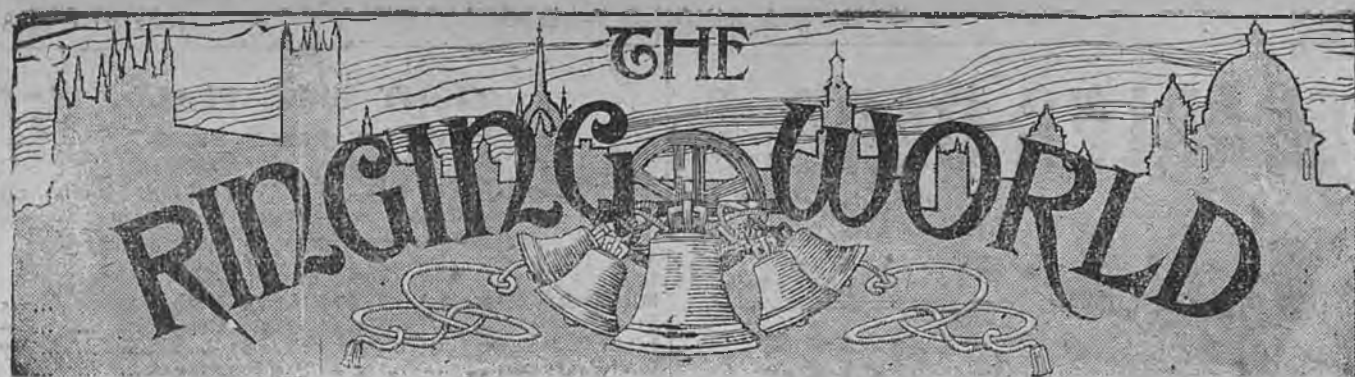
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FRIDAY, JUNE 21st, 1918.

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WULFRUN CHAMBERS WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BROOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

BELGIUM'S LOST BELLS.

The decision of the Central Council to inaugurate a fund among the ringers and bell-loving public of Britain to assist in the restoration of some of the bells lost to Belgium through the war was, it seems to us, a natural one for a body which professes to represent the interests of those most intimately associated with bells in this 'Ringing Isle.' If something substantial can be done, such as the replacing of several bells or a whole carillon, it would be a graceful tribute to a nation which has made sacrifices as heroic and complete as any in the war; and few, we believe, among the Exercise will object in principle to the proposal. The question raised an interesting discussion at the Council meeting, and opinion was overwhelmingly in favour of going ahead, although there were divergent views as to the method of procedure, and as to how far the Council ought to go before the various associations had been consulted.

The one point upon which there seemed likely to be serious opposition was as to whether any step at all would be premature for the present; but those who peruse the report of the debate will, we believe, find convincing argument in what was said by Mr. E. H. Lewis, who represents the Cambridge University Guild on the Council, and who was responsible for the proposal to inaugurate the fund. To his contention that such a fund is likely to be more successful if raised while the war is in progress, and that while we should be providing for a gift in the future we should also be helping on the war if the money were invested in War Bonds until the time is ripe for using it, might be added the strong argument that in any matter which it undertakes the Council, of necessity, has to move slowly. Meeting as it does only once a year, matters have a knack of getting hung up almost indefinitely, and an adjournment of the subject at the last meeting might possibly have meant that nothing whatever could have been done until the war is over, for it was quite within possibility that the Council might have determined not to meet again until after the end of the war.

The difficulties, if such they may be termed, on the question of the method of procedure were adroitly handled by Mr. Lewis, and he carried the Council with him in securing the election of a small committee, with power to add to their number, to collect information and lay definite proposals before the next Council meeting. The scheme to raise from £10,000 to £15,000 is an ambitious one, and if carried through to success will need the hearty co-operation of every ringer, not only in contributing liberally to the fund, but in enlisting the practical sympathy and help of every bell lover, and everyone who appreciates the services which Belgium has rendered to the cause for which the Allies are fighting.

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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

BOLTON, BRADFORD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 15, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE.

A PEAL OF GRANBSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

MISS POLLIE GILL Treble	JOSEPH E. SYKES 5
FIRTH HOPWOOD 2	ARTHUR GILL 6
JAMES H. MAWSON 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
JOHN PALFRAMAN 4	SAM PALFRAMAN Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER and Conducted by FRANCIS BARKER.

First peal by the ringer of the treble, and first peal by all the company with a lady ringer. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 6th.

SIX BELL PEAL.

HEMINGBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 2, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 10½ cwt.

MATTHEW SUNE Treble	SERGE. E. MORRIS, A.S.C. 4
AUGUSTUS HATFIELD 2	THOMAS BARKER 5
GEORGE TERRY 3	EDWARD RICKITT Tenor

Conducted by SERGE. ERNEST MORRIS, A.S.C. (of Leicester).

*** First peal. † First peal of Minor.**

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

MEETING AT COSELEY.

A quarterly meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at Coseley Parish Church on Saturday week, the bells being available from three o'clock until service time and again after the meeting until nine o'clock. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. A. Price, R.D., Vicar, and Vice-President of the Guild. A very interesting address was given by the Rev. W. J. Lamplugh (curate) from Psalm 50, 1, the speaker applying the words of his text to the patriotism, zeal, and endurance of our soldiers and sailors, and appealing to his hearers to do their duty also as churchworkers, remembering their sacred position, and using that privilege to God's greater glory.

At the close of the service, an adjournment was made to the Schoolroom, where a bountiful tea was in readiness, and was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all. About 40 members sat down, representing Blakenhall, Bilston, Bradley, Brierley Hill, Birmingham, Coseley, Dudley, Old Hill, Tipton, West Bromwich, Oldswinford, Wolverhampton, Penn, etc.

Before commencing the business meeting, the Rev. J. A. Price, who was in the chair, extended a very hearty welcome to the members of the Guild to his parish, and referred in feeling terms to the members of the Guild who were serving or had laid down their lives in this great devastating war. He offered his sympathy to all who had friends and relatives serving in H.M. Forces, and expressed the hope that they might, by God's help, be spared soon to meet again. — Mr. W. R. Small, the Guild's representative on the Central Council, gave a lengthy report of the Council meeting, and on the proposition of Mr. H. Mason, and seconded by Mr. B. Gough, the best thanks of the Guild were given to Mr. Small for his report.

Several new members were elected, including Mrs. Price, wife of the Vicar, and the Rev. W. J. Lamplugh, as honorary members.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at St. Luke's Blakenhall, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, September 7th, and it is hoped that all members will make a note of the date.

At the close of the meeting, hearty votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar of Coseley for conducting the service in church, presiding at the meeting, and for the use of the Schoolroom, tower and bells; to the Rev. W. J. Lamplugh for his address; to the organist and choir; to the donors of the tea; to the ladies presiding at the tables, and those who had prepared and served the tea and looked after the wants and comfort of the members.

The Guild also offered their best thanks to Mr. J. Price for his kind interest in the ringers and in ringing; to Mr. B. Gough and the Coseley ringers for making the necessary arrangements, and to all who in any way assisted in making the meeting a happy and enjoyable one.

The Chairman then pronounced the Benediction, and brought another successful gathering to a close.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SIX TOWERS IN ONE DAY: A BUSY WHIT-MONDAY.

A long High Street forms the main thoroughfare of Rickmansworth, and the chief house is 'Basing,' where for a time lived William Penn, the Quaker. The Parish Church of St. Mary is a building of flint, with stone dressings, and the square tower was built in 1630. It was here on Whit-Monday that no less than twenty ringers met at the appointed hour, but a service being then in progress, a time was pleasantly spent by making 'raids' on the shops for postcards, and with photography and the handbells. One of the party from London posed quite as a conjurer, for hey! presto! from out his pockets came a set of sweet-toned bells. If you would know the two initials of the said conjurer you have only to look in the alphabet just before tea (T). Upon a start being made in the tower, eight ladies rang 'rounds' on the excellent going ring of bells: Miss B. McKrell 1, Miss F. Gudgeon 2, Miss E. Fuller 3, Miss M. Bateman 4, Miss A. Cooper 5, Miss N. G. Williams 6, Mrs. F. Hairs 7, Miss G. Bateman 8. This was followed by Grand-sire Triples (some of the ladies again taking part), Stedman, Treble Bob, and Double Norwich, in which the Rev. J. F. Amies, and Messrs. J. Bruce Williamson, T. S. Smith (Slough), P. H. Smith (London), and G. Leader, took part. A clean struck course of London Surprise Major concluded the ringing here, by: W. Lawrence 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, George H. Gutteridge 3, Frank Bennett (of Brighton) 4, W. Henley 5, A. Mason 6, W. Hewett 7, R. Sanders 8.—On the 7th bell in this tower is to be found the following quaint inscription: 'In wedlock bands, all ye who join with hands, your hearts unite: So shall our tuneful tongues combine to laud the nuptial rite.'

Thanks are due to the Rev. F. Halsey (Vicar) for the use of the bells, and to Mr. T. Good for having everything ready.

Next, a short run by rail, and Watford was reached with the Parish Church as the objective. Here it was found that the long draught and the heavy going of the bells prevented first-class striking, but some touches were brought round, and everyone had a 'pull.'

About a mile distant southward, and well situated on rising ground is St. Matthew's Church, Oxhey, the spire of which contains a light peal of eight in good going order. This suited the ladies well, and, as everyone of them was a cyclist, they reached the church, and had the bells going by the time some of the sterner sex arrived. During the ringing a course of Superlative Surprise was attempted, but one of the ladies taking part found that the heat of the small ringing chamber was too oppressive, so unfortunately the course was not quite completed.

Within two hundred yards of the church is the Baker Street and Watford line, and by this means Pinner Station was reached.

On arrival at Pinner Village some difficulty was experienced in obtaining tea, and this fact coupled with the delay at the first tower, caused the scheduled time to be exceeded, but those waiting to join the party were very patient, and afterwards rang touches in several methods. They were: Messrs. F. Jelf (Chesham), Geo. Spencer, R.N., A. Beckensale, and G. M. Kilby. The last named probably did not notice the 'flight of time' on account of the good company he had with him.

While some were finishing tea, one of the senior members went in search of the keys, and was just in time to aid the steeplekeeper to lower the 'Union Jack' from the flagstaff on the summit of the tower, from whence a grand view may be obtained of the old-fashioned High Street, which rises by an easy gradient from the railway up to the church; a thoroughfare of good width, irregular in outline, with the gables of ancient houses, one dated 1328, and an old inn dated 1705. The church was erected in the reign of Edward III. In the churchyard, as at Watford, there is another curious tomb. In this instance it is an arched erection and at some feet above the ground contains a coffin, the ends of which project on either side; a creeper has grown over the tomb, but has not covered the ends of the coffin. At this church the organist kindly postponed a practice so that the ringers might enjoy an extension of time, and thanks are accorded to him and to the Vicar (the Rev. C. E. A. Rowlands) for their kindness.

After the ringing at Pinner, a short journey was made in a crowded train to Harrow-on-the-Hill. The old village, which traces its history back to 799, consisted simply of the street which followed the ridge of the picturesque hill, at a time when the level lands at its foot were bare of the houses which have been built within recent years. For a long time Harrow was practically a dependence of the famous school, whose red-brick Elizabethan structure crowns the hill. The church was founded by Lanfranc in the reign of William the Conqueror, and its lofty spire is a well-known landmark for many miles around. The ringing here was Grand-sire and Stedman Triples on the heavy peal, and the best thanks are due to Mr. W. H. Oram and to his band for the very kind reception given by them to the visitors, and especially to Mr. Oram for obtaining permission for the use of the bells at so late an hour in the evening.

This enjoyable trip was organised and the route planned by Mrs. Frank Hairs, ably assisted by Mr. George H. Gutteridge, who arranged the details regarding the ringing.

W. L.

THE BELLES OF THE BELLS.

LADIES' GUILD MEETING AT SLOUGH.

One of our prolific writers has recently stated that the 'Women of the Allied Nations will win this war,' and certainly their efforts in every direction since the war began goes to confirm that statement, so far as Great Britain and the Dominions are concerned, and if the 'Bells of Peace' are to resound across our shores some day in the near future, then our womenfolk will be quite ready to sound them and at the same time welcome home the 'boys.'

The first official rally of the Ladies' Guild in the county of Bucks took place at Slough on Saturday, June 1st, and, favoured with a gloriously June day and a good muster of fair ones, it was voted by both organisers and visitors alike a huge success.

The tower of St. Mary's Church was opened by the steeplekeeper, with everything in feminine order at 3.30 p.m., and I was ushered into the tower with the sound of Grand-sire Triples, only to discover that a ladies' team was doing fair justice to the rope ends on a peal of bells where the tenor is 17 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs. in E. Amongst the Edith's, Flora's and Elsie's, and others too numerous to mention, it was refreshing to watch their united, loving attentions to dear old 'Sally.'

Of course, mere man was allowed to be present, by kind consent, and he occasionally got on to the heavy end of the octave, or behind some backward pupil, and in sundry ways and methods made himself generally useful to the ladies. The picture in my mind's eye, on entering the doorway, formed an appropriate illustration of one of the Psalms: 'Old men and maidens, Praise the Lord.' Most of the ladies wore a very becoming white costume, which enhanced their glowing happy faces, whilst the men appeared to have mostly grown grey in the art of their grandfathers. This scene was one which the Vicar of Hampstead, or the late Rector of Farnham Royal, might have looked upon without the slightest misgiving. Eight white-robed figures, gracefully bending to their newly-found art, afforded a theme—with something more than earthly meaning—which the poet may some day eulogise in verse.

Of the actual ringing, rounds, Double Norwich, and the standard methods were enjoyed, with some fair performers each time in the gets. A peal of handbells were on loan for the afternoon, but the day was too short, or the programme too full, for much to be done with them.

The meeting was arranged by the London District of the Ladies' Guild. At the service appropriate hymns were sung, Mr. Alfred Blanchet, presiding at the organ. The Rector (Canon Eliot, R.D.) spoke on the lines in hymn 550, 'Craftsman's art and music's measure for Thy pleasure all combine.'

Tea was provided at the Church Institute in Herschel Street. The Rector presided, and there were present: Dr. J. H. Williamson, Major J. H. B. Hesse (Teddington), the Rev. G. S. Deacon (Windsor), the Rev. J. F. Amies (Chalfont St. Peter), Mr. W. H. Fussell (secretary of the South Bucks and East Berks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), Mr. and Mrs. Leader, Miss Leader, Mr. and Mrs. W. Shepherd (Hersham), Mr. J. J. Parker (Farnham Royal), Mr. E. A. Allen (Rochester), Mr. A. Hughes (the Whitechapel Bell Foundry), Mr. W. A. Alps, the Misses Gladys Bateman (Stoke Poges), Winnie Cooper, Florrie Gudgeon (Fulmer), B. K. McKell (Gerrards Cross), Nora G. Williams, M. F. Carrick, E. A. Gorham, Miss A. Arnold (Rochester), H. M. Honor, Dora G. Feltham (Hillingdon), Ethel F. Dance, Helena Roe (Windsor), Edith Jones (West Ealing), Kate Smith (Maidenhead), Stella Davis (Buckbury), Mrs. E. L. Hairs (Willesden Green), Misses S. T. Barnes, W. E. Spain (Oatlands Park), E. K. Parker, S. Johnson (Edmonton), J. Woodrow (Hersham), Messrs. Shreeve, Bateman, Henley, Smith, Hewitt (Camberwell), W. Lawrence (Ealing), E. M. Atkins, W. Fuller (Wargrave), O. W. Lang (Swindon), G. Bedford, J. Waghorne, W. G. Good, H. Woodrow, G. Kilby, of Willesden and E. Morris.

The Chairman announced that Miss Edith Parker, of Edmonton, the honorary secretary, wished him to inform them that there was really no actual business to do that day because that was only a district meeting, but there were one or two new members to be proposed.

These having been elected, Miss Parker proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector, the organist, Mr. G. T. Leader (the steeplekeeper of St. Mary's Church), and the local ringers, and the ladies who had arranged the tea (Miss Leader and Miss Gudgeon).

The Rector acknowledged the compliment, and said that if on any future occasion the lady bell ringers visited St. Mary's belfry, all who lived in Slough would be only too pleased to extend to them a most hearty welcome (applause). Mr. Fussell had placed in his hands the supplement to that day's 'Slough, Eton and Windsor Observer,' which contained an article entitled 'The Bells of Belgium.'

The reading of this by the Rector was listened to with rapt attention, and it created a profound impression.

The company then returned to the church and rang further touches until 9 o'clock.

W. H. F.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

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Established
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Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.



Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from Page 190.)

DIFFICULTIES IN REACHING THE CLERGY.

In continuing the discussion on the paper read by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. P. Burton said the Literature Committee had been generally most barren with regard to the work it had done, was doing, and was likely to do. He felt it was not sufficient for the Council to claim to be an advisory committee simply, or just to suggest to secretaries of associations that they should print some of their deliberations in their annual reports. If those reports were to be of any value they must bear the imprimatur and authority of the Council. Why could they not lay hands on this Literature Committee, drag them out, and make them do some work? (laughter).

Mr. E. Barnett said that whatever was put into the reports should be brought before the clergy in the various parishes by the individual ringers.

The Hon. Secretary said if they relied upon the secretaries of associations they would have to stir them up to a little more activity than they had been able to do in the past, otherwise they would be relying on a rather broken reed.

Mr. J. W. Taylor asked if the Council thought the clergy were going to wade through an association report to find the objects and decisions of the Council? He thought, unless they were ringers, the reports would go straight into the waste-paper basket.

Mr. T. Faulkner and Mr. W. E. White having also spoken.

The Chairman said he was sure they would all tender their hearty thanks to the hon. secretary for bringing the matter forward in the admirable paper he had written for their instruction. There was food in that paper for much thought. There were many different points which wanted to be looked at from various sides, and he hoped that all the members would thoroughly study the paper and make their conclusions known to their friends. Above all, he trusted they would see it was the duty of the Associations and Guilds to circulate among every one of their members everything that emanated from that Council. If that were done they would get into better touch than they had been in the past, perhaps, between the Central Council and the different County and Diocesan Associations. He had heard a good deal, he added, about the clergy taking no notice of reports that were sent them. Speaking as a clergyman, he must say he never dreamed of reading all the things that were sent him. He had not got the time to do it, and he could put himself into the boots of the non-ringing parson, and could quite understand what he did. The more the paper was thought over and the more it was discussed, the better decisions they would come to to make the Council more useful than it had been, although he for one did not agree for one instant in saying that the Council had done no good in the past. He did not know where the Exercise would have been without it, and without its head, Sir Arthur Heywood.

The subject was then adjourned until the next meeting.

BELGIUM'S BELLS.

Mr. E. H. Lewis next introduced the motion standing in his name, with regard to raising a fund in England to assist in the restoration of the bells in Belgium after the war. He did not think it was necessary, he said, to enlarge on the fact that a large number of bells in Belgium had been destroyed, and that others had been removed from the belfries to be melted for war purposes by the Germans. He understood from a Belgian friend that they had not up to that time touched the carillons at Bruges, at Brussels, or at Antwerp, but the carillon at Malines had gone, and so had many of the bells near the fighting line. He brought forward the matter to see whether it was possible for the ringers of England, in gratitude for the way in which their bells had been untouched, to do something towards replacing some of the bells of Belgium. It was rather a large matter to tackle if they were to do anything really effective. His first idea was to suggest that the ringers should provide one good bell to go into one of the churches of Belgium, but after talking the matter over it seemed to him that it might be quite possible for ringers, if they got the sympathetic interest of their friends, to replace far more than one bell—possibly such a carillon as that of Malines. The cost would be pretty large, and he was going to give them a high figure which he would like them to aim at. The weight of the bells at Malines was, he believed, about 34 tons. The price of tin was quite prohibitive, and the same might almost be said of copper; but after the war, when freights became a little easier, and the metals were not required for some of the purposes for which they were now being used, it might be possible to replace such a carillon at from £10,000 to £15,000. What he would suggest was that the top figure should be taken as an estimate, and he would like to consult the Council as to whether it was not possible to take the lead in this matter, and put forward an appeal from the ringers to the general public, more particularly to the church-going public in this country, and see whether some such sum could not be raised. With regard to the effects of the destruction, he had been given by the Belgian Government a set of photographs of some of the ruined churches, and they had lent him the corresponding lantern slides, to make any use he liked of in order to emphasise the appeal. The question arose as to the best method to

which such an appeal should be made, but it would, perhaps, first be well for the Council to express an opinion as to whether such an appeal should be made.

Mr. J. W. Taylor said he believed it was a fact that very few, if any, of the carillons of Belgium belonged to the church. They were usually placed in secular buildings. At Malines the carillon was in the Cathedral, but the Cathedral itself belonged to the Corporation. At Alost, the belfry was a secular building; at Ypres the belfry was at the Cloth Hall; and many others were in buildings belonging to the Corporations. Therefore, in giving bells, the ringers would be giving to the various Corporations. The bells used at the Church of Malines were three or four in a separate part of the building altogether.

IS IT PREMATURE?

Mr. G. P. Burton was sorry to have to object to the resolution; he thought it was altogether premature. They did not yet know what the end of the war was going to be. They did not even know whether by some turn of fortune they might not find the Belgians fighting against them. The Allies' war aims were changing daily, and different coalitions might be formed before the war was over. It was premature, therefore, to talk about helping the Belgians. Further, they would not be helping the church in Belgium, they would be helping the secular authority. Besides, were not the Germans going to pay? They had been told in season and out of season that the Germans were going to pay, and if so, why were the poor ringers to be asked to pay? They had just been told that the Council had no power to deal with matters of this kind; how could they, then, suggest that ringers should put their hands into their pockets, and pay money for Belgium—a country whose good faith they knew nothing about?

The Rev. H. J. Elsee said he hoped they would not wind up on this last note. He did not agree at all with what Mr. Burton had said. With regard to bells being in secular hands, he supposed that if such a project as this was taken up, their idea would not be to express their sympathy with the Church in Belgium, for which they might and did sympathise, but rather with the Belgian people as a whole. Belgium was more associated with the idea of its bells than any country in the world, not even excepting England. Whatever might be said about Belgium, whatever Belgium might do in the future no one doubted this, that by its heroic stand in the early days of the war Belgium went a very long way towards saving England (hear, hear), and in our gratitude for that, and to express our sympathy with what was, he hoped, a very heroic State, this scheme would be a most touching expression of sympathy, not only from English ringers, though he supposed it would be largely engineered and worked by the ringers, but from the bell-loving public of England (hear, hear).

The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore asked if it was not rather premature. They might sympathise with Belgium, but they had their own business in the matter of the war. Afterwards, perhaps, they might do something with regard to Belgian bells, but they would have in each of their associations war memorials for which they must appeal to their members first of all.

BELLS THAT BELONG TO THE WORLD.

Mr. E. H. Lewis said he thought in writing to the 'Ringing World' he had made it quite clear that nothing whatever could be done until after the war. His idea in bringing it before the public now was that it would be easier to collect the money at the present time rather than later on. With regard to the Germans paying, they all expected Germany to make reparation, but nothing but the necessities could come first. The Belgians must have bread first, they must then have the means of restoring their industries, and it might be many years before the Germans were able to replace what might be regarded more or less as luxuries. Even if the Germans were to be made to restore the value of the bells he did not see why they should not in this country make the Belgians a gift of one or more bells, or a carillon as a mark of gratitude for the stand they made, and which undoubtedly did save us from a great deal of suffering, if not from something worse. He did not mind whether the gift was made to the Belgian Church or the Belgian State. He did not look upon the bells of Belgium as belonging to either. He regarded them as belonging to the world, just as famous pictures were of international value and belonged to mankind as a whole, and not to the particular nation in whose custody they might happen to be. The bells of Belgium were there a very long time before Belgium was an independent State. It had been said that the idea of the restoration of some of these bells had already been taken up in America, and he thought it would be a pity if we as a country, who loved bells more than anyone else, with the exception of Belgium, fell behind the Americans. He thought he had made it clear he would have nothing to do with the scheme except on condition that every penny should be invested in war bonds, and not touched until the war had finished. They would then be securing a double object, helping on the war and, when the war was over, being in a position to make this gift.

Mr. Burton proposed, and Mr. R. Narborough seconded, that the question be adjourned, but this amendment, on being put, was lost.

Mr. Lewis moved, and Mr. E. A. Young seconded, that the scheme should be proceeded with.

The Hon. Secretary said they would remember he had been very careful to say that he would consider it a great pity if at any time the Council undertook the management of any funds other than its

own, and he felt very strongly on that point. He was entirely in sympathy with Mr. Lewis's proposal, that England should help Belgium, and he hoped they would be able to do something quite material in restoring either some individual bells or a whole carillon when the proper time came. He was also strongly in favour of the Council giving its blessing to the scheme, but he should vote against the Council making itself a treasurer of the funds in any way. If they wanted to do anything of that sort, let them appoint a committee to manage the funds which should not be answerable to the Council, but to the public at large. Whatever they did, his strong advice was, not to render themselves as a Council liable for the management and dispensation of the money. Let them elect a committee, but do not let the fund be in the hands of the Council. He was sure the Exercise would look with respect on any committee that the Council elected.

The motion to proceed was carried by a large majority.

(To be continued).

NOTICE TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS

Owing to the renewed illness of the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' who has been ordered away by his medical adviser for special treatment, the responsibility for the publication of 'The Ringing World' for the next few weeks has been kindly undertaken by other hands, and in view of the difficulties which this may occasion the indulgence of all our friends is asked for. Correspondents who make themselves responsible for reports of meetings are asked to assist the acting editor by sending on their 'copy' early. It is particularly requested that all communications shall be addressed to 'The Ringing World,' and not personally to the Editor, otherwise delay may arise.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE VETERAN OF ST. ANDREW'S, HOLBORN.

The members of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild held a very successful meeting at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on Saturday week. There was an attendance of about 40, including Messrs. W. and G. R. Pye, E. J. Butler, C. Dean, H. E. Wills, W. S. Wise, C. T. Clayton, A. Hubbard, W. Hewett, R. Sanders, G. Kilby, O. L. Twist, etc. After one or two slight mishaps at the start, some good touches were rung in methods, comprising Grandtreble and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major.

Tea was taken at the Court House, presided over by the Rector (the Rev. E. C. Bedford), who at the conclusion read the lines given below, composed by himself, and supposed to be a conversation by Mr. J. Raynor, the veteran steepkeeper, which were received with applause.

The handbells were then brought into use to the tune of Stedman Cinques, and were much appreciated by the Rector's wife and friends.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by the Rector.—Two new members were elected, and a vote of condolence passed with the relatives of the late Mr. J. Barry.

The subject of a county memorial to those who have fallen in the war was discussed, several members expressing their views, and it was suggested that the matter be talked over at the next S. and W. district meeting, in order that something definite may be ready for the next annual meeting.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for kindly allowing the members to visit St. Andrew's that day, to which the Rector very suitably replied.

Mr. Alps then moved a resolution of hearty congratulation to Mr. Joseph Raynor on the condition of his health, and for the loyal way he had always acted towards the Association, adding a wish that he may be spared to ring for the victory and lasting peace.

The meeting over, the tower was again visited until 9 p.m.

HOLBORN ST. ANDREW'S BELLS.

The old steepkeeper, Mr. J. Raynor, aged 83, speaks:—

St. Andrew's bells I've tended thee these five and fifty year,
But getting on for eighty-four, I soon must stop, I fear.
It grieves me sore, I'll tread no more the narrow old stone stair
And set the tune, and pull my rope, up in the belfry there.

There's just two peals in London town, which can compare with ours
(Not counting the Cathedral with its great dome and towers).
Time was I rang the tenor bell, when these old arms were strong,
But I can ring the treble yet with the other men along.

Week in, week out, each Sabbath day, I'm always in my place,
Calling the folks to worship, and to seek the throne of grace,
I've rung at scores of weddings, at funerals I've tolled,
But I must soon lay down my task, for I am growing old.

But ere I pass, and men for me ring out the muffled peal,
There's something that I'd like to do, and surely shall I feel
It is that I—before I die—and ere my duties cease
May join the ring which tells the news of Victory and Peace!

June, 1918.

EDWIN C. BEDFORD.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual Guild festival will be held at Winchester on Saturday, June 22nd. The Cathedral bells will be available from 11 a.m.; annual meeting, 2.15 p.m., at St. Maurice's Hall; service at Cathedral 4 p.m.; tea 5 p.m. Half rail fares and half cost of tea allowed for those attending annual meeting.—George Williams, Hon. General Sec., West End, near Southampton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Northowram on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until 9; tea at 5.30 p.m., members to bring their own rations, cups of tea will be provided; business meeting immediately after. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. District Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the South-Eastern Division will be held at Boreham on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells available from 6 o'clock till 9; business meeting during the evening.—F. W. Edwards, Writtle.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells ready at 4; service at 5.30; meeting at 6.—Rev. E. E. Collier and Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wollaston (Stourbridge) on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m.; service in the Church at 5; business meeting in the School after the service.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, St. Edward's Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bury, on Saturday, June 22nd, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.30. A good attendance is earnestly requested.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Arundel on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells available from 4 o'clock till 9. Tea 1/- each, to all who let me know by June 19th.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—A meeting will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on June 27th for handbell practice at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY—(Estab. 1623).—The 295th anniversary of this Society will be held on June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors will be welcome.—R. A. Strong, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Penkridge on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available at 3; service in church, with address by Rev. J. A. Burton, at 4.45; tea and general meeting at "Littleton Arms" Hotel at 5.30. Tickets for tea will be 1/- for fully-paid members who send names by Tuesday, 25th inst., to others 1/6.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—A friendly gathering of the members of the E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch will take place at St. Michael's Church, Warfield, Berks, on Saturday, June 29th, at 6 o'clock. Friends and neighbours welcome.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Appledore on Saturday, June 29th. Bells (8) available from 5 o'clock.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Kettering District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kettering on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m., to be followed by business meeting.—Walter T. Wilson, Hon. Sec., The Pines, Isham, near Kettering.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Borden on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. District Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Quorn on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 2 o'clock; committee meeting at 4.30; tea (1/- each) at 5 o'clock, followed by general meeting in the National Schools. It is important that those who intend being present for tea should notify Mr. A. Burrows, Cotesdale, Quorn, not later than the previous Thursday morning.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Denton on Saturday, June 29th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Taunton on Saturday, July 6th. Particulars to follow.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, July 6th, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the Western District will be held at Paulton on Saturday, July 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; service at 4 p.m.; tea and meeting at the Vicarage at 4.30 p.m. Members and friends cordially invited. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than July 2nd.—N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Calverley on Saturday, July 6th. The bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m., and the business meeting will be held in the "Thornhill Arms" (near the church) at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, July 6th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; business meeting at 6 o'clock. All ringers and friends welcome.—S. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—W. Watts has removed from Mont House Cottage, Stanstead, Essex, to Watlands, Scayne's Hill, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

THE WINCHESTER GUILD.**SUCCESSFUL MEETING OF THE GUILDFORD DISTRICT.**

Quite the most successful meeting of the Guildford District, in recent years, was held at Worplesdon on Saturday week. It was attended by between 40 and 50 ringers, of whom half were ladies. Service was held in the Parish Church at five o'clock, and before commencing his address, the Rector (the Rev. J. C. G. Bruce) explained how sorry he was not to be able to welcome the ringers to the Rectory, but owing to the sudden death of his aunt, who was only on a short visit to them, he was quite sure the members would see it was impossible for him to do so, much as he wished to have them there. (Mrs. Bruce is a ringing member of the district.) He had, however, spoken to Mr. and Mrs. Arbuthnot, of Merrist Wood, who at once most kindly invited them there.

It might be added that, in addition to the Rector's very practical address, the number of ladies made the beautiful special service even more attractive and hearty than usual.

On arrival in the beautiful grounds of Merrist Wood, the ringers received a hearty welcome from Mr. and Mrs. Arbuthnot, who had kindly supplemented the rations brought by the ringers with tea, cakes, and garden produce. Those who were privileged to be present will long remember the outdoor tea, on the beautiful lawn, amidst some of the fairest scenery in Surrey.

The well-tuned peal of six bells in the Parish Church were kept going afternoon and evening by members from Cranleigh, Dorking, Aldershot, Guildford, Shalford, Ewhurst, etc.; also by visitors from Hersham, Weybridge, etc.

The business included the election of twelve new members (seven of whom were ladies), and the selection of the place of next meeting, for which Cobham was decided upon on July 13th.

A vote of thanks from the chair was gracefully acknowledged by Mrs. Arbuthnot, who said she hoped to see them all again when the rationing was over and done with.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last a very successful and representative meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Flixton, members attending from Ashton-under-Lyne, Birch, Barlow Moor, Eccles, Hyde, Oldham, Prestwich, Pendleton. Mr. Wm. Bibby, of Frodsham, Chester, was also present. Lady ringers attended from Prestwich, the Misses Ada and Alice Roberts, and Miss Annie Foster, from Miles Platting; Misses A. Simpson and M. Simpson, Miss E. Tongue, and Mrs. Wolstencroft, from Ashton-under-Lyne. Mr. W. E. Ryder presided over the business meeting, and gave a hearty welcome to the visitors on behalf of the Flixton company. A vote of condolence was passed to the widow and family of the late James Henry Ridyard, of Worsley, and was carried by the members standing in silence. Prestwich was decided upon as the next meeting-place, and the Association Committee Meeting will also be held there on July 20th.

Ringings were indulged in in various methods, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector and local ringers for their welcome to Flixton.

MEETING AT GREAT TEY.

The beautiful weather on Bank Holiday was a great help to the success of a friendly meeting of ringers held at the quaint old Parish Church of St. Barnabas, in the village of Great Tey. Ringing on the musical peal in the grand old Norman tower commenced about three o'clock, touches of Superlative and Cambridge Surprise, Double Norwich, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, being brought round. An adjournment was made for tea at the Chequers Inn, after which more ringing took place till eight o'clock. The ringers present included Messrs. F. Claydon, J. French, J. and R. Fleuty, W. Burst, and W. Sillitoe, from Earls Colne; H. Cooper, Yeldham; L. Wiseman and B. Pettitt, Hedingham; J. Sadler, W. Howell, and E. W. Beckwith, Coggeshall; J. Newman, Feering; A. Shuffelbotham, Braintree; W. Elliott, Kelvedon; and last, but certainly not least, Corpl. Buesden, from Canterbury, who is on duty in the neighbourhood.

THE LATE BROTHERS RIDYARD.

At the Parish Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, June 8th a muffled peal of Grandsire Cinques was attempted, but unfortunately a change course brought it to a close after two hours. It was rung as a mark of respect to the memory of Brothers Joseph Ridyard and James H. Ridyard, of Worsley, those taking part being: Edwin S. Morgan 1, Robert Davies 2, Thos. Jakeman 3, Thos. B. Worsley 4, Joseph Lowe 5, Joseph Mellor 6, Harry Chapman 7, John Leigh 8, Titus Barlow 9, Albert Adams 10, Samuel Wood (composer and conductor) 11, Amos Trippier 12.

PENTRE RHONDDA.—Llandaff Association.—On April 21st, at St. Peter's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1220 changes), in 50 mins.: G. Cross 1, H. Page (conductor) 2, F. Wines 3, F. Lasbury 4, T. Hamlin 5, J. Cross 6, T. Pages 7, W. Page 8. Rung as a farewell to F. Wines before joining the army.

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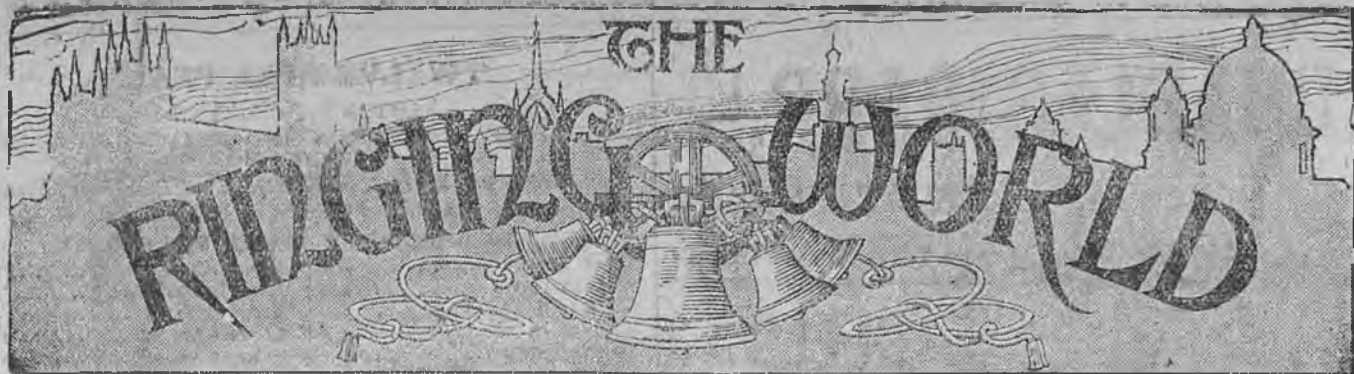
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onor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRON CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two
new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton,
recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives
general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased
they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to
judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Archdeacon, Diocese of Worcester

MODERN WORK

RAISING AND FALLING IN PEAL.

When the Central Council met at Whitsuntide it found time to discuss the question of raising and falling of bells in peal; the subject being initiated with a view to reviving what some people believe to be a gradually disappearing practice. This matter was on the agenda three years ago, but was crowded out for want of time. It proved, however, a subject that interested the members, judging from the number who spoke, but for the most part they were able to say that in the particular districts which they represented raising and falling in peal is not becoming a decadent art. This was gratifying, and goes to point to the fact that perhaps the practice is not slowly dying out, after all. Everyone admits that the musical effect of a good 'rise' or 'fall' is very charming, and to the ordinary public the most impressive of all ringing.

This being so, why do not ringers universally adopt this practice? There are several reasons that may be advanced, although they may not be reasons that are insurmountable. While good raising and falling has a charm of its own, nothing sounds worse than when it is badly done, and, we believe, ringers, with no experience in this practice, refrain from taking it up merely because they are afraid of the clashing they are likely to make. It may or may not be true that a man is not a complete ringer until he can ring up and down in peal; but some men who are proficient strikers when change ringing, are indifferent ringers when it comes to raising and falling, and this being so, it is hardly a wonder that others who know the limit of their abilities at a rope's end, when a bell is well under command, are loth to begin on an operation which requires a nice adjustment when a bell is not under full control. This could, of course, be overcome by practice, but it is just the risk of the jangle that would annoy outside ears that deters many bands from trying.

Among the other and perhaps more legitimate reasons which hinder the practice, and which often lead to the bells being left up, are these: that where the bells are of any weight, one or more of the heavier ones may go up 'wrong,' and there may be difficulties in the way of turning the clapper; while when the time for ringing for service is limited to, say, 20 or 25 minutes, raising and lowering cuts out too big a portion of the available period. We give these reasons as among the causes why raising and falling in peal are perhaps not more general; but the Council's discussion, if it induces a wider adoption of the practice, will not have been in vain. At any rate, the Council doubtless feels that it has done its duty in calling attention to the matter, but it must trust to providence for any practical result.

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The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION AND ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, June 22, 1918, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
At the Parish Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5081 CHANCES;

CHAS. BOWER Treble	HARRY CHAPMAN 7
*ROBERT DAVIS 2	JOHN LEIGH 8
THOMAS JAKEMAN 3	*TITUS BARLOW 9
*THOMAS B. WORSLEY 4	ALBERT ADAMS 10
*JOSEPH LOWE 5	SAMUEL WOOD 11
JOSEPH MELLOR 6	*AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Rung to commemorate the induction of the Rev. J. C. Holden, M.A., to the Rectory of Ashton-under-Lyne.

* First peal on 12 bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DRIFHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 22, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.	
JOSEPH BROADLEY Treble	JOHN PALFRAMAN 5
JOSEPH E. SYKES 2	FIRTH HOPWOOD 6
THOMAS B. KENDALL 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
BENJAMIN THORP 4	HERBERT DRANSFIELD Tenor

Composed by JOHN THORP.

Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Francis Barker.

SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, June 22, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt. in E flat.

ALFRED SHUKER Treble	PERCY BAKER 5
*THOMAS SMITH 2	GEORGE HAYCOX 6
JOHN BRADNEY 3	CHARLES R. LILLEY 7
FREDERICK DARRALL 4	*ERNEST BEAMAN Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal.

The ringers of 1, 5, 6 and tenor belong to Shifnal, 2, 3 and 4 to Wolverhampton, and the conductor to St. Chad's, Shrewsbury.

DEATH OF MR. SAMUEL SARGENT, BOCKING.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Samuel Sargent, which occurred on May 23rd, at his residence, at Church Street, Bocking, at the age of 66 years. The deceased joined the St. Mary's company in November, 1876, and had been a regular ringer ever since. He joined the Essex Association in 1879. By his quiet and unostentatious manner, he had gained the respect and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. Although not very keen on peal ringing, he took part in the first peal of Minor in seven methods on the old ring of six, and in several peals after the addition of the two trebles, including the first peal on the eight bells. Until prevented by illness he was very regular and consistent in his attendance for service ringing.

He was buried in Bocking Cemetery on May 27th, the service being conducted by the senior curate (the Rev. E. V. Casson). In addition to the family mourners there attended Mr. C. H. Howard (representing the Essex Association), Messrs. W. Moore and L. Clow, members of the local company, and several fellow workers from Courtauld Ltd., where the deceased had worked a great number of years.

In the evening of the interment, deeply muffled touches of Grand-sire Triples were rung by ringers of Bocking, Braintree and Stisted, and for Matins on the Sunday after the bells were rung half-muffled, the touches being conducted by A. Shuffieldham.

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

As will be seen from the College Youths' notice, in another column, the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral are to be rung from 5.15 to 6.25 p.m. on Independence Day, July 4th, as a compliment to our American Allies.

HALIFAX & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**NEW PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.**

The annual meeting and six bell contest, of the Halifax District Association was held at Meltham Parish Church on Saturday week, when four companies took part in the contest, each set ringing 504 changes of Kent Treble Bob, preceded by three leads for practice. The judges for the day were Mr. Broadley, of Bradford, and Mr. Thorp, of Ashton-under-Lyne. The draw for order of ringing took place at 4 p.m. in the school, and the contest was finished about 7.30 p.m. During the afternoon tea was served to the visitors, who numbered close on 100.

The annual meeting was held in the Schoolroom at the conclusion of the ringing, the retiring President (Mr. Cotterell) being in the chair, supported by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Barter) and the retiring secretary (Mr. F. Salmons). The balance sheet was read by Mr. Carter (in the absence of the treasurer, Mr. Ambler, who was unavoidably absent, and passed, on the proposition of Mr. Tinker, seconded by Mr. Whittington.

Mr. Cotterell expressed his pleasure at seeing so large a gathering, and said that, although he would always do what he could to further the interest of the society, he felt he would like to resign his position as president, as he thought these honours ought to go round. He had been the President of the Association for six years.—Mr. Broadley moved, and Mr. A. Carter, of Ripponden, seconded, that Mr. J. E. Carter, of Almondbury, be president, and this was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Cotterell, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Harcastle and Mr. Hardy were elected vice-presidents.

Mr. Frith, of Huddersfield, was elected secretary, in place of Mr. Salmons, and Mr. Ambler was re-appointed treasurer.

It was decided to leave the place of next meeting in the hands of the secretary.

A very hearty vote of thanks was given to the local company, and to the ladies for the way they had catered for the visitors, and a cordial vote of thanks was also given to the Vicar for the use of his bells and schools, and for his presence at the meeting.

The judges' decision was announced by Mr. Broadley as follows:—

Almondbury, 134 faults.

Now Mill, 145 faults.

Earlsheaton, 151 faults.

Kirkburton, 152 faults.

Almondbury were, therefore, declared the winners.

The Vicar, in reply to the vote of thanks, said how pleased he was to be amongst them, and that it had been a great treat to him to listen to the ringing. The first contest at their church was in 1836, and out of 14 teams Almondbury was the winner, so it seemed only right that Almondbury should win that day, when only four companies had competed. They prized their ringers at Meltham, not only on account of the ringing, but because they had some of their best Churchmen amongst them, and he hoped all the churches affiliated to the Association could say the same. He had great pleasure in presenting the cup to Almondbury.

A hearty vote of thanks to all retiring officers and the judges brought a very successful meeting to a close.

PRESENTATION AT ASPLEY GUISE.

Mr. Mark Lane, the foreman of the company, at Aspley Guise Beds, having secured the appointment as head gardener at Cranfield Court, Beds, the Aspley members, and also some from Woburn, met in the tower on Wednesday week and rang some farewell touches with him. Before the bells were lowered, Mr. Lane was presented by Mr. W. Chibnall, on behalf of the company, with a handsome clock, in recognition of their esteem and the good services he had rendered during the 35 years he had been a member. Mr. Mumford also spoke on behalf of the Vicar, and from whom he handed Mr. Lane a letter of appreciation. The Woburn members also gave him a pipe, and Mr. M. Matthews a tobacco pouch, as a token of their friendship. All wished Mr. Lane success and good health in his new vocation, to which he suitably responded.

DEATH OF A PANGBOURNE RINGER.

The death has occurred of Mr. John Nichols, of Pangbourne, Berks, who was the foreman of the belfry for a great many years. He is the second of the Pangbourne ringers who have passed away recently, the other being Mr. G. Ashby, so that the band is broken up for a time.

The late Mr. Nichols had rung a few peals, but his greatest delight was to meet visiting ringers. Nothing seemed too much trouble, and his place will be difficult to fill. The deceased was laid to rest on June 7th, near the tower where he had spent so many hours. In the evening 360 and 240 Grandsire Doubles were rung at the Parish Church with the bells half-muffled, by: W. Parsons 1, A. Webb 2, S. Coventry 3, A. C. West 4, J. Bower 5, E. Nichols 6. The ringing was conducted by J. Bower, of Goring, an old and intimate friend of the deceased.

SENTIMENT v. PRACTICAL POLITICS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your leader in the *Ringling World* of June 14 strikes a note of some significance to the Exercise in regard to the construction of the Central Council: (1) As a body of representatives as between the Church and ringers; (2) as to the qualifications of the individuals, as representatives; (3) as to practical politics being placed second to seniority and sentiment. I agree upon many points established in the paper read by the Rev. C. D. P. Davis, and I think the bone of contention can be simply removed when the point of sentiment is deleted, especially in regard to the election of representatives. I am not an advocate of disregarding the point of seniority when it is coupled with a question of life's study for practical purposes, and has proved useful in the objects we have at heart, for it is valuable for the experience it gathers in its trail.

As the years have rolled on, it has been my experience to note the various appointments of delegates to the Central Council at the various meetings throughout the country, and, being in a position of detachment, I could not refrain from seeing the absurdity of some of these appointments, made mostly from sentimental reasons to the exclusion of valuable, practical and experienced men. I have no axe to grind, but I feel I am voicing the opinion of those who are reluctant to put their views into cold type. A personal atmosphere also enters into the election which cannot always be avoided. Might I suggest, then, if sentiment is to be considered, it should not extend beyond the Associations' own work, and recognition, by election to an office of compliment and honour, should be confined to posts inside the various societies.

I am not in happy agreement on one point in your comment; that is, regarding the absence of debates at district meetings. Some very valuable discussions are introduced at some of these minor meetings, but are seldom reported for obvious reasons. As a matter of fact, shyness invariably enters into possession the moment some speakers are confronted by a council of heads. Some very healthy points are thrown out by the Rev. C. D. P. Davis for consumption, regarding the construction of the Central Council and its purpose. They are worthy of digestion for future guidance.

To uphold our traditions and our objects, ringers, as church workers, are in a position of grace, so far as the church is concerned, and our Council should be our supreme help. Let us hope it will remain so. In many instances we have useful and valuable members on the Central Council; let us retain them.—Yours, etc., H.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**SOUTHERN DIVISION.**

On Saturday, June 15th, the quarterly meeting of the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Wath. The weather was not very favourable, but a fairly representative number of ringers put in an appearance, representing the following towers: Barnsley, Darfield, Sheffield, Norton, Arksey, Doncaster, Wortley, West Melton, Rotherham and Hoylandswaine. The bells were kept going in Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Bob Minor, Violet, and other six bell methods.

The usual business meeting was held at the Church House, which was kindly put at the disposal of the visitors by the Vicar (the Rev. Kehle Martin, M.A.), who is acting chaplain with the colours in France.

The business was very rapidly got through, and, after a few touches on the handbells, the tower was again visited, and the bells were kept going till close upon nine o'clock, when it was the writer's good fortune to hear them lowered in peal in a manner which was a credit to the band, and would have made some of the members of the Central Council acknowledge there was something in the art of raising and lowering bells in peal.

An invitation to hold the next meeting at Doncaster was unanimously accepted, on Sept. 14th, at St. George's Church, a fine peal of eight, together with the bells of Arksey, a peal of six.

OXFORD GUILD.

On Saturday evening, June 15th, several members of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch, together with Mr. Hewett, of Camberwell, cycled to Hughenden, where they were met and welcomed by Mr. John Evans, and spent a very pleasant evening. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung. The belfries represented were: Beaconsfield, Chalfont St. Peter, Great Missenden, High Wycombe, Stoke Poges, and Fulmer. Miss MacKivill rang her first touch of Grandsire Triples, unaided, with the treble, and a nice touch of Stedman was rung by: Miss G. E. Bateman 1, G. Gutteridge 2, W. Henley 3, W. Horne 4, W. H. Hewett (conductor) 5, J. Blackmore 6, J. Evans 7, J. H. Barnes 8.

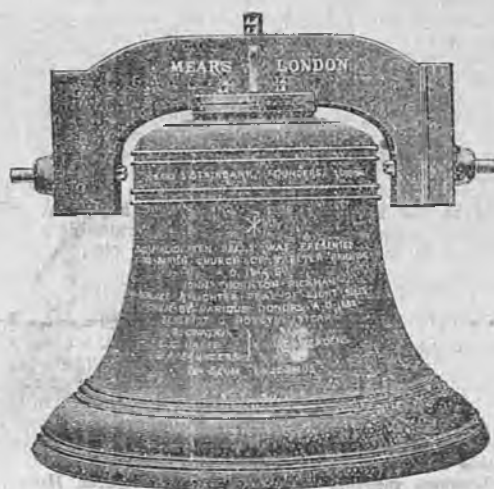
SIRSEY, LANCS.—On Easter Monday, at the Parish Church, 1050 Grandsire Triples: M. Clark 1, F. Hilton 2, J. H. Holmes 3, C. Ward 4, T. Humberstone 5, J. H. Clark 6, W. Dickinson (conductor) 7, W. Larken 8. Messrs. Hilton and Larken hail from Lecke, the rest from Heckington. Other touches were also rung, and the visitors were afterwards invited to the Vicarage to tea, which was greatly appreciated by all.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTHERN BRANCH MEETING AT WOLLASTON.

The meeting of the Northern Branch was held on Saturday last, and under the circumstances the attendance was fairly representative, but the call for men and yet more men has sadly depleted very many towers. However, the Association is doing its best to carry on until the boys come home, and it is hoped that those who are left will do their best to teach the art to the younger generation, and fill the gaps which, alas! will have to be faced after the war is over. Ringing commenced soon after three p.m., and in the absence of the Branch Master (Mr. S. Grove), who is somewhere in France, Mr. H. Withers deputised for him.

The service, which was taken by the Vicar (the Rev. C. H. Wanstall) was fairly well attended. Prior to his address, the Vicar extended a hearty welcome to the Association. The address was somewhat off the beaten track, because it was not connected with bells. The Vicar discussed the question: 'Why did not God prevent the war?' and, in simple language, suggested the answer. All those who had the pleasure of being present were deeply impressed by what the speaker told them.

At the business meeting, held in the Schools, about 30 members were present, the Vicar presiding. The election of two life members was ratified, and Clew was selected for the next quarterly meeting, on September 21st.

A hearty vote of thanks was given the Vicar for arranging the service and giving the address, and for presiding at the meeting.

The Vicar, in responding, said he was sorry that, owing to the rationing, he could not provide what was usually done, but he trusted that in the near future they would pay another visit to Wollaston. He was pleased to be a member, and he hoped they would honour them with another visit when the war was over. To show the spirit of our lads at the front, he related a little story as told him by his brother, an officer, who visited him while on leave. They were waiting orders to go over the top, when the officer heard two men whom he thought were quarrelling and likely to attract notice. Going up to them he heard the words, Bobs and Singles. Not being a ringer himself, he asked what was the matter, and to his astonishment they were arguing about the composition of a certain peal. He cited this story to illustrate how, while under such conditions, they being ringers, could talk of such things when one never knew what was going to happen the next minute.

Ringings were kept up until 8 o'clock, when a very pleasing meeting was brought to a close.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. J. BARRY.

After retiring to rest on Saturday night, May 18th, and apparently in his usual health, Mr. Joe Barry, of Islington, was taken ill, and early on Sunday morning, the 19th, he passed away at the age of 61 years. The deceased had resided in Islington for many years, and was well known and much respected by a very large number of ringers throughout London and many parts of the country.

The funeral took place on Friday, the 24th May, at Finchley Cemetery, and on Tuesday evening, May 28th, as a last tribute of respect, muffled ringing took place on the bells of St. James the Apostle, Prebend Square, Islington, by Messrs. H. C. Alford 1. A. Riley 2. W. A. Alps 3. H. May 4. E. G. Fenn 5. R. Sanders 6. the usual 'whole pull and stand' being rung. A touch of Treble Bob Minor was brought round, by: H. C. Alford 1. A. Diserens 2. W. A. Alps 3. G. Smith 4. E. G. Fenn 5. R. Sanders (conductor) 6. The deceased was a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths.

LOSS TO ISLEWORTH.

At Isleworth, on Monday evening, June 11th, after the funeral of the late Mr. Wotton, of Isleworth, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect: G. A. Ransom 1. W. Lawrence 2. T. Beadle 3. W. H. Lidbetter 4. H. C. Chandler 5. S. Carter (conductor) 6. A. Beckensale 7. A. Sheard 8.

Mr. Wotton was for several years churchwarden and latterly a sidesman at the Parish Church. He was greatly respected in the parish and his loss will be felt very much. He took great interest in everything that was started for the good of the parish, and while he was churchwarden, the frame bearing the bells became so bad that the bells could not be rung. By his hard work enough money was soon got to enable an order to be given to Messrs. J. Taylor and Son for a new frame. At the same time the bells were quarter turned, and a new floor was put to the bell chamber.

YOUTHFUL CHANGE RINGERS.

On Sunday, June 16th, on handbells, at 68, White Horse Hill, Chislehurst, "20 a" Bob Minor: David Brett Smith (aged 13 years) 1. Percy Brett Smith (16 years) 2. Robert Brett Smith (conductor) 3. Tom Brett Smith (aged 14 years) 5. Cyril Brett Smith (aged 11 years) 6. This is the first 720 by the ringers of 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, who are the sons of H. Brett Smith.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Concluded from Page 197.)

In the further discussion on the proposal to inaugurate a fund for assisting in the restoration of the bells in Belgium.

Mr. Lewis suggested that the Council should form a small committee with power to co-opt, either from inside or outside the Council to determine the best means of making an appeal.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall said, if they gave authority to the committee to appoint from outside, the committee must be answerable to the Council.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee said it was quite clear if this scheme was to be made successful, a large sum would be wanted, and as they were not a wealthy body they could not provide more than a small part of it themselves, but probably every member of the Council in his own district knew of those who were specially interested in bells, and who would be likely to take up the scheme, which depended upon their being able to touch the imagination of those who were lovers of bells. If they could make a successful start, it would be a good way to carrying the scheme to a successful finish.

Mr. A. T. King said as a Council they had every sympathy with the proposal. It was simply a question of how to give effect to it. It was not a simple matter, but he thought by dint of co-operation and zeal a great deal might be done. For instance, after the war they would most of them, in their several bellfries be ringing joy-bells, they could then very well ask in some way or other the local people to co-operate with them. To go at once, however, and expect somehow or another to raise £10,000 amongst ringers required such a fairy godmother as he had never read of, and, unhappily, had never met.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall moved: 'That this Council is in favour of an appeal being made to the ringers of England and others to help Belgium in the restoration of her lost bells, and commends the matter to the notice of ringers and of all bell lovers.'—The Rev. F. L. Edwards seconded.

Mr. R. Narborough said in his district (Peterborough) 75 per cent. of the bells would not be fit for ringing when peace came unless they were attended to, and they would have to put their own bells in order before they thought of helping Belgium.

Mr. R. T. Holding said before they did anything further delegates would have to consult their Associations.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall said they had a right to express an opinion, but he did not think that at present they could go any further.

The motion was carried nem. dis.

Mr. Lewis proposed: 'That a committee be formed to consult the Associations as to the desirability of bringing forward a definite scheme for the formation of a fund to replace some of the bells of Belgium.' He said if this committee were appointed it would have the opportunity of collecting information, bringing the matter before the Associations, and getting it thoroughly thrashed out before next year.

The Hon. Secretary seconded the motion, which was carried, and the following were appointed to the committee with power to add to their number: Mr. E. H. Lewis, Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, Rev. H. J. Elsee.

RAISING AND FALLING BELLS IN PEAL.

The following motion was proposed by the hon. secretary: 'That the Council desires to draw the attention of the Exercise to the increasing abandonment of raising and falling bells in peal, as a result of which a large proportion of ringers do not acquire the necessary skill to enable them to take part in this ancient and musical practice.' He said it was only too true that there are a great many towers in the country where the ringers did not raise the bells in peal. They either jangled them up and jangled them down afterwards, or in some few instances left the bells up from week's-end to week's-end. Nothing, he said, was more musical and nothing was more inspiring than to hear the bells going up in peal, gradually opening out to the increasing sound. He had the privilege for many years of ringing in the Cheltenham towers, where raising and falling was one of the features of the practice, and one of the most beautiful features. It not only had a great musical advantage, but it taught the young ringer control of the bell, which he did not obtain in any other way. It was a great loss that the practice was falling into disuse. It was a custom that should be very heartily and warmly encouraged, and he thought they as a Council should set their face against its abandonment. The public liked to hear the bells raised and fallen in peal, and he had no doubt that it was this that had inspired much of the poetry concerning bells.

Mr. F. Willey said in Yorkshire it was very seldom they heard the bells raised in any other way than in peal—it was part of the service. Even in towers where the tenor was 28 cwt. or 24 cwt., or even 35 cwt., the bells were raised in peal for service. Those who did not learn to raise and fall had not learnt to ring, and he hoped the Council would impress upon the minds of ringers that it was part and parcel of the job to be perfect in raising and ceasing.

Mr. H. Haigh said in many churches in the district where he came from (North Notts), the people took the keenest delight in the raising and the falling of the bells in peal. Pulling the bells up singly was often the cause of complaint from outside, but there was nothing

more calculated to please the people than to hear the bells rung up and down for service.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards said in the Salisbury diocese a man did not consider himself a ringer until he could ring up and down in peal. The tone of a bell was at its best when the bell was half to three-parts of the way up, and if the bells were never raised in peal the public never heard them to the greatest advantage. It made a very poor finish to service ringing when, just at the time that the bells should be sounding at their best, they were jangled down in twos or threes.

Mr. W. Pye said if they were going to raise and lower the bells in peal at every service, there would be very little time left for change ringing, while lowering, if it was badly done, was horrible.

Mr. F. Wifford, Mr. J. R. Sharnan and Mr. A. T. King, having also spoken, the Chairman made reference to his experience in the West of England, where often on a practice night the ringers would see how many times they could raise and fall the bells in an hour, and it was a poor performance if they could not do it 30 times in that space. The perfection of it was a revelation to those who heard it. They all agreed as to the musical value of the practice, and to come to the practical part of the business they should all bring the subject to the notice of their Associations, so that it could be put before the ringers in the various towers.

THE NEXT MEETING.

The Chairman asked the Council to express an opinion as to whether, if the war was still in progress, a meeting of the Council should be held next year.

The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore moved that if the war is still on there be no meeting of the Council, but, if the war is over, there should be a meeting.

Mr. C. Dean seconded, and the Rev. H. J. Elsee suggested the addition of the words 'unless in the opinion of the Standing Committee there is urgent need of a meeting.'

Mr. J. W. Jones moved as an amendment that the meeting be held. He said that they ought to meet as an example to the associations. If they did not meet, they could not expect to get support from the various associations.

The amendment having been seconded, was carried by 28 votes to 16, and it was then decided by 24 votes to 12 that the meeting be held at Gloucester, if the war is over, but in London if the war is not over.

The Chairman, having been accorded a vote of thanks for presiding, said he was delighted to know that the Council had been so extraordinarily well attended in those difficult circumstances.

This terminated the business, the Council having sat till 5.30 p.m.

FORMER TENDERDEN RINGER KILLED.

News has reached us of the death, in France, of C. C. Tribe, leading seaman, Royal Naval Division, the son of the well-known and respected Ashford District secretary, C. C. Tribe was formerly a member of the Kent County Association, until he left Tenderden for Hastings, where he became captain of the ringers at St. Clement's. He joined the R.N.D. at the Crystal Palace in January, 1915, and after training went to Gallipoli.

After the withdrawal he was sent to France, and was wounded on the Somme. Coming home, he was in hospital for some time at Manchester and Bristol. In April of this year he was sent out again to France. On the morning of May 27th his division went up to the front line trenches, and in the afternoon of the same day a shell burst in the trench, killing him and five others.

He leaves a young widow, to whom he was married last September. His father's many friends among the ringing fraternity will deeply regret this second loss in Mr. Tribe's family, and will accord him their heartfelt sympathy.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

One of the most pleasant and successful meetings of the Stroud and District Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association took place at Woodchester. Ringers were present from Stroud, Painswick, Frocester, Woodchester, Minchinhampton, Leonard Stanley, Gloucester and Newent. Some good ringing took place during the afternoon by the 22 ringers present. There was a service at 5 p.m., the Association's form of service and hymns being used. After the service all were entertained to tea at Woodchester Lodge. Tea was laid on tables in the open in the front of the residence of Mr. H. Workman, and all were well attended to by Messrs A. Workman and Mr. E. T. and Miss M. Wise, and a most pleasant time was spent.

A short business meeting followed, Mr. John Austin (Master of the Association) presiding, Frocester and Bisley were selected for the Sunday meetings and Cranham for the quarterly meeting.

Two new members were elected, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to all the kind friends at Woodchester for doing everything to make the meeting so pleasant, which was carried with acclamation.

Some excellent change ringing and tune ringing on the handbells followed, including a good course of Grandside Triples, with two bells in each hand, by John Austin and ex-Sergeant J. Williams, which was much appreciated. The tower bells were again rung till 9 p.m. in the standard methods of Doubles and Minor.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WOLVERLEY.—Worcestershire Association.—On Sunday, March 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: F. Shaw 1, K. Salter 2, H. Martin (conductor) 3, W. Porter 4, T. J. Salter 5, A. Morris 6.

SHEFFIELD.—At All Saints' Church, on Easter Day, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: A. W. Gledstone 1, J. W. Smithson 2, Sergt. P. Gledstone 3, P. Shackleton 4, W. Chown 5, T. Chown 6, P. Willey (conductor) 7, W. Stubley 8. Also on Sunday evening, for service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1288 changes), from Brooke, in 43 mins.: E. F. Rippon 1, J. W. Smithson 2, Sergt. P. Gledstone 3, T. Chown 4, W. Chown 5, A. W. Gledstone 6, P. Willey (conductor) 7, W. Stubley 8. Both the above were rung as a compliment to Sergt. P. Gledstone, R.P.A., who was home on leave previous to entering a cadet school with a view to taking up a commission. He has the best wishes of all the company.

KINGSTHORPE, NORTHAMPTON.—On Sunday, April 7th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: B. Jennings (first-quarter) 1, G. Parker 2, J. Dunkley 3, W. Parsons 4, H. Clarke (conductor) 5, W. Hayes 6. Rung to welcome the new Vicar (the Rev. J. P. de Putron, M.A.), who read himself in at this service, and also as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the tenor on his 75th birthday.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.—Oxford Guild.—On April 7th, previous to the evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes): H. Butler 1, E. Markham 2, W. T. Horne 3, F. K. Biggs 4, Fred Hayes 5, G. Twicken 6, J. Blackmore (Beaconsfield) 7, Sergt. E. R. Martin 8, J. W. Wilkins (composer and conductor) 9, R. Coles 10. A complimentary quarter-peal to W. T. Horne on his 46th birthday.—For evensong, on April 21st, 1299 Stedman Caters, in 55 mins.: F. Hayes (composer and conductor) 1, R. Coles 2, E. Markham 3, F. K. Biggs 4, G. Twicken 5, J. W. Wilkins 6, G. White 7, F. Boreham 8, J. B. Williamson 9, W. T. Horne 10.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on April 7th, for morning service, 560 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.—On Sunday, April 14th, for morning service, 672 Bob Major: W. H. Dennison 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.—On May 5th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: J. Huddleston 1, Miss Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, T. R. Jackson 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6.—On May 12th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: T. Watson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss Stuart 4, T. R. Jackson 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6, W. S. Forshaw 7 (cover).

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—On Saturday, April 20th, at St. Peter's Church, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples unfortunately came to grief after ringing 4,536 changes in 2 hrs. 50 mins., through a rope breaking: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, F. Stoneley 2, J. W. Hulme 3, R. Wimpenny 4, Miss Sarah Holt 5, Ed. B. Shaw 6, W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, I. Schofield 8. The bells were rung muffled as a tribute to the late Mr. Joseph Ridyard, vice-president of the Lancashire Association, also to those from the parish who have fallen during the war.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church, on April 21st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins.: J. Rookwood 1, B. Wilson 2, Herbert Wood 3, A. King 4, Harry Wood 5, T. Kendall 6, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 7, A. J. Smith (first-quarter in the method) 8. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. D. Harries Williams, senior curate, who was leaving Luton for Aberystwyth, his many friends wishing him success in his new sphere of labour.—On May 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: F. Hunt 1, Henry Wood 2, Lance-Corpl. A. P. Arnell, M.F.P., of Worthing, 3, T. Kendall 4, Harry Wood 5, A. King 6, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 7, J. Rookwood 8. Rung as a farewell to the ringer of the second who is removing to Bristol.

PENDLEBURY, LANCs.—On April 21st, for evening service, at Christ Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes), composed by Mr. A. Pitman, in 1 hr. 10 mins.: W. Walton 1, W. Cottrell 2, T. Lingard (conductor) 3, D. Hindley 4, J. Brockbank (Swinton) 5, A. Wallwork 6, C. Seddon 7, and J. Edge 8. The bells were rung fully muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Thomas Kershaw, formerly Sunday School superintendent and churchwarden for a good many years.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, April 21st, at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, a quarter-peal of Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in three courses: A. Diserens 1, A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor) 2, C. F. Winney 3, A. W. Davis 4, A. W. Darlington 5, G. Fardon 6, M. Fensom 7, T. H. Taffender 8. This quarter-peal, in three courses is obtained by 4ths and in 2 H (28435), 2 M, 1 W, 2 H (52364), 2 M, 4ths and in, 2 W, 2 H (23456).

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church.—On Tuesday, April 23rd, in honour of St. George's Day, G. R. Newton's date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes), in 1 hr. and 8 mins.: Mrs. F. H. Herbert 1, P. J. Spice 2, A. E. Newick 3, G. Durling 4, G. Huxley 5, G. F. James 6, I. Emery (conductor) 7, T. I. Knight 8. Longest length by Mrs. Herbert and T. I. Knight, and by G. James with a working bell.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Penkridge on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available at 3; service in church, with address by Rev. J. A. Burton, at 4.45; tea and general meeting at "Littleton Arms" Hotel at 5.30.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Kettering District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kettering on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m., to be followed by business meeting.—Walter T. Wilson, Hon. Sec., The Pines, Isham, near Kettering.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Borden on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. District Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Quorn on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 2 o'clock; committee meeting at 4.30; tea (1/- each) at 5 o'clock, followed by general meeting in the National Schools.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Denton on Saturday, June 29th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—As a compliment to our American Allies, the bells at St. Paul's Cathedral will be rung on Independence Day, July 4th, from 5.15 to 6.25 p.m. A meeting will be held at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday, July 6th, at 3 p.m. Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on July 2nd, 16th and 30th, and for handbell practice on July 11th and 25th, all 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Taunton on Saturday, July 6th. Meeting in St. Mary's Schoolroom at 3.30 p.m., tea to follow; service in St. Mary's Church at 6. The bells of St. Mary's (10), St. James' (8) and Wiltón (6) will be available all the afternoon.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, July 6th, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the Western District will be held at Paulton on Saturday, July 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; service at 4 p.m.; tea and meeting at the Vicarage at 4.30 p.m. Members and friends cordially invited. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than July 2nd.—N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, July 6th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; business meeting at 6 o'clock. All ringers and friends welcome.—S. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Calverley on Saturday, July 6th. The bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m., and the business meeting will be held in the "Thornhill Arms" (near the church) at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Westerleigh on Saturday, July 6th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m.; tea at 5 p.m. (tea only), to be followed by business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Branch Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol, E.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The July meeting will be held at Wortley on Saturday, the 6th. Eight bells available afternoon and evening. Visitors who bring rations can obtain hot water and milk near the Church.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at East Farleigh on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock; service at 5; tea at 5.45, business meeting after. The Secretary would be glad to know not later than Tuesday, July 9th, of any members intending to be present. All will be welcome.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Estab. 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available from 4 p.m.; business meeting to follow at the Nag's Head Tavern at 8.30. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at Sherburn-in-Elmet on Saturday, July 13th. By kind permission of the Vicar the bells (8) will be available all day. Business meeting at 5.—W. Hinton, District Sec.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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	Tower Bells.	Handbells.
Grandsire Triples	2	1
Grandsire Caters	2	1
Stedman Triples	30	4
Stedman Caters	28	5
Stedman Cinques	16	3
Treble Bob Major	5	1
Treble Bob Royal	12	1
Treble Bob Maximus	8	
Bob Royal		1
Double Norwich Major	13	
Double Norwich Royal	3	
Superlative Surprise Major	18	
Cambridge Surprise Major	3	
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	3	
London Surprise Major	36	
London Surprise Royal	1	
Bristol Surprise Major	3	
Norfolk Surprise Major	1	
Brighton Surprise Major	1	

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HORSHAM, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, April 14th, for the evening service, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: E. Waller 1, Mrs. E. Whittington 2, J. Brown 3, A. J. Bartlett 4, R. Whittington 5, T. Worsfold 6, W. Short (conductor) 7, J. Whitehead 8.

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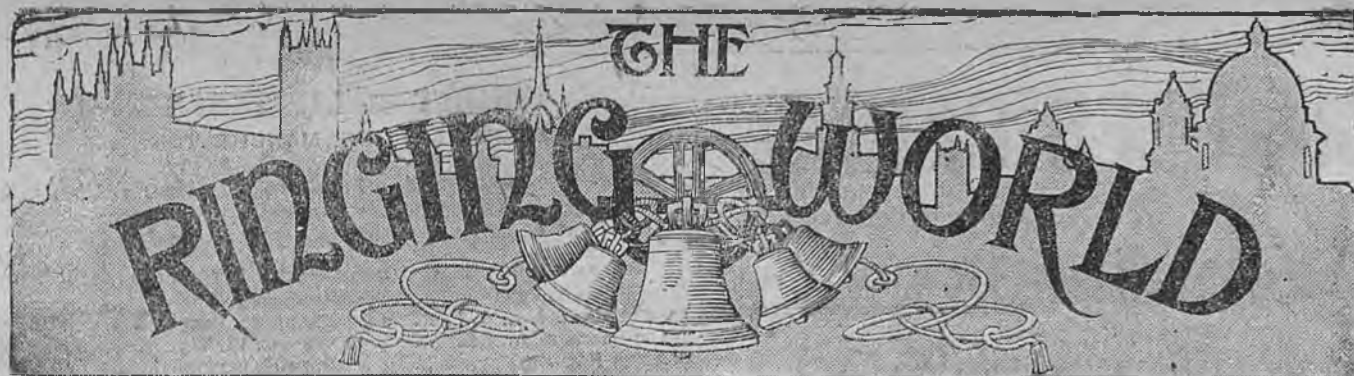
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[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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WULFRON CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorized by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

THE COUNCIL'S CRITICS.

When the Hon. Secretary, at the Central Council meeting, read his paper dealing with the past and the future of that body, very little real criticism was levelled. The members preferred to take twelve months to think the subject over, although, as we have already pointed out, the question of improving the utility of the Council has been before the Exercise for years. The truth is, of course, that unless one has taken as much pains to prepare an 'opposition' speech as the opener of a debate has done to lay his side of the case before his audience, the unprepared will often suffer by comparison. Perusal of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' paper reveals a very skilful defence of the Council, whose shortcomings during recent years are glossed over by a recital of what its aims were intended to be, and of its accomplishments in the distant past. In a previous article we showed that its recent 'acts and decisions' have been very scanty, and by no means equal to what the Exercise is really entitled to expect from its principal deliberative assembly.

The criticism of the Council that has recently been offered through these columns has not, however, been quite acceptable to some of those who imagine that all is for the best in this best of all possible Councils. 'Unhealthy criticism that was worthless, or at any rate dull reading,' was the opinion—according to report—expressed last Saturday by the President of the Midland Counties Association. The criticisms at any rate, we are inclined to think, have been no less worthless or dull than many of the Council debates themselves; but would there ever have been a prospect of getting even consideration of the need for improving the Council's utility if it had not been for criticism? Had it not been for criticism, expressed through those who have no axe to grind and no lip service to offer, the Council would probably never have lifted a finger to save itself, and eventually would have died of premature senile decay.

The criticism which could be levelled at the Council could be a great deal stronger than it has been, and with justification. Indeed when one mixes with the rank and file of the Exercise one hears expressions of opinion compared with which any criticisms are milk-mild. But now let the members of the Council tackle the matter for themselves. During the year they will have ample time to think out schemes of utility and improvement, and, in considering the Hon. Secretary's paper, they would do well to ponder at the same time on some of the home truths which appeared in the series of articles written a while back by Mr. J. A. Trollope, whose letter of criticism in another column in this issue is neither 'worthless' nor 'dull.'

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The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MILES PLATTING, MANCHESTER.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, June 22, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. John the Evangelist,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Taylor's Bob and Single Six-Part. Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lbs.

Miss Emma Tonge Treble	Edward B. Shaw 5
Joseph Hall 2	Frank Stoneley 6
Isaac Schofield 3	Walter W. Wolstencroft 7
Arthur Ridyard 4	John Harrison Tenor

Conductor: F. Stoneley.

First peal of triples on the bells; first peal by the ringer of the treble, whose age is 15 years; first peal with a bob bell by J. Hall. The ringers of 3 and 5 belong to Glodwick, Oldham; 7 and tenor to Ashton-under-Lyne; the rest to the local band. Miss Emma Tonge was elected a member previous to starting for the peal.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 26, 1918, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

* Frederick Morgan Treble	Older Waghorn 5
William H. Hoad 2	Albert E. Edwards 6
Walter H. Perry 3	Trayton Booth 7
John Blake 4	Thomas Hoad Tenor

Composed by B. Annable.

Conducted by Albert E. Edwards.

* First peal.

Rung with bells half-muffled as a token of respect to and in loving memory of Pte. Harold Edwards, Lancashire Fusiliers, who was killed in action in France on June 1st; aged 27 years, and who was at one time a respected member of the local band of ringers.

SIX BELL PEAL.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER.
LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, June 29, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

Arthur Hoodless Treble	Henry Ebbaston 4
Joseph Barrick 2	John W. Seamer 5
* William Ayre 3	Walter Ayre Tenor

Conducted by Walter Ayre.

* First peal.

† 50th peal.

First peal on the bells since restoration. Rung for the Patronal Festival and for the silver wedding of their Majesties the King and Queen. The ringer of the 3rd hails from York, 2nd and 4th from Barrow, 5th from Frimby, tenor from Gainsboro', and the treble belongs to the local band.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

On Friday, June 28, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At the Residence of Mr. W. T. Cockerill, Clapham, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5031 CHANGES;

Challis F. Winney 1-2	William Shepherd 5-6
William T. Cockerill 3-4	Herbert Langdon 7-8
John N. Oxborrow 9-10	

Composed by Cornelius Charge.

Conducted by William Shepherd.

Umpire: Edwin Horrex.

AN INVITATION.

Soldier and sailor ringers stationed in the Liverpool or Birkenhead district will be welcome at St. Saviour's, Orton, where ringing takes place on Sundays at 10.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING AT WINCHESTER.

The annual meeting of the Winchester Guild was held on Saturday, June 22nd, at Winchester, and proved a very successful gathering, fully justifying the committee in deciding that it should be held this year. The Cathedral bells were at the disposal of the members, from 11 a.m., with the exception of a short interval for a service.

The annual meeting was held at St. Maurice's Hall at 2.15 p.m., presided over by the Rev. W. E. Colchester, hon. treasurer, the towers represented being Southampton, Swanmore, Guildford (2), Worplesdon, Cranleigh, Walton, North Stoneham, Bagshot, Basingstoke, Yateley, Portsmouth, Portsea, Gosport, Dorking, Bishopstoke, Deane, Christchurch, Hersharn, Winchester, etc. Mr. F. E. Dawe, of Bramley, and Mr. L. W. Wiffen, of Wyke Regis, Weymouth, were also present.

The 38th annual report for the year ending December 31st, 1917, stated that when quarterly meetings had been held they were fairly well attended. Some very good combined practices had been held by the more enthusiastic members in various parts of the Diocese. Reference was made to the death of Mr. J. W. Whiting, of Fareham, one of the original members of the Guild, a tribute being paid to his memory. The loss, also on active service, of Mr. G. B. Edser, late secretary of Yorktown district, was also recorded with regret.

The treasurer's balance sheet showed a balance in hand at the end of the year of £121 12s. 3d.; of this sum £102 12s. 7d. is in the War Loan.

On the motion of Mr. W. Andrews, seconded by Mr. W. H. George, the balance sheet was adopted.

A discussion arose as to the omission of several peals from the report, but this was left to the committee to set right next year.

Whilst the business of the meeting was in progress a visit was paid by the Bishop, who was cordially greeted. In his address to the members a little later on, he remarked he had come by a double invitation, first by a member of the Cranleigh band, whom he met on his railway journey, and, secondly, by their treasurer. He said he must admit he had learnt much more than he had ever known before as to the amount of zeal and enthusiasm there was shown in connection with their craft; it gave him great encouragement, and he was very glad to have had the opportunity of just saying this word of friendly greeting (applause).

Mr. George proposed, on behalf of the Guild, a vote of thanks to the Bishop for the kindly advice offered them.—This was seconded by Mr. Whittington (of Cranleigh).—The Chairman, referring to the fact that the Bishop as patron was head of the Guild, said they were always glad when his lordship could speak to them. Their meetings were affected by the war, through loss and absence of members, but when they saw how many were giving their time and skill to the service of the Church it would be seen the Guild were not an insignificant body.

The voting was accorded by acclamation, and the Bishop, on leaving, was again applauded.

Business was then resumed, and on the proposition of Mr. Jones seconded by Mr. Andrews, the retiring members of the Central Council were re-elected, viz., the Master (Rev. C. E. Matthews), Mr. H. White and Mr. A. H. Pulling, the hon. general secretary (Mr. G. Williams) being elected in place of the late Mr. J. W. Whiting.—Several new members were elected, including the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who has recently been appointed to the rectory of Deane, near Overton, Hants, and who received a hearty welcome to the diocese.

The Hon. General Secretary announced several apologies for absence.

A long discussion arose as to suggestions for next annual meetings, Whit-Monday, and Saturday, June 23rd, 1919, being proposed. On a show of hands only eight voted for Whit-Monday; therefore, Saturday June 23rd, was carried by a large majority, subject to the committee's arrangement for the latter date.

The subject of a memorial to members of the Guild who have fallen in the war was discussed by a number of members present, but it was felt that nothing definite could be decided on at present.

Branches were asked to discuss the subject amongst themselves, and to forward any suggestions they may make to the hon. general secretary for consideration at their next committee meeting, in February next.

The members then adjourned for the 4 o'clock service at the Cathedral, tea being served at 5.15 p.m. in St. Maurice's Hall, when the chair was taken by Canon Braithwaite, supported by Canon Madge, Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Rev. W. E. Colchester (hon. treasurer), G. Williams (hon. general secretary), Mr. Nisbett, etc., the company numbering 70. An excellent tea was served by Mr. F. W. Holdaway, caterer, of Winchester.

A vote of thanks to the Cathedral authorities for the use of the bells, on behalf of the Guild, was proposed by The Hon. General Secretary, who remarked that without the Cathedral bells very little enthusiasm would be shown for an annual meeting.—The Chairman (Canon Braithwaite) having replied, a rush was again made for the tower, where the bells were kept going in various methods till 8 p.m., touches of Grand-sire and Stedman Caters, Treble Boh Royal, Double Norwich Major, etc., being brought round.

DEATH OF MR. G. F. ATTREE.

FAMOUS SUSSEX DAYS RECALLED.

News has been received of the death in British Columbia, at the age of 65 years, of Mr. George Frederick Attree, formerly of Brighton. A quarter of a century ago Mr. Attree was one of the foremost members of the Exorcise, not so much for his own ringing abilities, but for the interest and enthusiasm he showed in the advancement of the art at the time when it was just making the first of its gigantic strides. For many years Mr. Attree was churchwarden of St. Peter's, the Parish Church of Brighton, but the writer is unable to say exactly the circumstances under which he began to take up ringing. When, however, he did so he put his whole heart into it, and made the St. Peter's Society, in the heyday of its success, probably the best band in the country at that time. By his position as employer of labour he was able to gather round him ringers of experience, and at one time had almost, if not quite, a Surprise band connected with his establishment. Older ringers will recollect the names of Harry Weston, George King, George Smart, George Baker, James Frossell and John Jay—all these were in the employ of Mr. Attree. Among the others who went to make up that wonderful band—for as things stood in those days it was a wonderful band—were George Williams, Edward Merritt, Arthur Fuller, Keith Hart, and, afterwards, Frank Bennett and Robert Dawe. These men made up between them a company who were second to none, and successive steps from Double Norwich to London Surprise, as well as the first peals of Bristol, Champion, Gloucester and Oxford Surprise Major ever rung, were their achievement. It was Mr. Attree's ambition that the first peals in these methods in the county should be at St. Peter's, and the records which adorn that belfry—one of the pleasantest to be found in the kingdom—testify to the success that was achieved. Several of these 'firsts' were called by Mr. Attree, who, although not a great conductor, nevertheless put a number of successes to his credit in this direction. During his regime, also, those famous Sussex 'weeks' were originated; when St. Peter's band would visit a tower every night and usually return with another 'surprise' peal in their 'bag.' It was they, too, who rang the first peal of London Surprise in the City of London, and in all these things Mr. Attree had a part. St. Peter's belfry was the admiration of all who visited it, and the ringing to be obtained in conjunction with the band there induced ringers from all parts of the country to make Brighton their holiday centre. Whatever may have been done by others to contribute to this success, Mr. Attree was the power which made these things possible.

It was to Mr. Attree's initiative that the Sussex County Association was formed in 1884, and he was the first secretary as well as, later on, the first Master. It used to be said that he dominated the Association. Unquestionably he wielded much power, but, then, he had done much to make the Association what it was.

He was concerned in the formation of the Central Council, upon which he served for a number of years, and it was he who first compiled the annual analysis of peals, which labour was subsequently taken over officially by the Council.

In after years, Mr. Attree met with adversity in business, and his association with ringing ceased before he left to try to rebuild his fortunes in Canada. For one who took such an active part in ringing, Mr. Attree was never 'great' in the technicalities of the art, yet he must be given credit for the work which he did for ringing, and particularly for ringing in Sussex. To the younger generation, the name of Mr. Attree is perhaps unknown, but those who recollect the ringing of 20 or 30 years ago, will regret the passing of one, who in his particular sphere, did not a little to popularise Surprise ringing.

DEATH OF DONOR OF CAERPHILLY BELLS.

At Caerphilly Parish Church, on Saturday, June 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 48 mins., by: S. Vozzev 1, F. Boucher 2, J. Jones 3, G. Cooke 4, D. Stephens 5, F. Evans 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, W. Williams 8. Rung half-muffled immediately at the conclusion of the interment of Miss Catherine Anthony, of The Grove, Caerphilly, the donor of this ring of bells, which were installed and rung for the first time on February 25th, 1911. She was a great benefactress to the church.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the South-Eastern Division was held at Boreham, on Saturday week, members attending from Chelmsford, Writtle, Maldon, and the local company. Owing to very serious illness near the church, the tower bells could not be rung.

Chelmsford was selected as the place for the next meeting, to be held in October, and will be the annual meeting for the district.

BRISTOL.—On April 17th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Porch 1, A. Pearce 2, *W. Lewis 3, *H. Brown 4, W. Short 5, E. Guise (conductor) 6, *A. Wallace 8. *First quarter-peal. This was rung without the 7th, as one of the band failed to turn up. Arranged for Inspector Wallace, who, although a ringer and living in Bristol for 20 years, had not entered a tower until a couple of months previous.

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MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

IN THE QUORN COUNTRY.

On Saturday last, the venue of the quarterly meeting in connection with the Midland Counties Association was held at Quorndon, more popularly known as Quorn, situated 2½ miles S.E. of Loughborough (Leicestershire). Quorn is not only known to ringers living in the immediate neighbourhood, but also known throughout the world as the hub of the hunting universe. Some distinction, therefore, seems to pervade the air, for it is an historic place where kings and queens and the world's elite have paid visits to enjoy the popular pastime. Since the advent of war's fetters very few have been able to carry on in this healthy pursuit. The object of the gathering on Saturday was of an entirely different character, but was equally interesting to ringers, with, perhaps, a little more sincerity, coupled with dignity and devoutness. In the writer's opinion the meeting was a very serious rival to an annual festival, judging by the large numbers gathered, doubtless to attempt a grand revival of the good old-fashioned period of peace.

The day was beautifully bright, with a gentle but acceptable breeze which helped to make the conditions tolerable in the exertions that were to follow. Those assembled did full justice to the opportunities and privileges granted by the kindly Vicar (the Rev. H. H. Rumsey).

The church stands prominently upon elevated ground, and is adorned by ancient monuments, one dating back to the year 1587, in which lies the remains of John Farnham, Penchner (pensioner) to Queen Elizabeth.

The visitors on Saturday included many talented ringers, and touches of Double Norwich, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob and Grandsire, percolated from the louvre to the critical ears below. Nothing in the way of adverse criticism reached my own, however. The President (Mr. John W. Taylor) joined hands with the company in their efforts, much to the satisfaction of those taking part, and the umpires 'sitting it out.'

It was pleasing also to observe among the members the Rev. C. J. Sturton (Orston), the Rev. Pinn (Prestwold), Messrs. W. H. Incelesant, William Willson (Leicester), W. E. White, Walter White, S. Squires (Cotgrave), W. C. Hunt and Vickers (Nottingham), Albert Ward (Derby), E. Gobey (Ilkeston), Swinfield (Burton-on-Trent), Miss Hilda Willson (Leicester), Messrs. Thompson and White (Colgrave), E. Reader (Loughborough), J. Flower and Bates (Duffield), J. Wilson, and A. Martin (Leicester), R. Lane (Loughborough), and others. The company were highly delighted with the substantial repast that was provided for them, and after tea the meeting was held.—The President, in his usual happy vein, welcomed the visitors on behalf of the Association, and then dealt largely with the question of the Central Council. He suggested that the Association should be made responsible for suggestions in regard to any alterations in existing state of affairs. He could not acquiesce in the attitude recently taken by critics of the Central Council, which was quite uncalled-for. Criticism could be made welcome, but it must be borne in mind that the functions of the Central Council were entirely different to those of an Association. The unhealthy criticism that has passed through the medium of the Press was worthless reading, in his opinion, and certainly reading of a dull character. He could not see the force of altering the moral law or principle that had existed for upwards of a hundred years or so. To do so would be adding difficulty upon difficulty. Anything emanating from the Association by way of alteration, or even by any ringer through his secretary, would no doubt be welcomed by the Central Council. Mr. Taylor sounded a solemn warning in regard to the ringers' position in the Church of England. It behoved them to be ready in face of dangers that may confront them in the near future in regard to interference with the Church's organisation. Another matter Mr. Taylor introduced as one which needed reflection was in reference to record peals, and, perhaps, others. These, he said, should not be attempted in the absence of a qualified expert to see that these peals were truly rung before being placed on record.

Mr. Taylor then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. H. H. Rumsey) for providing such an excellent repast.

This was carried very cordially, and the Rev. H. H. Rumsey, in reply, referred to the pleasure derived by himself and parishioners in having been able to listen to their bells once again. It was also a great pleasure to himself and those who joined with him to give the tea.

The tit-bit of the afternoon followed the adjournment to the church, viz., to witness eight lady bell ringers at the rope ends. Ladies who took part included Misses Lily Dutton, M. Gamble, W. G. Burrows, M. Gamble, & Quorn lady, Messrs. Thompson and White (Cotgrave), and last, but not least, Miss Hilda Willson (Leicester), who holds the record of having rung two peals in one day, covering seven hours, when only 14 years of age. The Quorn lady ringers deserve credit for the handling of their ropes and keen striking. Their doings in the art will be heard of in the future. My acquaintance with Mr. Herbert, the sexton and charge d'affaires, who has held office at Quorn upwards of 40 years, is not without interest.

NOTICE TO READERS & CORRESPONDENTS

During the illness of the Editor, correspondents are requested to address all communications to 'The Ringing World,' and not to the Editor personally, as delays may otherwise arise.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT NORTHOWRAM.

The June meeting of the Western District was held at Northowram on Saturday week, and was attended by over 30 members, representing 16 towers. The bells, a fine ring of eight (tenor 16 cwt.) were rung in several methods during the afternoon and evening. Members and friends sat down to tea in the schools, the Vicar kindly providing tea, the visitors bringing their own rations.

The business meeting was held afterwards. Mr. G. Bolland's presided, supported by the Rev. C. C. Marshall (President of the Association), the Rev. Geo. Watkinson (Vicar of Northowram), Mr. Sutcliffe (churchwarden), and other officers of the Association. The Vicar was unanimously elected a life hon. member of the Association, and Messrs. Greenwood and Toomer, of Northowram, and Sadler, of Burley, elected ringing members.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, and arrangements made that day.—This was seconded by Mr. J. Lawson, and carried. —The Vicar, in replying, said he was pleased to meet the ringers again at Northowram, and glad to be made an hon. member of the Association, and he on one of them. He was sorry he could not give them a good tea, as circumstances would not permit. He was doubly pleased and proud that one of his ringers had rung a 720 that afternoon to enable him to join the Association, and he looked forward to some of his other younger ringers following this example. He was pleased to say that they had rung their bells every Sunday during this last 3½ difficult years. Ringing, he added, was a real work of skill and a real art, and he wished the Association every success. In conclusion, he gave the society a standing invitation to Northowram, whenever they wanted a place for a meeting.

Mr. Sutcliffe said how cheering it was to hear the bells ring that afternoon, and hoped they would often have the pleasure of welcoming the visitors there.

The place for the September meeting was discussed, the secretary being instructed to see if it was possible to hold it at Idle.

Mr. P. Johnson, in proposing a vote of thanks to the local company for making the necessary arrangements, said it was up to those left at home to carry on the work of those who were serving with the forces, and to keep things going as far as possible.—The motion having been seconded by Mr. Cotterell, Mr. Jagger, conductor of the local company, replied.

Handbell ringing was then indulged in, and the tower again visited, where touches brought a most enjoyable meeting to a close.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM REED, OF NORTH SHIELDS.

On June 25th there passed away one of the early pioneers of ringing in the North, Mr. Wm. Reed, of North Shields, a solicitor. He took ardently to ringing in the early seventies, and by dint of his untiring efforts the old ring of six was augmented, first, to eight in 1874 (the additions being a treble and tenor and one recast), and later, in 1878, by the addition of two trebles to a ring of ten. On the formation of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association in August, 1877, he became its first president. This he resigned in 1884, after seven years' uphill work, and was followed by the late Mr. Robert Spencer Story, who carried on the good work for over three times that period. From this date Mr. Reed's interest in ringing seemed to wane, as he was devoted to music, and acted for over 20 years as organist at the Parish Church, where he had so successfully carried out the duties of the belfry.

He conducted the first peal by the Association, one of Grandsire Triples, Holt's 10-part, in 1878, rung on North Shields' bells in the remarkably short time of 2 hours and 30 minutes. He was very fond of quick ringing, but even in peals of 3 hours and 15 minutes or more, his striking was a feature to be admired. He conducted about three or four peals in all, one of which was the writer's first peal, 5088 Kent Treble Bob, in 1884, and rang in about seven altogether. Of those who formed his original band at the Parish Church all have passed away now except Mr. Paul Horn, who completes 50 years of Sunday service ringing this very day (Friday, July 5th). In fact, there are few left in the Association now who remember his genial handsome presence at the meetings, to which he always lent dignity and at the same time instilled a strong touch of camaraderie among ringers. This did a good deal to strengthen the ties of friendship amongst the members of the Association, and the writer remembers well with what dismay all received the news of his resignation in those days.

He was laid to rest in Preston Cemetery, North Shields, on Saturday, June 29th, the Rev. R. B. Holmes, Vicar, conducting the service, and at 3 p.m. the parish church bells rung, muffled, in touches of Bob Minor on the front six, with 7-8 coverings, and later two of Stedman Triples, 575 and 504. Both the president of the Association (Mr. C. L. Routledge) and the secretary (Mr. G. F. Polton) were in the belfry, but could not be at the funeral for lack of sufficient notice.

Mr. Reed, who was 78 years of age, was twice married, but left no family. He was an old P.M. of St. George's Lodge of Freemasons, and Past Provincial Grand Deacon of Northumberland. C. L. R.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have been looking with more than usual interest for my weekly 'Ringing World,' curious to know what the Central Council had to say about its future. I should have been pleased to have been at Westminster myself, but that could not be. Now I have read Mr. Davies' paper, and I am disappointed with it. It is very clever, and we all will agree with most of it, but, after all, it is only good special pleading, and does not really touch the matter at all.

It is true that most of the criticism of the Council has been ill-informed and unreasonable, but the fact remains that the Council has not got the status and influence in the Exercise it should have. Our business is not to deny the fact, but to see if we cannot remedy it. Mr. Davies seems to imply that the question is between the Council and the Exercise. That is not so by any means. The men who most realise what the Council might be and are most disappointed by what it is are members of the Council. They are not seeking to injure it, but to strengthen it, and I count myself among them.

I have already made some suggestions for reform (which Mr. Davies did not deign to notice), and I need not cover again the same ground. This I will say. You have already in the Council a most excellent set of men who are fully qualified to represent the Exercise, if the Exercise is prepared to be represented. They are men who have great ability, knowledge and experience, and their knowledge could and should be placed at the disposal of the Council and the Exercise. But you will not get it so long as you continue the present procedure by resolution and haphazard debate.

One other matter I must mention. It is a rather delicate matter but plain speaking is sometimes necessary. During these last few years, power and influence in the Council has not depended on a man's ability, knowledge, experience, or work, but simply on whether he had the entrée into a select circle. If he had it, his path was easy. If he had it not, he was by turns used or ignored, patronised or snubbed. But never was he treated as an equal—as equal, I mean, as an authority on any matter, not as equal socially, which is another and trivial matter.

It may be that this phase has passed. I hope so. I have every confidence in the new president. While this was last, nothing definite can be settled, but when it is finished, if the Council faces facts squarely and honestly tries to set its house in order, there is no reason why a long existence of usefulness should not be before it.—Yours faithfully,
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

B.E.F., France, June 19th, 1918.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A Western district meeting was held at Arundel on Saturday week, when members were present from Heene, St. Peter's, Brighton; Shilfold, Shoreham, Lyminster, and the local tower. Mr. J. Shepherd came just in time to make up a band for Stedman Triples, and during the afternoon and evening several touches were rung of Grandsire, Bob Major, Cambridge Minor and Stedman Triples.

Tea was partaken of at Owen's Restaurant, and at the business meeting, Mr. E. C. Merritt was voted to the chair.—One new member was elected, viz., Mr. Balchin, of Arundel. The Rev. C. Winn (Vicar of Arundel) was elected as hon. member.

All the present officers for the Western division were re-elected. West Tarring was chosen for the next meeting, some time in September.

A vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar for granting the use of the bells; also to Messrs. J. Nelly and Balchin for having everything in readiness; also to Mr. Merritt for presiding.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GRIMSBY.—On April 7th, at the Parish Church, for morning service, 630 Grandsire Triples: F. T. Howden 1, J. W. Seamer (conductor) 2, C. Taylor 3, Sergt. R. Richardson (Surflee) 4, A. S. Hill 5, W. H. Heyhoe 6, W. Ayre (Gainsborough) 7, J. Lamb 8. For evening service, 224 Bob Major: A. S. Hill 1, P. Pigg 2, J. W. Seamer 3, A. B. Shepherd 4, C. Taylor 5, W. H. Heyhoe 6, Sergt. R. Richardson 7, W. Ayre (conductor) 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples: F. T. Howden 1, J. W. Seamer 2, P. Pigg 3, A. B. Shepherd 4, W. H. Heyhoe 5, W. Ayre 6, C. Taylor (conductor) 7, Sergt. R. Richardson 8.

HEMINGBROUGH, YORKS.—On Sunday evening, April 14th 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: M. Tune 1, Sergt. E. Morris 2, A. Hatfield 3, W. A. Hudson 4, G. Terry 5, E. Rickitt 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, by: W. A. Hudson 1, E. Rickitt 2, G. Terry 3, A. Hatfield 4, M. Tune 5, Sergt. E. Morris 6; both conducted by Sergt. Ernest Morris, A.S.C., of Leicester.

YORK.—On Sunday, May 5th, for morning service, at York Minster, 557 Grandsire Caters, by: A. Haigh 1, P. Firth 2, F. Earnshaw 3, W. Ayre 4, A. Horner 5, G. Horner 6, A. C. Fearnley 7, H. Ineson 8, A. Hodgson 9, Sergt. E. Morris and W. Thornton 10. For evening service, at St. Mary Senior, Bishopthorpe, 720 Bob Minor: Sergt. E. Morris 1, W. Thornton 2, A. Horner 3, H. Ineson 4, E. Rickitt 5, A. C. Fearnley 6. Both were conducted by Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. (of Leicester).

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—As a compliment to our American Allies, the bells at St. Paul's Cathedral will be rung on Independence Day, July 4th, from 5.15 to 6.25 p.m. A meeting will be held at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday, July 6th, at 6 p.m. Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on July 2nd, 16th and 30th, and for handbell practice on July 11th and 25th, all 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Taunton on Saturday, July 6th. Meeting in St. Mary's Schoolroom at 3.30 p.m., tea to follow; service in St. Mary's Church at 6. The bells of St. Mary's (10), St. James' (8) and Wilton (6) will be available all the afternoon.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, July 6th, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the Western District will be held at Paulton on Saturday, July 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; service at 4 p.m.; tea and meeting at the Vicarage at 4.30 p.m. Members and friends cordially invited. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than July 2nd.—N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, July 6th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; business meeting at 6 o'clock. All ringers and friends welcome.—S. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Calverley on Saturday, July 6th. The bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m., and the business meeting will be held in the "Thornhill Arms" (near the church) at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Westerleigh on Saturday, July 6th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m.; tea at 5 p.m. (tea only), to be followed by business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Branch Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol, E.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The July meeting will be held at Wortley on Saturday, the 6th. Eight bells available afternoon and evening. Visitors who bring rations can obtain hot water and milk near the Church.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The summer meeting will be held at Dunstable on Saturday, July 6th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m.—Rev. Canon Baker, The Rectory, Dunstable.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at East Farleigh on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock; service at 5; tea at 5.45, business meeting after. The Secretary would be glad to know not later than Tuesday, July 9th, of any members intending to be present. All will be welcome.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Estab. 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available from 4 p.m.; business meeting to follow at the Nag's Head Tavern at 8.30. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at Sherburn-in-Elmet on Saturday, July 13th. By kind permission of the Vicar the bells (8) will be available all day. Business meeting at 5.—W. Hinton, District Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. Established 1755.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Solihull on Saturday, July 13th. Bells (10) available from 4 o'clock. Tea will be arranged for 5.30 at the Masons' Arms Hotel for those who advise me *not later than the 9th inst.* of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A Combined Practice will be held at Cranleigh (8 bells) on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available from 3.30 till 9 p.m. Tea at 4.30 o'clock (members must bring their own eatables), at Mr. W. Charman's cottage. All intending to be present please inform Mr. R. Whittington, Winterfold, Cranleigh, by Wednesday, July 10th.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingboro District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Earls Barton on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available from 3 o'clock; tea at 4.30.—W. Perkins, District Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingboro.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—A Summer meeting will be held at Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks, on Saturday, July 27, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Ringing 3 o'clock, evensong 5.30, and tea 6 p.m. for those who notify the hon. sec. that they will be present.—W. H. Fussell, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.—A friendly gathering for bell ringing and tea drinking is proposed for Saturday, July 13th, at Great Missenden, Bucks. Bells available at 4 p.m.; tenor 27cwt. The Branch Committeemen are asked to make this known to all members.—The Annual Committee Meeting of the Diocesan Guild takes place at Oxford on Saturday, July 20th.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A District Meeting will be held at Hornchurch on Saturday, July 20th, 1918. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. till 9 p.m. Full particulars shortly.—E. J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, July 20th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; service 4.45, followed by business meeting.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—By kind permission of the Rev. T. F. J. Mummery, the next quarterly meeting will be held at Eynsford, on Saturday, July 20th. Bells will be available at 4 p.m.; meeting 6 p.m. Half railway fares up to but not exceeding 2s. paid to those attending.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Rainford on Saturday, July 20th. Bells ready at 2.30; service at 5; meeting at 5.30.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Secs.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY.—The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, having started a fund to help forward the Memorial, appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. H. K. Howell, hon. treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

MEETINGS.

Special attention is drawn to the notices of the meetings of the Bedfordshire Association at Dunstable, and of the St. Martin's Guild at Solihull, which did not come to hand in time for insertion in last week's issue.

WEDDING BELLS.

At Derby, on June 19th, at the Church of St. Alkmund, Derby, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 45 mins. by: F. Leo 1, C. Draper 2, W. Wileman 3, G. Tomlinson 4, J. Elcock 5, J. Lord 6, G. Freebrey (conductor) 7, George Cook 8. This was arranged to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Geo. Robinson, junr., a much respected member of St. Alkmund's band, which took place earlier in the day.

SELBY ABBEY RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, June 15th, the Selby Abbey ringers held their annual outing, and paid a visit to Queensbury, Idle, and Shipley churches. The weather was cold and showery, with sunshine at intervals. Touches of Stedman and Grandsire were indulged in, and a very pleasant and enjoyable time was spent. The ringers took the opportunity to present a handsome cigarette case to their secretary (Mr. Arthur Hall), in appreciation of the work done by him.

BOYS RING TREBLE BOB ON HANDBELLS.

On Friday week, at 10, Milford Road, Armley, Yorkshire, 3072 of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 1 hr. and 30 mins., in an attempt for a peal which came to grief owing to a change course: Malcolm Moorhouse (aged 13) 1—2, P. J. Johnson 3—4, J. W. Moorhouse 5—6, Gerald Moorhouse (aged 14) 7—8. Witness, Mr. A. Windsor. The writer would like to know how far he would be right in assuming that this is the longest length in the method by boys of that age on handbells retained in hand.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

CREWE.—Chester Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, May 5th, at Christ Church, for evening service, 809 Grandsire Caters: W. T. Holding 1, R. Langford 2, H. Overton 3, G. H. Crawley 4, R. D. Langford 5, A. Crawley 6, G. Harding 7, J. Dentith 8, R. T. Holding (conductor) 9, W. Barnard (longest touch) 10.

ISLEWORTH.—On May 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): G. A. Ransom 1, A. Beckensale 2, T. Beadle 3, A. Diserens 4, Pte. J. Preston (Middlesex Reserves) 5, W. H. Liddbetter (conductor) 6, A. Harding 7, P. Norton 8. This was rung with the bells muffled for a service for those who had lost their lives fighting for their country.

YORK.—On Sunday, May 12th, at SS. Philip and James, Clifton, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Sergt. E. Morris A.S.C. (conductor), 1, G. Horner 2, A. Horner 3, J. Thompson 4, E. Rickitt 5, A. Haigh 6.

BROXBORNE.—Herts. Association.—For evening service, on Sunday, April 14th, in 46 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Goldsmith 1, G. Andrews 2, W. Mumford 3, G. Maxim 4, F. J. G., 5, S. Knight 6, S. Proctor (conductor) 7, G. Radley 8.

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STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., with an appendix by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., etc., etc.

TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 100 closely printed pages. Part II, suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1d.; 236 pages.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 382. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, JULY 12th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

(Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Messrs GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the results. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

WHO SHALL DECIDE?

When doctors disagree who is to decide? Many times in this column we have pointed out the difficulties which the rank and file of the Exercise have in accepting dicta of the Central Council, because of the fact that the Council's own experts so frequently disagree. In technical matters this has occurred again and again. A Committee has presented a report, and as soon as it is before the Council members of the Committee have themselves contested the recommendations, and have tried to fight out in open debate what they ought previously to have settled in Committee. As recently as the last meeting we were asked who, if not the Council, should settle technical questions? It has occurred to us that the Council is the last body that is able to settle such matters.

The Legitimate Methods Committee spent years in coming to a definite report upon the particular subject referred to them, and eventually their findings were printed and issued by the Council as an official publication. Some years after the Hon. Secretary awoke to the fact that, in his opinion, the reform was based on entirely false premises, and three years ago he spent a good deal of time in inducing the Council to have the matter reviewed. Since then, however, he has withdrawn his resolution and embodied his views in a pamphlet. In this the Hon. Secretary does not mince his words, and condemns the reasoning upon which the report of the Council is based as being 'rotten to the core.' It needs a clever man to argue the technicalities of such a subject as the construction of a lead, with so capable an exponent of the theory of ringing as the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, whose work on Grandsire and Stedman is a standing monument to his knowledge of the subject. We at any rate would not attempt it. But what is the average ringer to believe, when two writers like Mr. Davies and Mr. Trollope do not even agree as to where the division comes between two leads of a method with two hunts like Grandsire? In an article on another page Mr. Trollope says there can be no other place than between the treble's lead and the lead of the bell in the hunt. Mr. Davies makes it a whole pull sooner, viz., before the treble's lead. That is only one point. And probably there are points on everyone of the twenty-four pages of Mr. Davies' pamphlet with which Mr. Trollope would not agree. So we seem as far as ever from knowing what a legitimate method really is. The Council, we know, are unwilling to go over all the ground of their report again—and small blame to them if their opinions have not altered—but it seems to us that it is time something like a definite agreement was reached upon a subject such as this. At present it looks as if a man may make what definitions he likes in order to suit his own purposes, and while this lasts, chaos must result.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS write with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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THEIR MAJESTIES' SILVER WEDDING.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.
(Etab. 1686.)

On Saturday, July 6, 1918, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5015 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt.

THOMAS BALDWIN Treble	Ex-Sgt. JOSEPH WILLIAMS ... 7
FRANK COLE 2	CHARLES GARDENER 8
WILLIAM HASTINGS 3	WILLIAM HALE 9
JOHN AUSTIN 4	ALFRED WAITE 10
JESSE GILLET 5	JOHN JEFFERIES 11
ALBERT WRIGHT 6	JAMES SINGLETON Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

Rung in honour of their Majesties' silver wedding.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, July 6, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

ALBERT DISERENS Treble	EDWARD F. COLE 5
MISS EDITH K. PARKER 2	WILBY J. HAZELL 6
E. MAURICE ATKINS 3	JAMES PARKER 7
*CHARLES V. HARE 4	GEORGE PARCE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

* First peal in the method.

Rung in honour of their Majesties' silver wedding.

HORBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 6, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

GEORGE HUNT Treble	JOSEPH BROADLEY 5
HERBERT DRANSFIELD 2	FIRTH HOPWOOD 6
JOSEPH E. SYKES 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
WILLIAM JOYCE 4	BENJAMIN THORP Tenor

Composed by JOHN THORP.

Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

Rung in honour of the silver wedding anniversary of their Majesties King George V and Queen Mary.

CHELMSFORD.—Essex Association.—On Saturday, July 6th, at the Cathedral, by invitation of the Rector, to commemorate the silver wedding of their Majesties the King and Queen, a quarter-peal (1259 changes) of Grandsire Caters, in 57 mins., was rung by: A. Whight 1, A. Edwards 2, H. Richell 3, P. Timson 4, H. Allen 5, J. Wood 6, G. Green 7, A. Head 8, W. Lincoln (conductor) 9, I. Poulton 10.

ST. MARY ABBOTS, KENSINGTON.—On Saturday, July 6th, in honour of their Majesties' silver wedding, members met at 2.15 p.m., and rang a touch of Stedman Caters, followed by three leads of Treble Ten. On this occasion they had the pleasure of welcoming the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn and Mr. R. T. Hibbert, the Master and hon. secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

ST. PETER'S COMPANY.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

The annual outing took place on Saturday, July 6th, the places selected being Lymm and Warburton. Lymm was reached at 1. The bells (tenor 30 cwt. in D) were at once raised, and set merrily going to the tune of Grandsire. The Queens was rung, followed by a Feu-de-jo, in commemoration of King George's and Queen Mary's silver wedding. The ringing during the afternoon was much appreciated by the villagers. Afterwards tea was partaken of at the houses of Mr. Nagle and Mr. John Bradburn, where the necessary hot water to make the cup that cheers was provided.

After tea, and exchange of thanks and congratulations, we made our way to Warburton, being joined by several friends from Miles Platting. The Warburton bells have only been rung once or twice since the outbreak of war, so depleted is the company.

After raising the bells the same tune Grandsire, the firing of the bells, etc., were admirably gone through, as at Lymm. After descending the tower, expressions of thanks were tendered to the ringers by several of the village people for once more hearing the sound of their Parish Church bells.

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

A feature of the London celebration of Independence Day was the ringing of the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral. It is also interesting to note that for the first time since the outbreak of war, the bells at Manchester Town Hall were rung to celebrate the event.

At St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, Oldham, on Thursday, July 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins., by the following ringers: J. Knight 1, J. Lees 2, E. Geary 3, F. Crossland 4, J. Taylor 5, E. B. Shaw (conductor) 6, A. Clegg 7, J. Schofield 8; the above was rung to celebrate the independence of America.

On Thursday, July 4th, for a special service, at York Minster, in connection with America's Day, 575 Grandsire Caters, by: T. Haigh 1, P. Firth 2, J. Thompson 3, A. Horner 4, Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C., 5, G. Horner 6, F. Earnshaw 7, T. Hodgson 8, A. Haigh 9, Wayre and W. Thornton 10. Conducted by Sergt. Ernest Morris, A.S.C. (Leicester).

On July 4th, in honour of Independence Day (in an attempt for a quarter-peal), at Cranleigh, Surrey, 910 Grandsire Triples: Ida Charman 1, Mrs. R. Whittington 2, W. Streeter 3, E. Whittington 4, W. Charman 5, Sergt. Carrier 6, A. Charman (conductor) 7, E. Warner 8, Longest length and first attempt for a quarter-peal by the ringers of treble and tenor.

At the Parish Church, Dalton-in-Furness, on Thursday, July 4th, to commemorate Independence Day, 1260 Bob Minor, in 48 mins.: T. Watson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, J. Huddleston 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6, T. R. Jackson (cover) 7. First quarter-peal on the bells, and first of Minor by all. First quarter in any method for the ringers of the 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 7th bells.

On Thursday, July 4th, in honour of the visit of the American soldiers to Bristol, a quarter-peal (1299 changes) of Stedman Caters was rung at St. Nicholas' Church by the following: Mrs. E. J. Wilson 1, F. G. May 2, A. Pearce 3, W. Knight 4, W. White 5, W. Lansdown 6, J. Richmond 7, Det. Inspector Wallace 8, I. Long 9, U. Braven 10. Conducted by F. G. May. First quarter-peal of Stedman Caters by ringers of treble and 8th.

On Thursday, July 4th, to celebrate the great event, the Manchester Town Hall bells were rung, this being the first time after a silence of two and a half years, owing to the war. The ringing chamber, along with other parts of the building, having been utilised for war purposes, the ropes had been hauled up out of harm's way. This necessitated a special clearance being made to enable the bells to be rung on the above occasion. P.C. Walter Billinge was successful in getting together a scratch band of ringers. The bells were well overhauled by some few of the most energetic of the band, and were set going about 12 noon, and were rung intermittently until 1.15 p.m. in rounds and the Queen's change. Also 504 Grandsire Triples on the front 7, with 98-10 covering. The ringers were H. Chapman, R. Davies, W. Brown, W. H. Shaker, W. H. Cooper, J. Idle, A. Trippier, P.C. W. Billinge, P.C. R. Williams, P.C. J. Wilson (pensioner), A. Scruggs.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

In reviewing the work of the Guild during the past year, the Hon. Secretary of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, writing in the annual report just issued, says: Owing to restrictions on travelling and other difficulties created by the war, the annual meeting for 1917 was omitted, the committee arranging that all officers should retain their posts. On the other hand several good meetings were held at various branch centres, and in some parts of the Diocese a gratifying degree of activity has been shown in maintaining the work of the Guild. The outstanding feature of the year in this respect was the annual meeting of the East Dorset Branch in December, when a splendid gathering of ringers took place at Wimborne, under the presidency of the recently appointed chairman of the branch, Canon Fletcher, and some fine touches were rung on the glorious bells of the Minster.

The efforts made in many towers to teach beginners, are deserving of all praise, and in several instances, notably in the Marlborough and West Dorset districts, ladies and boys have been successfully trained to take the place of men engaged in the grim exercise of a sterner art. We want an unlimited amount of this work done all over the Diocese, and it is in the patient instruction of young ringers that members of the Guild can best 'do their bit' for the church in this time of trial.

Our Bishop's inspiring appeal on the occasion of Sir Julian Byng's brilliant victory gave a timely impulse to ringing towards the end of the year, and when the glorious news came of the redemption of Jerusalem from the bondage of centuries, church bells in all parts of the Diocese did honour to the great event. The permission given in the Southern Command to ring till 9 p.m. has enabled members to continue their full Sunday work throughout the year, and the evening air at Christmastide was again vocal with the music of our belfries.

The death of Canon Thynne has removed from the Guild one of its oldest members. We are glad to record that the chairmanship of the West Dorset Branch, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Langford, has been accepted by the Rev. W. J. Coulter, Vicar of Bridport.

It will be seen from our roll of honour, that out of our 850 ringing members no less than 398 are on active service, while 27 have laid down their lives in the sacred cause of liberty and justice. The Guild may well be proud of such a record.

Despite the dark outlook at the present moment, we have confidence that at the proper time it will be the privilege of ringers to proclaim victory for England, and an honourable peace.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Under very favourable weather conditions the annual meeting was held at Penkridge on Saturday week, when upwards of 50 members were present, including the Misses S. and K. Pigott, of Smethwick. The service was conducted by the Rev. A. J. Paskin, with an address by the Rev. J. A. Burton (Vicar of Bradeley). Tea was provided at the 'Littleton Arms' Hotel, followed by the general meeting, at which the Rev. L. J. Price (Vicar of Cannock) occupied the chair. The committee's report was read and passed, followed by the presentation of the statement of accounts by the honorary treasurer—which was considered satisfactory—showing a balance on the right side of £24 13s. 3d. The officials were re-elected en bloc: the lay secretary being instructed to act as temporary treasurer, in the absence of the Rev. C. Holroyd Barker—the latter having joined H.M. forces as motor ambulance driver in France.—On the recommendation of the committee the following places for meetings were adopted: Kingswinford (September), All Saints', West Bromwich—where the bells are being recast and rehung (January, 1919), Bloxwich (April), and Lichfield (June) for the annual. In a letter from Mr. E. Horton (Willenhall) it was suggested that certificates should be given members for the most regular attendance for Sunday ringing; also for those ringing their first peal. The suggestion was not adopted, so the matter was allowed to lie on the table. A letter from Mr. A. Madeley (Hull) was read recommending that steps be taken to erect some kind of memorial to those members who had gone forth to defend Right against Might, especially those who had given their lives for the noble cause. The meeting expressed its sympathy with the project, but felt that little could be done in the matter at present.

After the usual votes of thanks, the company dispersed—some homeward bound, while others indulged in further ringing in the tower. Here a little mishap occurred in the form of a stay being broken; but this did not hinder the ringing for very long, for touches in Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were successfully brought round before the bells were lowered in peal.

COMMITTEE'S REPORT FOR 1917-18.

For the fourth time our annual meeting is being held in war-time. The greater the demands of National Service on the man-power of the country the greater are the difficulties which face ringers in their attempts to keep hands together in the various towers.

Our last annual meeting, held at Wolverhampton, was generally pronounced a successful one—it being well attended; whilst the quarterlies held at Brierley Hill, West Bromwich and Penn, were very fair.

The fortnightly practices have been resumed, and the following towers have been visited: Penn, Sedgley, Tettenhall and Willenhall. It is to be regretted that fuller advantage has not been taken of this admirable opportunity of improvement, and it is hoped that members more advanced in the art will make an effort to attend and thereby encourage the younger ones.

The list of peals is again small, and is as follows:—

Grandsire Triples	3
Stedman Triples	2
Stedman Caters	1—6

The committee offer their congratulations to Mr. William Rock Small on the successful attempts he made for two peals to commemorate his 78th birthday, and hope that he may be spared to yet add to his large number of both peals and years.

During the year 21 new members have joined the society.

The roll of honour now includes 89 names.

We regret the loss, through death, of one of our members, viz., Mr. W. H. Hawkswood, of the Walsall band.

On behalf of the committee,

CECIL H. BARKER, }
HERBERT KNIGHT } Hon. Secs.

Addendum.—The committee wish to place on record their heartfelt thanks to the Rev. C. Holroyd Barker for his untiring energy and care for the welfare of the society in the capacity of clerical secretary and treasurer, and wish him God-speed in his new undertaking, viz., that of having joined the British Red Cross Society as motor ambulance driver in France.—H. K.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIVISION.

On Saturday, July 6th, to celebrate the Royal Silver Wedding, a 5005 of Stedman Cinques was attempted, but failed through the breaking of the 5th rope, after ringing 2200 changes in 1½ hours: C. L. Routledge (conductor) 1, E. E. Ferry 2, F. T. Goffon 3, J. E. Keen 4, W. Sinclair 5, W. H. Barber 6, J. W. Parker 7, B. Horton 8, A. F. Hillier 9, W. Story 10, R. Richards 11, J. Foreman 12. Tenor 37 cwt.

ABERAVON, S. WALES.—At St. Mary's Church, on July 4th (Independence Day), 630 Grandsire Triples, as follows: *F. Stone 1, A. Pitman (conductor) 2, *W. Herring 3, D. Frankcom 4, W. Norton 5, H. Perry 6, E. Stith 7, *C. Jones 8. For evening service, July 7th, in 32 mins., 924 Grandsire Triples, *C. Jones 1, A. Perry 2, *E. Stith 3, A. Pitman (conductor) 4, W. Norton 5, H. Perry 6, D. Frankcom 7, J. Wethersby 8. * Longest length and first attempt. † Longest length on inside bell.

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ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

THE LADIES GUILD. WESTERN DISTRICT.

A most enjoyable meeting was held at Paulton on Saturday last, when a company of about 30 members and friends were present, including Mr. Wilkins, of Bristol; Mr. Holmyard, Midsomer Norton; Mr. Smith, and ringers of Paulton; Messrs. Gillingham, Nisbet, and Goldstone, of Portishead. The gentlemen, who are always a great help at these meetings, raised the bells at 3 p.m., and then left the members of the Guild to the ropes.

A collection was made on behalf of the restoration of Portishead Church Tower, with the result that £2 7s. was handed to the treasurer. A move was then made to the Vicarage lawn, where the Paulton band very kindly entertained the party to a sumptuous tea. After full justice had been done to this excellent spread, a short meeting was held, Mrs. Briggs kindly presiding. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Almondsbury, if convenient. After tea the tower was again visited, and touches of Grandsire and Steadman Doubles and Bob Minor were rung until our hosts and hostesses again summoned us to refreshments. Friends of the ringers very kindly lent conveyances for the whole of the party to and from the railway station.

It is impossible to fully express the appreciation of all who attended for the great kindness shown by the Rev. and Mrs. Briggs.

THE BELLS OF BELGIUM. 'HILLS WITH VOICES.'

The following article, by Mr. Charles Vince, which has just appeared in the public Press, is particularly interesting to ringers, especially in view of the recent discussion at the Central Council. It was read at the Ladies' Guild meeting at Slough, and serves to emphasise the need of co-operation amongst ringers of Great Britain to support the Central Council's efforts to help to replace some of Belgium's last bells. In sending the article Mr. Fussell suggests county collections to include every parish, and he thinks one large bell should go to the town of Viso, in memory of the faithful Cure who sounded the first note of the war, and was executed.

When I think of Belgium as it used to be, it is the belfries that I remember.

They were to Belgium what hills are to other countries. I think of them as great as the hills, as old and as secure. Like the hills, I saw them far away. Like the hills, I climbed them to see the wide views; and the towns seemed to have gathered at their feet, as villages gather round the feet of the hills. But the hills are silent. It is only when the beacon fires are lit that the hills speak to one another across a whole country. Those belfries of Belgium were hills with voices. They spoke across the plain to one another at all the hours, filling the fields and the streets of the towns. They were the voice of Belgium.

'For centuries,' wrote one Belgian poet, 'they rang on every occasion—in the hours of danger and tragedy, in hours of joy, for so many mournings, for so many feasts—that they seemed to carry in the resonant bronze the very heart of generations.'

And now that voice, which was the voice of the heart of generations, has gone. Some of the belfries stand no longer. For more than two years now there has been no belfry at Ypres or Nieuport or Dixmude. The others still stand, but they are dumb.

It is an old and beautiful belief of the Flemish children that on Good Friday all the bells flew to Rome, and coming back again showered down the Easter eggs. This spring they have gone, not to Rome, but to Germany, and from Germany they will never come back.

It is the last of the acts of the German governors which have swept Belgium bare of all that she had. Everything has gone. First her woods went, then her men and women, herded and driven to work in a foreign country, all the machinery of her factories, then one by one the very fittings of the houses—all these have been gathered by Germany to feed the war machine—all the copper down to the smallest things, the leather, the wool, even the blankets from the bed, even the stuffing from the mattresses.

In taking these, Kulkenhausen robbed the people of their last physical comforts. In taking the bells he has touched their soul. He has taken its voice away. 'The bells,' said one Belgian writer when he read the decree—'the bells are one with the Flemish life.'

Remember that the great bells of Belgium were known by name. There was Carolus in Antwerp and Salvator in Malines, and Melchior in Bruges.

Remember, too, that for three years no Belgian has been allowed to sing a patriotic song, nor wear the colours of Belgium, nor write nor read a word which the Germans did not approve. But he could still hear the singing of the great bells. They were the last articulate thing of all his old life, the one voice that rang clear and clear and unchanged above the orders of his conquerors. And now the belfries are silent, and the bells have gone to Essen to make munitions.

When Cardinal Mercier received the decree he sent a message to his clergy bidding them 'keep a strict account of the bells seized by the enemy,' give no help to the despoilers, and recite in their churches the collect 'against persecutors and evil-doers.'

The account will be strictly kept and remembered, but it will not bring back the bells. They will never return from Essen. The belfries are dumb.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I had not intended taking part in the discussion about the Central Council, although I have followed it with much interest, but I feel compelled to offer a remark or two on the letter of Mr. J. Armiger Trollope in yesterday's 'Ringing World,' and especially his complaint that members of the Council do not meet upon a footing of complete equality. I wish to say emphatically that there is not nor ever has been a 'select circle' of the kind he imagines. Every member has the same opportunity of addressing the Council, and if he is 'snubbed' it is by the Council as a whole, and not by the President or any particular individual; but as a matter of fact nobody ever is 'snubbed'; the earliest attempt at a speech is always received with courtesy and indulgence, and no one is ever made to feel himself at a disadvantage either by patronage or contemptuous treatment. I am quite at a loss to understand what Mr. Trollope means by saying there is no 'equality of authority'; every member has his vote, and all questions are decided by a majority. Notices of motion and subjects for discussion are entered impartially on the agenda, and no one can say that the Executive Committee is not thoroughly representative. Will Mr. Trollope explain precisely what he means by saying that members are 'by turns used and ignored'? Used for what and ignored by whom? While it is possible that the discussions of the Council might be more interesting, I am certain that nothing could be fairer than the conduct of its proceedings, and I am inclined to suspect that Mr. Trollope is vexed with something that he has not approved of, and allows his personal feeling to colour his imagination. At any rate there is not the slightest foundation for his insinuations. —I am, yours faithfully,

S. PRITCHETT.

MEDIÆVAL BELL INSCRIPTIONS.

At the annual meeting of the Royal Archaeological Institute last week the Rev. A. H. F. Boughy (the new President of the Central Council) read a paper of 'Mediæval Inscriptions on Church Bells.'

OXFORD GUILD.

A united practice at the newly affiliated tower of Warfield, on June 22nd, resulted in 19 members attending. Young hands and visitors enjoyed this hay-time meeting. Mr. Brant and the tower foreman kindly made the arrangements, which, with a visit to the Cricketer's afterwards, were fully appreciated. Practice at Windsor, Slough, and Farnham have also met with a hearty response during the past few weeks, double teams and Triple methods resulting in each case.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

SOLIHULL.—On Monday, April 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes): E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 1—2 H. Bragg 3. G. A. Martineau 4. Pte. V. Rigg (Hampshire Yeomanry) 5—6. The ringer of 1—2 has recently been discharged from the army. The ringer of 5—6 was home on leave.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On 13th April, at the Church of St. George, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: H. Watts 1. G. Pincott 2. Herbert Allred 3. T. B. Worsley 4. P. Crook 5. R. Allred (conductor) 6. W. Pennington 7. T. Barlow 8. Rung in memory of the conductor's father. —On Sunday, May 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. Rung as a farewell to Herbert Allred, who was about to join the colours: H. Watts 1. J. Allred 2. R. Allred (conductor) 3. B. Allred 4. W. Hindley 5. J. T. Allred 6. Harry Allred 7. J. Watts 8.

ACTON.—London County Association. — At St. Mary's Church, Acton, on Sunday, April 14th, for men's service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major in 50 mins.: A. Cuthmore 1. A. Darlington 2. A. W. Davis 3. E. A. Reeves 4. C. Iles 5. J. Milner 6. F. Skerington (conductor) 7. H. Mance 8.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church on April 14th, for morning service, and as a birthday compliment to Mr. G. Huxley, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: Mrs. F. H. Herbert 1. I. Emery 2. A. E. Newick 3. G. E. James 4. P. J. Spice 5. G. Huxley 6. G. Durling 7. T. Phillips 8.

LONDON.—London County Association. — On Sunday, April 14th, at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, for special morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. T. Gowley 1. T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2. A. Discrens 3. A. R. Davis 4. H. W. Hibbert 5. A. W. Ayres 6. T. Walker 7. W. T. Walden 8. — On April 30th, for special evening service, at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: F. V. H. Sinkins 1. T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2. A. Discrens 3. A. W. Davis 4. E. A. Reeve 5. W. A. Alps 6. W. H. Smith 7. A. Dyas 8. — On May 12th, for evening service, at the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour, Southwark, 1193 Stedman Cinques, in 55 mins.: C. E. Winney 1. T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2. F. G. Symonds 3. A. Jones 4. J. Scholes 5. A. W. Davis 6. G. R. Fardou 7. A. W. Durlington 8. A. J. Neale 9. W. Shepherd 10. R. Sanders 11. M. Feusom 12. Longest length on twelve bells by the ringers 3rd, 6th, 8th and tenor.

CONCERNING LEADS.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

It is important to remember that a 'lead' is not really a definite distinct thing to the same extent that a 'course' is. A course is a round block consisting of a fixed number of rows which are all definitely related to each other. For instance, in Double Norwich you can say that such and such a row belongs to a certain course, and to no other. A lead is a factor of a course, that is to say, that every course divides into as many parts as there are working bells, and each and every one of these leads is exactly alike. But where the lead begins and ends is not so easy to say. Any consecutive sixteen rows of Double Norwich make to some extent a factor of the course, and so far may be said to be a lead. There are, however, one or two other considerations which will enable us to fix with some great degree of certainty the lead heads and ends of any method.

In this connection the custom of the Exercise does not help us much. It has been usual to call the first row after rounds the first row of the lead, and, consequently, the back stroke of the treble's whole pull the lead end. How this custom came about is easy to see, but it will not stand any real test.

The two things that do enable us to fix the lead heads and ends are first, symmetry; and, second, the fact that the lead is really a factor of the course, and should, therefore, contain within itself the whole of the working of the method and the whole of the construction of the method.

First, as to symmetry. What seems to escape the notice of most authorities is the fact that symmetry is a quality which is inherent in change ringing. It is not merely that all the best methods and compositions are symmetrical. Everything in change ringing is more or less symmetrical, and by far the greater part of asymmetrical methods are really symmetrical. If, then, the lead is to be a true factor of the method, if it is to show in itself all the qualities of the methods, it must show its symmetry, and, therefore, it must be symmetrical itself. This argument will enable us to fix the lead heads and ends within certain limits.

In Treble Dominated Methods with one hunt, the division between the leads will be between the two blows of the whole pull of the hunt, either before or behind.

In Treble Dominated Methods with two hunts it will be between the whole pulls of the two hunts either before or behind.

No other division will show a symmetrical lead, and, therefore, no other division is admissible.

The second point is this. Methods are not haphazard collections of figures. They are series of rows which are produced by definite natural laws. No one will dispute that this is the case with peals of Grandsire Triples. Mr. Thompson's investigations showed us that all the bobs in a peal are divided into a number of groups, and the bobs forming one group make what he called a 'q set.' This law of q sets is a universal law of change ringing, and is practically the one law on which all round blocks are founded. It is the means by which methods are produced, just as much as it is the means by which peals are produced, although it may be slightly modified at times to meet particular circumstances.

Just as every peal of Grandsire consists of a number of courses, joined by bobs in a series of q sets, so the basis of every method is a set of rows in the same coursing order (i.e., the rows of the plain hunting course), and this is lengthened by 'shunts,' which are really nothing else but q sets.

These shunts are of two kinds. First there are the shunts which lengthen the lead to the course, and which I called constructional shunts. And, second, there are often in methods shunts made on a number of bells, which shunts are self-contained and independent. These I called additional shunts.

If you will take a q set of any method, say, Grandsire, and examine it, you will find that the bells in it are all in the same coursing order. And similarly the bells in any shunt are all in the same coursing order. Now a lead end is the result of a constructional shunt, and, therefore, if you take only that part of the method which really lengthens the lead to the course, you will always have your lead ends in the same coursing order. That is, that Bob Major lead ends are the natural lead ends of every method. When you have other lead ends it simply means that you have an additional shunt which is partly in one lead and partly in another. This additional shunt hides the natural lead ends, but you must remember that it does nothing towards the construction of the method, i.e., the lengthening the lead to the course.

If the lead is to be a true factor of the course it should show all the construction and all the additional shunts, and this it does not do if part of an additional shunt is in one lead and part in another.

This is a really scientific case for Bob Major lead ends. They are not merely the best set of lead ends out of many available sets. They are the only set that are really lead ends. And they are as much the true lead ends of Union or Oxford Surprise as they are of Grandsire or Superlative.

There are a great many practical reasons why methods which have their true lead ends hidden are not worth ringing, but I leave them. I am merely concerned to point out, without attempting any proof, that the division of the leads and Bob Major Lead Ends depend not on any fancy or opinion, but on the natural laws on which change ringing is founded.

France, June 12th, 1918.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at East Farleigh on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock; service at 5; tea at 5.45, business meeting after. All will be welcome.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Estab. 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available from 4 p.m.; business meeting to follow at the Nag's Head Tavern at 8.30. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at Sherburn-in-Elmet on Saturday, July 13th. By kind permission of the Vicar the bells (8) will be available all day. Business meeting at 5.—W. Hinton, District Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. Established 1755.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Solihull on Saturday, July 13th. Bells (10) available from 4 o'clock. Tea will be arranged for 5.30 at the Masons' Arms Hotel.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A Combined Practice will be held at Cranleigh (8 bells) on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available from 3.30 till 9 p.m. Tea at 4.30 o'clock (members must bring their own eatables), at Mr. W. Charman's cottage.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingboro District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Earls Barton on Saturday, July 13th. Bells available from 3 o'clock; tea at 4.30.—W. Perkins, District Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingboro.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch near Warrington on Saturday, July 13th. Bells ready at 3; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Cobham on Saturday, July 20th. Bells (6) available from 3.5 and 6.30-9; service at 5; tea at 5.45, but members must bring their own rations, gd. will be allowed towards cost.—The Vicarage Gardens will be open to Members (by kind permission of the Vicar) during the afternoon.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Prestwich on Saturday, July 20th. Bells available during the afternoon and evening; meeting at 7. The association Committee meet at the same place on the above date.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, July 20th. bells available from 3 p.m.; service 4.45, followed by business meeting.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A District Meeting will be held at Hornchurch on Saturday, July 20th. Bells available from 3.30 to 9; business meeting in the Tower at 5 p.m. Owing to difficulties in catering no tea can be arranged. Will those intending to be present please note?—E. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—By kind permission of the Rev. T. F. J. Mummery, the next quarterly meeting will be held at Eynsford, on Saturday, July 20th. Bells will be available at 4 p.m.; meeting 6 p.m. Half railway fares up to but not exceeding 2s. paid to those attending.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Rainford on Saturday, July 20th. Bells ready at 2.30; service at 5; meeting at 5.30.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Secs.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Northampton District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Great Brington on Saturday, July 20th. Bells ready at 3; service at 5; tea at 5.30, no food or sugar provided. Election of district officers for the ensuing year.—T. Law, District Sec., St. Peter's Cottages, Weston Favell.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 20th, at 3 o'clock.—Please note, the meeting will be at St. Giles' Parish Room, Woodstock Road (near St. Giles' Parish Church). Ringing will be arranged if possible.—R. T. Hibbert, Sec., Warren House Lodge, St. Peter's Avenue, Caversham.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Publow, Saturday, July 27th. Divine Service at 3.30; tea and business at 4.15. N.B.—No sugar provided.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., School House, Midsomer Norton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—A Summer meeting will be held at Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks, on Saturday, July 27, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Ringing 3 o'clock, evensong 5.30, and tea 6 p.m. for those who notify the hon. sec. that they will be present.—W. H. Fussell, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.—A friendly gathering for bell ringing and tea drinking is proposed for Saturday, July 13th, at Great Missenden, Bucks. Bells available at 4 p.m.; tenor 27cwt. The Branch Committeemen are asked to make this known to all members.—The Annual Committee Meeting of the Diocesan Guild takes place at Oxford on Saturday, July 20th.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Association will be held at St. Phillip and St. Jacob's (Bristol) Parish Hall on Saturday, July 27th. Business: Presentation of accounts and report and election of officers. Bells available at St. Phillip's Church at 2 o'clock; Service at 3.30, to be followed by business meeting and tea. Several other towers will be available for ringing. Will Branch Secretaries kindly notify me on or before July 20th how many of their members expect to be present?—F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Gloucester Road, Thornbury, Glos.

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[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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Gentlemen.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorized by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEEK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

THE 'LEAD ENDS' CONTROVERSY.

The article in this column last week, showing how differently expert minds view some of the fundamental questions relating to change ringing, was written before we received Mr. J. A. Trollope's reply to the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' pamphlet, which will be found elsewhere in this issue. This reply was bound to come, if the Legitimate Methods Committee were not going to sit down under Mr. Davies' onslaught and admit themselves something worse than knaves or fools. Mr. Trollope is indignant—and many, we believe, will think it not without justification—at the treatment the Committee receive in the pamphlet, which the Hon. Secretary of the Council has issued (in his private capacity, of course) to the Exercise. Whether or not ringers agree with the findings of the Legitimate Methods Committee—accepted by the Council many years ago now—no one, we should have thought, would have doubted the honesty of purpose in their endeavour to get to the bottom of a highly complicated and abstruse problem.

The whole question turns on the point whether or not a method, to be 'legitimate,' must have what are known as the Bob Major lead ends. Without arguing the pros and cons of the technical side of this difficult matter—and those who say it is not an abstruse subject have never got to the bottom of it—we think Mr. Davies has been unkind, to say the least, in his manner of dealing with the Committee, and unless the Council intend to throw overboard the Committee and their accepted Report, it is obvious the matter cannot rest where it is. With such a scathing criticism of the Report, which is now and for years has been, not only the Committee's but the Council's 'Decision,' something will have to be done to inform the Exercise who is right and who is wrong. If the Council say Mr. Davies is right, and the Committee have been proven wrong, they must withdraw their report and issue an amended one, for the responsibility is with the Council, who have set their seal upon the Committee's findings. If the Council hold the Committee are right, then they should say frankly that Mr. Davies is mistaken. One or the other they must do, or else acknowledge themselves incapable of discharging the functions which they claim as their particular sphere. Mr. Davies in his enthusiasm to upset the Committee's findings, places himself, it seems to us, rather upon the horns of a dilemma. Either his views must be thrown over by the Council, or he undermines the whole position of the Council to settle questions with which, above all, it claims to be the fittest body to deal. The Report and Mr. Davies' pamphlet cannot be allowed to stand side by side. One or the other must go, and, if it is the former, will the Exercise be prepared to accept rulings on a subject like this from the Council in the future?

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CHAS. EDMUNDS,

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(Late St. James Society.)

On Saturday, July 6, 1918, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 21 cwt. E flat.

GEORGE R. FARDON ... Treble	W. ROBERT GRIMWOOD ... 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	ALFRED W. DARLINGTON ... 6
LOUIS ATTWATER ... 3	WILLIAM S. SMITH ... 7
ALFRED B. PECK ... 4	REUBEN SANDERS ... Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

Rung to celebrate the Silver Wedding of their Majesties King George V. and Queen Mary, and on the 49th anniversary of the opening of the church and dedication of the new ring of 8 bells. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

DEPTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 9, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt.

JOSEPH LAW ... Treble	ERNEST B. CROWDER ... 5
FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON ... 2	GEORGE H. DAYNES ... 6
ISAAC G. SHADE ... 3	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES ... 7
WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN ... 4	THOMAS HAMLYN ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE H. DAYNES.

Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Vicar of Deptford, the Rev. Arthur Hart.

HANDBELL PEALS.

HOLBETON, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(HOLBETON PAROCHIAL BAND.)

On Monday, July 8, 1918, in Two Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE VICARAGE.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Seven 720's each called differently.

*W. BROWN ... Treble	REV. E. S. POWELL ... 3-4
*W. TRIGGER ... 2	B. J. E. MILLER ... 5-6

Conducted by REV. E. S. POWELL.

* First peal.

First peal on handbells by all, and First handbell peal in Devon by a band of residents in the county.

Witness: MISS J. E. COURSE.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, July 8, 1918, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD, SHOREDITCH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5038 CHANCES;

WILBY J. HAZELL ... 1-2	FRANK SMITH ... 5-6
JOHN D. MATTHEWS ... 3-4	ARTHUR J. NEALE ... 7-8
HUGH T. SCARLETT ... 9-10	

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

Umpire: MR. BENJAMIN FOSKETT.

Believed to be the first Peal of Grandsire Caters in hand by the Society, and rung at the first attempt.

MIDLAND DISTRICT LADIES GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8th, the Midland District Ladies' Guild held practice meetings at Clent. The weather was perfect, and the pleasant walk of about three miles from the railway station was very much enjoyed by the visitors. About thirty ringers and friends turned up, and some good practice was put in, touches of Double Norwich, Bob Major, Stedman Triples, Oxford Bob Triples, Grandsire Triples, etc., being brought round. The bells, a light musical ring of eight, were kept going until about eight o'clock. It was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Luke's Church, Blakenhall, on August 10th.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AT TAUNTON.

The annual meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association of Change Ringers was held in the St. Mary's Church Room, Taunton, on Saturday afternoon, July 6th. The Master, the Rev. C. C. Parker, Rector of Corston, near Bristol, presided over a good attendance, and in his report for the year ending June 1st he said it was difficult for all Associations such as theirs to make progress in these times. They had much reason, therefore, to be thankful for the steady continuance of support which they had received during the past year. The number of new members was most encouraging, and they were pleased to welcome a further addition of lady ringers. He was sorry to see that they had not a balance to their credit this year, but that was due to decreased contributions from the local secretaries' balances. The Central Association had called attention to the declining custom of rising and falling the bells, and had expressed the hope that this custom might be restored. It had been a great pleasure and privilege to him (the Master) to welcome the Association at Corston, and he desired to thank those members who made the meeting so great a success. The four meetings of the year were held at Yeovil, Corston, Curry Rivel, and Weston-super-Mare. The following new members had been admitted: Hon. members, 3; performing members, 82; non-resident life members, 3; non-resident members, 13; unattached members, 4. Sixteen of the new members were ladies. The list of members who had joined the colours had been lengthened by the addition of 21 names. Three peals had been rung during the year, viz., one peal of doubles at Langport, ditto at Easton-in-Gordano, and one lapped on handbells at Milverton by Mr. A. Tont. Their secretary deserved their grateful thanks for all he had done and was doing for the Association. He hoped, in conclusion, that with God's help the Association would prosper in the coming year and increase its sphere of usefulness.

The Master then read a list of members who have fallen in the war, and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. E. E. Burgess, of Taunton) presented the balance-sheet, which showed a credit balance of £78 10s. 11d. The balance brought forward from the previous year was £80 13s. 9d.

The Chairman, commenting on the balance sheet, said it reflected great credit on the Association to have done so well during another year of war, when so many of their members were serving with the colours. Thanks were due to Mr. D. G. Taylor for kindly auditing the accounts.

The report and accounts were received and approved, and the usual honorarium of ten guineas was voted to the secretary. — The Vice-Presidents of the Association, the Archdeacons of Bath, Wells and Taunton, were re-elected.

The re-election of the Master was proposed by Mr. D. G. Taylor, of Ilminster, who spoke in terms of warm appreciation of Mr. Parker's work and interest on behalf of the Association. — Mr. Walter Coombes (Ilminster) seconded, and the motion was carried with applause, the Rev. C. C. Parker suitably responding, and mentioning the fact that he had been Master of the Guild for over ten years.

Mr. A. E. Coles, of Bridgwater, proposed the re-election of Mr. E. E. Burgess as hon. secretary and treasurer, remarking that they appreciated his services very highly. He had served the Association faithfully and well during the past twelve years. The motion was seconded, and carried unanimously. — Mr. Burgess, having returned thanks, Mr. D. G. Taylor was re-elected hon. auditor.

The Chairman expressed the hope that the Association might be able to compile a complete list of members who had served in the Army or Navy during the war. There were nearly 400 ringers on service.

Glastonbury, Martock, and Milverton were selected as the places for the quarterly meetings, and Bath for the next annual meeting.

Mr. J. Maddock (Taunton) gave a report of the conference of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, which he attended in London as a delegate of the Association. He mentioned, among other things, the Council's proposal to raise a fund of £10,000 to help in the restoration of church bells in Belgium after the war. — The Chairman thanked Mr. Maddock for his report, and for attending the conference.

Mr. J. J. Jones (Newport) made an appreciative reference to the successful efforts of the master in getting a new set of eight bells at Corston, and he thought the Association should accord him its best thanks. He had the pleasure of taking part in the opening of these bells, and congratulated Mr. Parker upon obtaining them for his church.

The Chairman replied that it was a great pleasure to him to know that the bells were appreciated, and he thanked Mr. Jones for his kind remarks. He also wished to express the thanks of the Association to the Rev. Canon Corfield for the use of St. Mary's bells, and for arranging a special service for that evening; also to the Vicar of St. James's for the use of his bells, and the Vicar and churchwardens of Wilton for a similar privilege. — A vote of thanks to these clergy was heartily accorded, and the Rev. P. J. J. Fear (Vicar of St. James's) responded. He said the church towers of Taunton and their bells were a source of great pride and joy to the people of the town and district. One of the bells in St. James's tower was dated 1610, and another 1626, and these two bells had been rung by generation after generation of faithful men for weddings, funerals, and great public

events. What they all longed and prayed for was all the bells in all the towers would ere long ring out the tidings of peace (applause).

A sympathetic reference to the death of Preb. Hayes Robinson, of Burnham, an honorary member of the Association, was made by the chairman, and the meeting was then closed with prayer.

The towers represented were Taunton St. Mary's, St. James's, and Wilton, Bridgwater, Burnham, Weston-super-Mare, Glastonbury, Moorlinch, Minehead, Chipstable, Chedzoy, North Curry, Ilminster, Martock, Portishead, Wells, and Bristol.

Tea was served in St. Mary's School Room, and subsequently a service was held in the church, at which the Rev. Canon Corfield gave an able address. During the day there was some fine change ringing on the bells of St. Mary's, St. James's, and Wilton, and the cheering music made many think of the coming of peace.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY 'BOB MAJOR.'

My fingers have been itching for weeks to scratch a few lines to my friends, but the deliberations of that august body, yept the Central Council, have kept me in the background. After three years the Council made a raid, as it were, and all I could do was to wait with patience in my dugout. But there were not many bombs dropped, and, from what I have read, there were not even any anti-aircraft guns brought into operation, much less any aerial fighting. In fact (to change the metaphor) everything seems to have gone as merrily as the proverbial marriage bell. It is astonishing how soothing is the atmosphere of the Church House. The most riotous sense of opposition seems to be quelled within those peaceful walls. Else, how is it that outside one hears all sorts of—well, unfriendly things said about the Council, while inside affairs go on in the old sweet way, and patting each other's back is a favourite occupation?

But there, I am not in the Council, and very little of their business makes any difference to my ringing, so it is not for me to complain. As a friend of mine said the other day, if they haven't done much good lately, they haven't done any harm. But all the same I do wish they would 'do something'. In these days you have to 'go on or go under,' and that is what I am afraid the Council will have to do. Once upon a time I suggested a few things which the Council might do for us ringers, but I suppose they were not practicable—somehow or other I never am practicable, and, it is hinted to me, that for that reason my favourite association think of putting me on the Council at the next opportunity. If I do put up for election after the war, some of the planks in my platform will be:—

Pensions for weary ringers.

Prizes for those who ring least peals.

Soft cushions for ringers' pews, and the

Publication of treatises on Methodless Methods; Leadless Lead

Ends; Bobless Bobs; and the way to be happy with Singles (Grandsire variety).

It seems to me that this last item ought to provide scope for the energies of our much maligned experts.

And what a pother there is going to be over these lead ends! I can see the making of a nice little skirmish on this subject, and everyone will be wanting to buy the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' pamphlet, which gives the Central Council's Committee such a drubbing. I am not Mr. Davies' advertising agent, but you can get his pamphlet for a shilling if you send to him at Deane Rectory, Overton, Hants. Ever since the world began—began, that is, from a ringer's point of view, over 200 years ago—there have been different sorts of lead ends, and no one seems able yet to tell us which are right and which are wrong, or whether they are all right or all wrong. Old Stedman, wily old man, upset the applecart when he invented something which had not got Bob Major lead ends (I don't know whether Bob Major had ever been heard of then, but that's a detail), and it's that as much as anything that seems to make the Legitimate Methods Committee's bed a thorny one. At any rate, it has helped Mr. Davies to stick in a few prickles, on which those who try to help out the committee will be very liable to scratch themselves. But then those who go to the assistance of the Council's secretary must be wary. There's many a trap which may lead to trouble. For my part, however, I'm satisfied with the methods as I find them. Stedman is no harder to ring because it hasn't got Bob Major lead ends, and London Surprise is no easier because it has got 'em.

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

At St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, on Thursday, July 4th, in connection with the celebration, and in honour of Independence Day, was rung a date touch of 1918 changes Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 25 mins, on the back eight: W. Fisher, E. Counce, G. R. Newton (composer and conductor), H. H. Barker, J. Martin, G. Fisher, W. Davies, and J. Eiton.

LITTLEBOURNE, ST. VINCENT'S.—July 4th was celebrated on the village church bells of St. Vincent's, many brilliant touches being rung, including 720 by the following: Mr. E. Wood (Wickhambreau) 1, Mr. P. J. Cobbold 2, Mr. E. Rye 3, Mr. W. Savage 4, Mr. H. Bramble 5, Mr. A. Johnson 6th (all of Littlebourne).

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Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

'LEAD ENDS.'

MR. J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE'S REPLY TO MR. DAVIES' PAMPHLET.

I have received out here in France a copy of a pamphlet on Lead Ends, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, which is mainly a criticism of the 'Report on Legitimate Methods.' As I was a member of the committee responsible for that report, and, indeed, drafted it, I should like to say a few words about it.

The committee was appointed by the Central Council 20 years ago, and since at least two of the original members (Mr. Law James and myself) have been re-elected by every Council, presumably we were sufficiently qualified for our task. The problem was, as it seemed to us, to take the facts as they stand, and to investigate them without bias and without prejudice. I do not in the least claim for our findings any infallibility or immunity from criticism, but I do claim for the committee honesty, thoroughness, and singleness of purpose. Yet to read Mr. Davies' pamphlet one would suppose that we had made up our mind, by under-handed methods, to trick the Exercise, to foist a 'fallacy,' and a 'mischievous fad' on it, 'to debar ringers from many methods of beauty and utility,' and so forth. And apparently we might have succeeded, if Mr. Davies had not 'exposed the manner' of this mean plot. What on earth had we to gain, or how could we profit in any way by playing such a trick? And what right has Mr. Davies or anyone else to say that we did our work otherwise than honestly, and with the object of reaching the truth?

He repeats, not for the first time, the charge that the report states things without proof or explanation, and makes of it a thing discreditable to the committee. It has been stated many times that the report is a summary of results of argument, and nothing more. It does not profess to prove or explain. But explanations and proofs existed in abundance at the time the report was first presented, though mainly in the shape of controversial letters. They are quite numerous now, a large part printed, a still larger part in MSS. All these were and are at Mr. Davies' disposal as he himself knows. Why, then, does he go on repeating things like this: 'As a matter of fact, the committee has not attempted, so far as I can find, to argue the question at all?'

I need not go through his criticisms because they are all due to the fact that he has not grasped the important truth which the committee has tried to indicate by the terms 'Principal' and 'Coursing Order.' The truth does exist, and it is the same truth which lies behind Mr. Thompson's explanations of 'q sets.' No doubt the committee's attempt to explain is faulty, but I am quite sure that if Mr. Davies, clever man as he is, would for once drop the role of hostile critic, and try and see the thing and work it out for himself, he would recognise that the method report is not the 'fallacious and mischievous' thing he supposes, but an honest attempt to state in plain words what is the natural law that governs the structure of all methods. And he would find that the existence of Union or Sparkbrook does not in any way disprove it, and that the wording is capable of being slightly altered, so that all his reasonable objections could be met, without in the least altering the main structure and intention of the report.

I will give a sample of Mr. Davies' style of controversy. He claims in his preface that his motion was passed by the Council 'by a large majority.' As a matter of fact, the Council never expressed an opinion on it at all, nor voted on it. It referred the matter to the committee unanimously, as the easiest way of getting rid of a subject which had bored the members to death.

Again he quotes the report as follows: 'The working bells shall be in the same coursing order at each lead-head, and end in the plain course.' And then he proceeds to ridicule the statement. The truth is that no such clause stands in the report at all. The last comma is after the word 'end,' not after the word 'head,' and the sentence could alternatively be read: 'In the plain course the working bells shall be in the same coursing order at each lead head and end.' I do not know if Mr. Davies copied the mistake from 'Rules and Decisions.' I have no means of finding out up here in the line. But if he did the fault is still his, for I am quite sure that the sentence runs correctly in my handwriting in the original MSS. A reasonable critic would have seen at once that the altered statement is nonsense. He would have given the committee credit for being able at least to write sense, and seeing there was a mistake he would have tried to find out what the committee meant, and what they actually wrote. But Mr. Davies cannot resist the opportunity of getting in a cheap sneer at his opponents. It is rather significant that twice later (on page 18) he quotes the sentence correctly.

And he goes on to say that 'plain course is here used in a sense newly invented by the committee,' and to hint 'things dark and under-handed' from it. It is quite untrue. The term 'plain course' means here and everywhere where I have used it, exactly what every ringer means by it, nothing more and nothing less. The course of any method starting from rounds without bobs or singles. But are we not justified in being irritated by criticism such as this?

But the real defence of the Report lies not in showing the unfairness and hollowness of Mr. Davies' attacks, but in explaining the truth which it (imperfectly no doubt) seeks to state. My work with the

Method Committee is finished; but I shall certainly ask the Council to allow me to explain and justify what we have done, and especially the large share that I personally had in it. I say that, of course, with the qualification 'if I am able again to attend a meeting.' For out here one never knows what any hour may bring forth.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

B.E.F., France, June 27th, 1918.

THEIR MAJESTIES' SILVER WEDDING.

ST. ANDREW'S, WICKHAMBREAUX.

The bells were kept going during the whole of the evening in honour of Their Majesties' silver wedding on Saturday, July 6th. Among the many touches was one of 720 by the following: Mr. W. Savage (Littlebourne) 1, Mr. P. J. Cobbold (Littlebourne) 2, Mr. Harrison Smith (Wickhambreaux) 3, Pte. Hope (South Notts Hussars) 4, Mr. at Bramble (Littlebourne) 5, Mr. A. Johnson (Littlebourne) 6.

FRANCE'S DAY HONoured BY RINGERS.

A fitting tribute was paid to our gallant Ally, on Friday, 12th July, in honour of the noble sons of France, by ringing at mid-day on the fine-toned twelve of St. Giles', Cripplegate, E.C. The Tricolour was a pleasing feature floating bravely from the flagstaff high above the tower.

The expenses connected with the ringing were defrayed by the kindness of Second-Lieut. Eric H. S. Truscott, now serving with the 15th Suffolk in France, who is an esteemed member of the London County Association, and in spite of his arduous duties there, did not fail to show his gratitude and appreciation of France, and to the ringers taking part.

The very best thanks of those participating is hereby tendered to Lieut. Truscott, whom it is hoped will soon be able to lay aside the sword for the rope, also to the Vicar and churchwardens of St. Giles' for allowing the use of the bells.

ISHAM. — Central Northants Association. — On Sunday afternoon, July 14th at the Parish Church, was rung a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Minor (1260 changes), in 44 mins., by the following Miss Cecil Hepburn 1, Miss Lily Geary 2, Miss Beattie Everest 3, Arthur Green 4, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 5, W. T. Wilson 6. Longest length and first attempt for a quarter-peal by three ladies and A. Green. Rung in honour of the French Independence Day.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.

A meeting of the above was held at Appledore, on Saturday, July 6th. The ladies created a record in the annals of the Guild by ringing the whole peal by themselves without any assistance from their male friends, and we doubt not that Appledore will be the tower to hold that record in the whole county of Kent. The male members accomplished a few touches of Grandsire Triples and Doubles. At the business meeting, Mr. G. Johnson, in the chair, three ladies were elected as members, making a total of nine belonging to the Guild. Marsham was elected as the place for the next meeting, on Saturday, July 27th, when we hope to meet the lady members in still stronger force.

THE KETTERING DISTRICT.

A successful meeting of the Kettering District of the Central Northants Bell Ringers' Association was held on Saturday, June 29th, at Kettering, when over 30 members were present from the following bellfries: Kettering, Isham, Barton, Seagrave, Rothwell, Desborough, Burton Latimer, Cranford, Finedon, and Wellingborough, and the new lady members from Isham and Cranford. Various methods were rung during the afternoon and evening.

Tea was partaken of at the Cross Keys Cafe, after which the annual business meeting was held. The Rev. E. J. Atkins, of Isham, was in the chair, supported by Messrs. J. Bruce Williamson, of Gerrard's Cross; E. M. Atkins, London; F. Wilford, general secretary, Northampton; and W. T. Wilson, district secretary.

The next quarterly meeting was fixed to be held at Barton Seagrave in September. Miss Eva Bird and Miss Violet Askew, of Cranford, were elected members of the association. The following officers were elected for the year: Vice-president, Rev. E. J. Atkins; district secretary, Mr. W. T. Wilson, Isham; committee, Messrs. E. J. Chapman, G. Lines (Central Committee), J. Saddington, S. Burdett, and A. Payne (District Committee).

A vote of thanks to the Rector of Kettering for the use of the bells brought the meeting to a close.

DEPTFORD, KENT. — At St. John's Church, on Monday, June 3rd, in honour of the King's birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: A. G. Bennington 1, T. A. Easterby 2, J. Law 3, F. W. Richardson 4, E. B. Crowder (conductor) 5, Pte. C. V. Ebberson 6, W. J. Jeffries 7, Arch Bennington 8. Also on Sunday, June 9th, for evening service, a quarter-peal from Holt's Original, in 41 mins.: T. A. Easterby 1, F. W. Richardson 2, C. V. Ebberson 3, J. Law 4, W. J. Jeffries 5, A. G. Bennington 6, E. B. Crowder (conductor) 7, Arch Bennington 8.

AMERICA'S LIBERTY BELL.

A few days ago in the 'Daily Mail,' Mr. John Harris, C.E., anti-quary, of Hemel Hempstead, gave the following history of America's Liberty Bell, hung in the State House, in Philadelphia:—

'1772: First cast in England. It was thought to be the work of Messrs. Pack and Chapman, of Whitechapel Road, London, now Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

'1773: It was cracked by some inexperienced ringer and recast in Philadelphia.

'1773: Cracked a second time the same year and recast.

'1776: Thursday, July 4th; it was rung at the Declaration of Independence.

'1777: It was taken down when the British captured Philadelphia in September and hidden.

'1778: June; the British troops quitted the city, and it was soon afterwards rehung.

'1835: It was cracked for the third time, as shown in the view in our issue of July 5th.

'1876: A new bell was put into its place in the cupola of the said State House, where I saw it on Thursday, August 31st.

'1885: It was taken to the New Orleans Exhibition, but afterwards returned to the museum. Its diameter is about 4ft. and it is 3in. thick at the soundbow. Its original note was about middle F of the old Handelian pitch.

'I should much like to get a perfect copy of all the inscription that runs round the bell. "Proclaim liberty throughout the land to all the inhabitants thereof" is only a portion of it.

To complete the story, Mr. Harris might have added the triumphal tour of the bell through the States when it was taken to the great exhibition at San Francisco, and was inspected by hundreds of thousands of people.

BELLS IN FRANCE.

Writing from 'Somewhere in France,' Lieut. E. H. S. Truscott says: 'There is a church near here at which a couple of bells are jangled about twice a day. The French people have much more to put up with in this respect than the English, for in almost every parish either one or two, or sometimes three, bells are jangled several times a day though I will say they almost invariably ring their bells "on the swing," and do not merely toll them, which is always much more monotonous. We are lucky in England to have such musical peals, which in any case are not rung so often as the French bells, so we have nothing to grumble at. "Keep the old bells ringing" is the right motto. Make no mistake, bell ringing has many friends and cannot be throttled by a noisy minority, which will always exist as long as the world has being.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The postponed monthly meeting of the Rochdale branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Middleton on Saturday (July 6th). Owing to there being a band performance in the park, ringing did not commence until 5 p.m. The bells were then kept going until 8.45 p.m. in touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. Members were present from Middleton, Milnrow, Newhey, Heywood, Manchester and Didsbury. The business meeting was afterwards held, and was presided over by Mr. W. Brown (of Manchester), the minutes of the last meeting being confirmed. It was arranged that the next meeting should take place at Glodwick, on Saturday, August 3rd.—A cordial vote of thanks was then accorded the Rector and wardens for the use of the tower and bells; also to the local ringers for having everything in readiness, and to Mr. W. Brown for occupying the chair. At 8.45 all adjourned to the Ring o' Bells, where touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells, these being greatly appreciated by the company.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

CHESTERFIELD. — On Sunday, June 9th, 331 Grandsire Triples: Miss E. Wornham 1, F. Davies 2, F. Jacobs 3, A. Ward 4, C. Glenn, R.N., 5, G. Thompson 6, W. J. Thyng 7, A. Knights 8. Conducted by A. H. Ward. Also 485 Grandsire Caters: Miss E. Wornham (longest length of Caters) 1, G. Hollis 2, W. Nuttall 3, A. Knights 4, C. Glenn (conductor) 5, A. H. Ward 6, F. Davies 7, W. J. Thyng 8, G. Thompson 9, F. Jacobs 10; and a course of Superlative Surprise: F. Davies 1, W. J. Thyng 2, F. Jacobs 3, A. H. Ward 4, G. Hollis 5, C. Glenn 6, G. Thompson 7, A. Knights 8. On handbells, at 42, Foljambe Road, 378 Steadman Caters: A. H. Ward 1—2, C. Glenn (conductor) 3—4, W. J. Thyng 5—6, A. Knights 7—8, G. Hollis 9—10. Also 360 Little Bob Royal: G. Hollis 1—2, C. Glenn (conductor) 3—4, W. J. Thyng 5—6, A. Knights 7—8, A. H. Ward 9—10.

PLYMOUTH. — At St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday, June 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins.: A. Kentfield 1, Corpl. G. Parr 2, W. Rundle 3, Pte. W. Malins, of Rugby (conductor), 4, Leading Seaman F. Davey, R.N., of Norwich, 5, W. Richards 6, G. H. Myers 7, J. Woodley 8. This quarter-peal was specially arranged for Leading Seaman Davey, who was shortly leaving the district.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—

The meeting members are invited by Mr. Young for a handbell practice at 277, Stanstead Road, Forest Hill, S.E., on Saturday next, July 20th, at 4 p.m. Car service 58 (by the door) or 66.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—

Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Cobham on Saturday, July 20th. Bells (6) available from 3.5 and 6.30-9; service at 5; tea at 5.45, but members must bring their own rations, gd. will be allowed towards cost.—The Vicarage Gardens will be open to Members (by kind permission of the Vicar) during the afternoon.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.

—The next meeting will be held at Prestwich on Saturday, July 20th. Bells available during the afternoon and evening; meeting at 7. The association Committee meet at the same place on the above date.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, July 20th. bells available from 3 p.m.; service 4.45, followed by business meeting.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—

A District Meeting will be held at Hornchurch on Saturday, July 20th. Bells available from 3.30 to 9; business meeting in the Tower at 5 p.m. Owing to difficulties in catering no tea can be arranged. Will those intending to be present please note?—E. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—

By kind permission of the Rev. T. F. J. Mummery, the next quarterly meeting will be held at Eynsford, on Saturday, July 20th. Bells will be available at 4 p.m.; meeting 6 p.m. Half railway fares up to but not exceeding 2s. paid to those attending.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool

Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Rainford on Saturday, July 20th. Bells ready at 2.30; service at 5; meeting at 5.30.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Secs.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—

Northampton District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Great Brington on Saturday, July 20th. Bells ready at 3; service at 5; tea at 5.30, no food or sugar provided. Election of district officers for the ensuing year.—T. Law, District Sec., St. Peter's Cottages, Weston Favell.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—

The annual general meeting will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 20th, at 3 o'clock.—Please note, the meeting will be at St. Giles' Parish Room, Woodstock Road (near St. Giles' Parish Church). Ringing will be arranged if possible.—R. T. Hibbert, Sec., Warren House Lodge, St. Peter's Avenue, Faversham.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—

Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Publow, Saturday, July 27th. Divine Service at 3.30; tea and business at 4.15. N.B.—No sugar provided.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., School House, Midsomer Norton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—

East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—A Summer meeting will be held at Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks, on Saturday, July 27, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Ringing 3 o'clock, evensong 5.30, and tea 6 p.m. for those who notify the hon. sec. that they will be present.—W. H. Fussell, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough. The Annual Committee Meeting of the Diocesan Guild takes place at Oxford on Saturday, July 20th.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN

ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Association will be held at St. Phillip and St. Jacob's (Bristol) Parish Hall on Saturday, July 27th. Business: Presentation of accounts and report and election of officers. Bells available at St. Phillip's Church at 2 o'clock; Service at 3.30, to be followed by business meeting and tea. Several other towers will be available for ringing. Will Branch Secretaries kindly notify me on or before July 20th how many of their members expect to be present?—F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Gloucester Road, Thornbury, Glos.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—

The next meeting of this Society will be held at Idle (near Bradford) on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m.; the business meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Church Schools.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available from 4 p.m.; business meeting at 7. All ringers invited.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—

The next meeting of the above will be held at Mersham on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available from 3 o'clock.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—

Chew Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yatton on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available at 3 o'clock; Divine service 4.30; tea in the Church Hall at 5.30; business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. local Sec., Long Ashton.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—

Thrapston District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Aldwinkle on Saturday, July 27th. Bells ready at 3; service at 4.30; tea at 5 o'clock. Election of officers.—S. Stubbs, District Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Raunds.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LON-

DON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; short service at 5.30, followed by tea and a business meeting. The tower of St. Mary's, Walthamstow, will be open in the evening from 7.30. All ringers welcome. Members are asked to forward any outstanding subscriptions for 1918.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.

—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, August 3rd, at Glodwick. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The August meeting will be held at Killamarsh on Saturday the 3rd. Six bells available afternoon and evening. For those who bring their own rations arrangements will be made to provide a cup of tea.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Bank Holiday, August 5th. The bells of seven towers in the town available throughout the day. Meeting at 2.30 p.m. sharp in St. Lawrence Parish Hall. Owing to food restrictions it is impossible to arrange for the customary luncheon. For full particulars see circulars sent to all masters of companies.—C. E. Borrett, Sec., 12, Grove Avenue, Norwich.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Colchester (St. Peter's) on Bank Holiday, August 5th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Further particulars next week.—B. Redgwell, District Sec., Rayne.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Henfield on August Bank Holiday. Tower open 12-1, 2-4 and after meeting; service at 4; tea at 5 in Parish Room, meeting to follow. Half Railway Fares. Tea 1/- each to those who let me know not later than Wednesday, July 31st.—A. D. Stone, Divisional Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

FOR SALE. SET OF 8 HANDBELLS in perfect condition, good as new; in lockup box; £4.—Hy. Brownlee West, 'Avalon,' Devizes.

CABINET MAKERS, JOINERS, AND WOODWORKERS URGENTLY WANTED. No one already on Government work need apply. (Ringers).—H. W. Abbott, Loughborough Cabinet Co., Loughborough.

HAIRDRESSER WANTED; good gentleman's hand for permanency; good wages, usual commission; good class trade; short hours. Change-ringer preferred.—Apply B. Chorley, Hairdresser, Guildford.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

BIRTH.

HIBBERT.—On Sunday, July 7th, 1918, at 16, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts, to Maurice F. R. and Annie Hibbert, a daughter.

DEATH.

KIRTON.—On Monday, June 24th, at their residence, Boreham, Essex, Mary, the beloved wife of Henry W. Kirton (Private, A.O.C.), aged 37. Interred in Brentwood Churchyard, June 28th. Deeply lamented.

ISHAM.—Central Northants Association.—On Whit-Sunday, May 19th, for evensong, 720 Plain Bob: *Miss C. Hepburn 1, *A. Blaxley 2, W. C. Lewis 3, W. T. Wilson 4, G. A. Blaxley (conductor) 5, W. Gilbert 6.—On Sunday, June 9th, for evensong, 720 Plain Bob: *Miss B. Everett 1, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 2, A. Blaxley 3, W. C. Lewis 4, G. A. Blaxley 5, D. Mallett 6. * First 720. The two ladies in the above started ringing in December last.

ISLEWORTH.—On Sunday, June 16th, at All Saints', for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triplex (Thurstons), in 47 mins. (1260 changes): G. R. Fardon (conductor) 1, F. Davis 2, J. N. Frossell 3, G. Lees 4, A. W. Darlington 5, C. F. Winny 6, J. Howes 7, A. Beckensale 8.

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STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. F. Davies, M.A., with an appendix by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., etc., etc.

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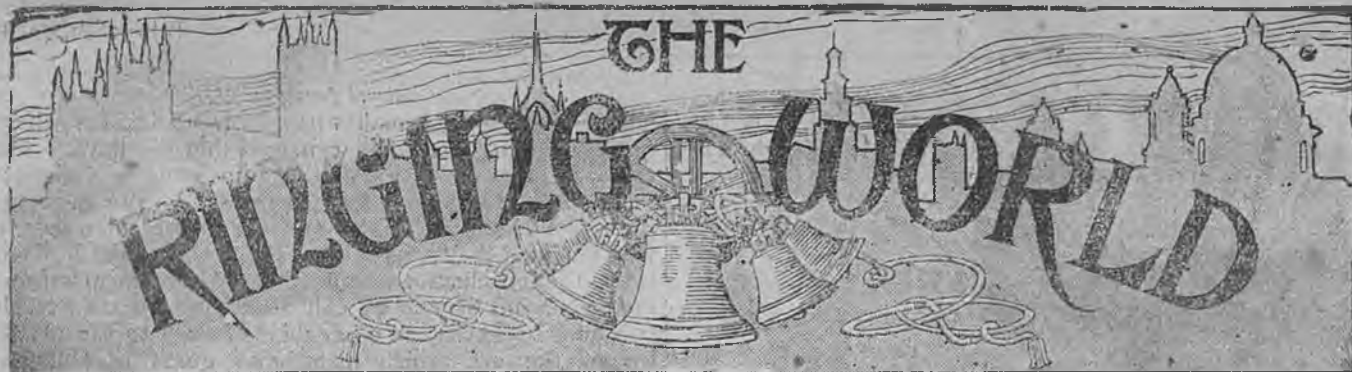
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FRIDAY, JULY 26th, 1918.

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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
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(Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUM CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.
GILBERT GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.
Yours faithfully, F. T. BROOK,
Architect, Dinsmore Street.

MODERN WORK

TERMINOLOGY AND NOMENCLATURE.

Probably there is no other pursuit in which the technical expressions used are so confusing to a beginner as in change ringing. At every turn one meets with terms which have been found in some other connection with a totally different meaning, or, again, varying expressions are used to indicate the same thing. It makes the whole science very puzzling, and yet these difficulties have not been cleared away by the advance of years. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies touches upon this loose method of terminology in his pamphlet on 'Lead Ends,' in explaining the meaning of a 'lead.' He remarks that change ringing was not evolved by men of science, but produced by trial and error for the purposes of practical ringing by men of all sorts and conditions at various places and various times. This explanation quite fairly sums up the position, and it will be readily agreed that the task of systematisation in the present day is no easy one.

The terminology has come down to us through generations, and long association makes it difficult to discard the familiar uses. Yet they are none the less confusing to the would-be student. For example, 'lead' and 'course' are words which each have different meanings according to the connection in which they are employed, and other instances might be quoted. A good deal was done by the publication of the 'Glossary' to bring existing terms into subjection, as it were, but some modern writers are guilty of adding to our perplexities. Down to Snowden's time and ever since, everyone was satisfied to distinguish rows of changes as 'in-course' or 'out-of-course'; afterwards an effort was made to educate ringers into the use of the expressions 'even' and 'odd' to answer the same purpose, and now we find that the terms 'positive' and 'negative' are being introduced. Then, again, we talk of 'legitimate' and 'illegitimate' methods, when the intention is not to imply the meaning of these words as generally accepted, but rather the definition of regular and irregular.

Another phase of the same subject is to be found in the variety of ways in which the thing is described in different parts of the country. For instance, there are perhaps half a dozen 'tables' by which Grandsire may be learned, each of which is almost so much Greek to the uninitiated, who may yet be quite well acquainted with the method in another form. So it is that, after change ringing has been in practice for something like two hundred and fifty years, there is a good deal of chaos in its terminology. At the same time we are not sure that we want to see the old terms swept away. They have answered their purpose in the past, they will do so in the future. And while we wonder how some of these ancient expressions came to be

Continued on page 234.

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Dear Sirs,
I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield

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Continued from page 233.

adopted in ringing, it makes us curious to inquire whence came some of the peculiar names that we have. How came it, for example, that methods were designated 'Pleasures,' 'Delights' or 'Surprises'? We know how the terms Doubles, Triples and Caters were derived; but who invented the terms Minor, Major and Royal? What led to the introduction of 'Bob' into the nomenclature of methods? and why do we call a dodging hunt a 'treble' bob hunt? These and other things belong to the mysteries of the art, which many may guess at, but few determine.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD**

On Wednesday, July 10, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S, SEKREDITCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES. 5007 CHANCES;

WALTER S. WISE 1—2	GEORGE R. PYE 7—8
WILLIAM PYE 3—4	WILLIAM SHEPHERD 9—10
MRS. F. I. HAIRS 5—6	JAMES GEORGE 11—12

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.
Umpires: G. M. KILBY and C. DEAN.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**

On Saturday, July 13, 1918, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

BENJAMIN GOUGH Treble	WILLIAM A. COOPER 5
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 2	JESSE SCREEN 6
ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 3	ALFRED ROWLEY 7
RICHARD ROUND 4	JOSEPH FAULKNER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by ALFRED ROWLEY.

Rung to celebrate the Silver Wedding of their most gracious Majesties King George V and Queen Mary, also the marriage of Mr. William Alfred Rowley, L.S. of H.M.S. Royal Sovereign (eldest son of the conductor), and Miss Daisy Davies, daughter of the late Mr. Benjamin Davies, of Tipton; also as a compliment to the conductor on the 50th anniversary of his birth. R. Round was proposed a member of the above Society and Guild previous to starting for the peal.

GLODWICK, OLDHAM.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, July 13, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB, 5088 CHANCES;

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH.

*J. HALL Treble	ED. B. SHAW 5
F. STONELY 2	I. SCHOFIELD 6
J. LEES 3	JOHN HARRISON 7
A. CLEGG 4	W. W. WOLSTENCROFT Tenor

Composed by W. MALLINSON.

Conducted by W. W. WOLSTENCROFT.

* First peal in the method. The treble and 2nd are from Miles Platting, 7th and 8th from Ashton-under-Lyne, the rest are of the local company.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**

On Saturday, July 20, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BENJAMIN GOUGH Treble	ALFRED ROWLEY 5
JOHN BASS 2	JESSE SCREEN 6
RICHARD ROUND 3	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 7
WILLIAM A. COOPER 4	JOSEPH FAULKNER Tenor

Conducted by ABRAHAM GREENFIELD.

Rung on the eve of the Sunday School Festival and for the dedication of the Memorial Chapel to fallen heroes of the parish of Netherton.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.
(Etab. 1686.)

On Saturday, July 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE ORCHARD 1	Treble	WILLIAM HALE 5
ARTHUR TATNELL 2		ALBERT WRIGHT 6
HUBERT SCRIVENS 3		THOMAS BALDWIN 7
JOHN AUSTIN 4		FRANK COLE Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

FIVE BELL PEAL.

ESCRICK, NEAR YORK.

TYPE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 20, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six scores called differently. Tenor 12½ cwt.

AUGUSTUS HATFIELD 1	Treble	SERG. E. MORRIS 3
THOMAS W. ROBBINS 2		W. ARTHUR HUDSON 4
JOSEPH E. SYKES Tenor		

Conducted by SERGT. ERNEST MORRIS, A.S.C.

The ringers hail from Hemingborough, Escrick, Leicester, Birstal, and Huddersfield respectively. Arranged for Mr. J. E. Sykes, who has now rung peals on all numbers, 5 to 12. The ringers desire through this medium to thank the Vicar for his kind hospitality after the peal.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

INTERESTING EVENT AT CRANLEIGH.

The combination of a beautiful summer day, with a ringer's wedding and a combined practice, sufficed to bring together a good number of members at Cranleigh, on Saturday, July 13th. The wedding was that of Sergt. R. Carrier (Vancouver, B.C.), of the Canadian Field Artillery, and Miss Charman, eldest daughter of Mr. W. Charman, the leader of the local ringers. The bridegroom, who had been wounded in France, has been stationed at Witley Camp. He was a member of the company who rang the first peal (Grandsire Triples) ever rung in the Dominion of Canada; the bride is also able to ring a bell, while three of her brothers (who are now in the army), her father and her uncle, are members of the Cranleigh band, as was also her grandfather in his day; it was, therefore, a ringers' wedding in every respect. The ceremony took place in the Parish Church, and it was fully choral, the organist and choir attending as a compliment to the Charman family's long and active connection with the church. At its conclusion a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following members: C. Hazelden 1, Mrs. H. Whittington 2, A. J. Bartlett 3, J. J. Jones 4, M. Smithers 5, W. R. Melville 6, A. Charman 7, R. Whittington 8. The touch was conducted by Mr. A. Charman, uncle of the bride. Afterwards some good touches in the Standard methods were rung by visitors from Aldershot, Chiddingfold, Dorking, Guildford, Hersham, and Henfield, Sussex. The service was also attended by a detachment of Sergt. Carrier's fellow N.C.O.'s and men of the C.F.A., who formed a guard of honour as the bridal party left the church, and later they removed the horses from the carriage, their places being taken by men of the C.F.A., who drew it through the street by their gun ropes.

After tea ringing was resumed, the most important items being a brilliant 504 Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. W. Shepherd, in which the bridegroom took part. Later the bells were rung in rounds by a company, which included the bride and bridegroom, the bridesmaid (Miss Ida Charman), Mrs. Whittington, Cranleigh; Mrs. Hazelden, Guildford; Miss Avenall, Worplesdon; Miss Fisher, Dorking.

A. C. H.

A meeting of the Guildford District was held at Cobham, on July 20th, and was attended by ringers from Guildford, Leatherhead, Dorking, Oatlands Park, Hersham, etc.

Service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar (Canon Grane). Before leaving, the Vicar expressed his pleasure at seeing his six bells all being rung by lady members, and said he should try and see whether Cobham ladies would not learn to ring. Tea was held in the Church Room, and at the meeting five new members were elected. The next meeting was provisionally decided to be held at Shore, in September. The handy ring of six were kept going in various methods during the afternoon and evening.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Wellingboro' District was held at Earls Barton, on Saturday last, July 13th. Ringers put in an early appearance, and touches of London, Cambridge, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford, Plain Bob, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung during the afternoon and evening.

Tea was served in the Schoolroom, about 20 members being present from Irthlingboro', Wellingboro', Pinedon, Higham Ferrers, Isham, Wollaston, Easton Mauditt, Wilby, Doddington, Northampton, and the local ringers. After tea the usual business meeting was held, presided over by the Vicar, supported by Mr. F. Wilford, Mr. E. M. Atkins, Mr. W. Willson, of Isham, and Mr. J. R. Sharmman, of London.

The following officers were elected for the district: Mr. G. Randall, of Higham Ferrers, vice-president; Mr. W. Perkins, secretary; Messrs. F. Barber, G. Basford, A. Martin, G. Eltee, and F. Jones, committee. Mr. Owen Parker was appointed on the committee for the Ringers' Memorial.—It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Doddington.—Mr. W. Pettitt, of Wellingboro', was elected a ringing member.—Mr. F. Wilford gave an interesting report of the Central Council meeting.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers and their wives for providing tea.

The Vicar, replying, brought a very successful meeting to a close.

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting was held at Great Brington, on Saturday, July 20th, the following towers being represented: St. Peter's, St. Edmund's, and All Saints, Northampton; Moulton, Ecton, Cogenhoe, Weston Favell, and the local ringers. Visitors were present from Isham, Easton Mauditt, Pattishall, Flore, and Weedon. A short service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. W. Martin. He expressed his pleasure in meeting the ringers at that service; theirs was a noble and important office, and he was glad to see that when calling others to worship they also attended the service. About 30 sat down to tea, over which the Rector presided. There was also present Mr. F. Wilford, general secretary; and Mr. W. Wilson, secretary of the Kettering District. After tea, the election of officers for the ensuing year took place, the following being elected: Vice-president, Mr. F. Hopper; secretary, Mr. T. Law; committee, Messrs. H. Clarke, B. Soden, S. Lawrence, H. England, W. Atterbury. The Rev. T. A. Gurney was elected for the Ringers' Memorial Committee.

An invitation from the Rev. E. V. Martin, Rector of St. Peter's, Northampton, saying how pleased he would be to welcome the Association, was unanimously accepted. August 31st is the date fixed for the meeting.

Mr. F. Hopper, in thanking the members for appointing him vice-president again, said how pleased he was to see the interest taken in these meetings, especially by the newer members who were anxious to become change ringers, and he hoped the older members would continue to help, and encourage them to the best of their ability; he also expressed pleasure at the response made to the Belfry Repair Fund, which is quite voluntary, the results so far showing that the members appreciate the willingness of the clergy, and those in charge of belfries, allowing ringers the use of the bells, by subscribing to the fund.—The General Secretary gave an interesting report of the Central Council meeting. During the year, three honorary and 17 ringing members were elected.

Votes of thanks to the Rector and local ringers brought the meeting to a close. Ringing was again indulged till 8 p.m. Various methods were rung, including a course of Cambridge Surprise.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

St. Mary's, Walthamstow, was visited on Saturday, 13th July, by upwards of 30 members of the London County Association. Ringing, which included Stedman Caters, Cambridge and Superlative Major, was carried on until 8 p.m.

At the business meeting, subsequently held at the Nag's Head, was presided over by the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), the following were unanimously elected members: Mr. Mark Fensom, of Hornsey; Mr. Robert Maynard junr., of Walthamstow, and Mr. William J. Eldred, of Finchley.—The Master announced that he had recently heard from Sapper R. F. Deal, who had been in hospital some time suffering from trench fever, and who has unfortunately had a relapse.

The best wishes of Second-Lieut. Eric H. S. Truscott, 15th Suffolk Regiment, serving in France, was conveyed to the meeting through a letter received by the hon. secretary from him a few days previously, thus proving that although members are scattered far and wide on their King's and their country's service, they do not forget their associations of the past.—A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and churchwardens of St. Mary's for the use of the bells, and to Mr. J. H. Wilkins (steeplekeeper) and Mr. H. T. Scarlett; also to Mr. R. Maynard and members of the local band for their exceeding kindness in making such perfect arrangements for the convenience and comfort of the visitors.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, 10th August, due notice of which will appear in the 'Ringing World.'

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.**SUMMER MEETING AT SOLIHULL.**

'Silhill on the Hill
Hampton in the Hole,
Beggary Barston,
And Lousy Knowle.'

Whether the Bard of Stratford actually penned the above lines is perhaps a bit doubtful, but certain it is that the present writer has seen them inscribed on a pewler mug in a tiny, typical little Shakespearian inn, somewhere in the heart of the County of Warwick, whose host insisted that they were the work of the immortal Shakespeare himself.

They may not be quoted above exact to the original, for it is many years ago, yes, long before the Great War, Daddy, since the summer Saturday when two friends set out on bikes to potter round the Shakespeare country, exploring the lovely lanes of leafy Warwickshire, and delighting in the old-world hamlets one comes across tucked away in the folds of hills, almost unheard of outside their own boundaries, yet all within easy cycling distance of busy Birmingham. Long before the time when, on entering an inn, one acquired the habit of making more or less anxious inquiry as to whether there was 'anything doing' or, scrutinising the window, half expects to see a placard conveying the intelligence to all and sundry that certain commodities are 'sold out.'

On the day in question tea was partaken of at this little wayside house, of which even the name has escaped the memory, and feeling tired, and attracted by the quiet charm of the old place, the friends decided to act on the poet's advice, and 'take mine ease in mine inn.' Later we found that it was a place to which the local farmer repaired after—and, maybe, sometimes during—the day's work, and, in his own picturesque language, 'had him a pint.' As the evening wore on mine host produced the cup bearing the legend quoted above, which he handled almost reverently, and soon there was some discussion and argument as to the justice or otherwise of the Bard's descriptive adjectives.

How it ended deponent knoweth not at this distance of time, but the lines have never faded completely from memory, although, as stated, they may not be quite accurately quoted.

In any case we are not dealing in these presents with either Hampton, or Barston, or Knowle (lousy or otherwise), but with 'Silhill,' nowadays Solihull, at which place the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham held a quarterly meeting on Saturday week, which was fairly well attended by ringers of both sexes. This beautiful old village, famous for its roses, is a favourite rendezvous of the Birmingham ringers, and has been so for generations, as shown by the Pearl Book, a peal of Bob Major being re-recorded in 1786, conducted by the redoubtable Samuel Lawrence. Since his day the bells have been augmented to ten, by Barwell, and a very nice ring of ten, too, with a sonorous tenor of about 19 cwt. (By the way, she turned the scale at 52 cwt. or thereabouts on Saturday, Mr. Towerkeeper, which please note, The writer knows—he had some!)

Tea was arranged at the Mason's Arms-Hotel, Mr. G. Walker putting on a spread that was much enjoyed by a goodly company, especially by those who had brought sugar with them, and those also who were fortunate enough to sit next to them.

The Presiding Ringing Master (Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A.) took the chair at the business meeting which followed, and announced that, through the generosity of members the secretary had been able to hand over to Canon Willink the sum of £24 3s. 6d. towards the cost of repairing St. Martin's spire. Look, he said, how easy it would be to make it £25, a nice level amount to talk about, and one worthy of the Guild. In a few minutes the necessary 16s. 6d. was forthcoming, the ladies present subscribing 8s. 6d., thus beating the mere man by 6d.

After the meeting, the writer received a promise of a further guinea from one of the Solihull gentlemen.

It is interesting to note that among the subscribers—and without being solicited—is Mrs. Hattersley, wife of the late Charles Henry Hattersley, who sends a guinea 'towards the repairing of the tower in which her late husband spent so many happy hours.' A very graceful act. Mr. Hattersley rang his first peal of Stedman-Cinques, also his last, and many in between, at St. Martin's.

One new honorary and four full members were elected, and the Cathedral (St. Philip's) was decided upon for the next meeting.

The writer would take this opportunity of directing the attention of members to lines 5, 6 and 7 of Rule 5, which read: 'Any member whose subscriptions are more than two years in arrear shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Guild.' This does not apply to members who have joined His Majesty's Forces, who are carried free on the books pro tem.

The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening in various methods, and a touch of Stedman Caters was rung 'in hand' by Messrs. H. Withers, T. Russam, J. R. Groves, W. Kent, and M. J. Morris.

The thanks of members are hereby conveyed to the Rector (the Rev. T. B. Harvey Brooks, M.A.) for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Geoffrey Martineau for his kind assistance in making the necessary arrangements.
A. P. S.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**THE WYCOMBE BELFREY.**

On July 6th, a good many ringers took advantage of an invitation to join in the ringing, on the High Wycombe bells, in honour of the silver wedding of their Majesties the King and Queen. Starting off with a well-struck touch of 'good old Grandsire,' conducted by Mr. Ralph Coles, followed by a flourish of Stedman Caters (conductor, Mr. J. W. Wilkins), a few rounds on the full ring of twelve brought six o'clock, the time for the evening service. On the resumption, at 6.30, the attendance was further augmented, and ringing was continued for a couple of hours; the methods including Double Norwich and Kent Treble Bob (conductor, Sergt. Martin, R.F.A.), Plain Bob (conductor, Mr. Horne), Stedman Caters and Triples. One gratifying feature was the fact that all ringers present, whether change ringers or otherwise, had several opportunities of ringing, an advantage much appreciated.

On the following Sunday, for Divine service, three courses of Stedman Cinques were successfully brought home on the Wycombe bells, the touch being conducted by Mr. Fred Hayes; all the ringers, with the exception of Sergt. Martin, being 'locals.'

On Saturday afternoon, July 13th, a successful meeting, arranged by the Wycombe friends, was held at the pretty little Church of Cookham. There was again a good muster, and some good ringing was gone through. After leading off with a 720 of Plain Bob, touches of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles followed the conductors, including Messrs. Wm. T. Horne, Ralph Coles, G. H. Gutteridge, Geo. Twitche, and Sergt. Martin. Owing to there being a good number present, it was possible for those not taking part in a particular touch to wander by the side of the river or to stand on the bridge and listen to the music of this pretty little peal of six. The presence of a lady ringer was very pleasing, and she took part in several touches. The stay on the treble was found to be broken after he had 'kicked over the traces,' and sent the stay flying. This, however, did not debar further ringing, and the treble was rung without a stay, the ringers being Sergt. Martin, Messrs. Wm. Goodchild, Ralph Coles, and Jas. W. Wilkins.

BISHOP RYDER'S RINGERS.

The annual outing took place on Saturday last, Hampton-in-Arden being visited. On arrival of the party, the bells (which had not been rung since the war began) were soon going to Grandsire and Stedman Double and Bob Minor. One of the ladies (Miss Bowen) ringing the treble in a six-score of Grandsire Doubles and one of Stedman. Tea was arranged on the Vicarage lawn, about thirty partaking thereof, including the Vicar (the Rev. G. E. Badger) and churchwarden (Mr. W. Aldridge), of Bishop Ryders, the Vicar (the Rev. R. C. J. B. Colthurst), and churchwarden (Mr. W. A. Frodin), of Hampton-in-Arden, and Mrs. Colthurst. The Rev. G. E. Badger occupied the chair, and Mrs. Colthurst presiding at the urn. At the close of tea, the Chairman thanked the Vicar of Hampton for the use of the bells and the placing of his lawn at their disposal; also the ladies who had arranged the tea. He was pleased to see Mr. Carrod (the hon. secretary) with them again and feeling much better. It gave him great pleasure to be with his ringers.—Mr. James George (Ringing Master) seconded, and said it gave him great pleasure to see how well the ladies had rung that afternoon.—The Rev. R. C. J. B. Colthurst said it gave Mrs. Colthurst and himself great pleasure in being with them, and to hear their bells rung again. He was always anxious to help forward the work of the church in any sphere, and he considered this good church work. He hoped the ladies of Hampton (who had seen the ladies ring) would emulate them, and he intended in the autumn to start a class. Mr. George kindly undertaking to come over and teach them. An adjournment was made to the church, when the bells were rung again for service, the ringers attending. After service some more ringing took place, and the bells lowered in peal.

THE BOSTON GUILD.

In a letter from Dr. A. H. Nichols, of Boston, U.S.A., we are informed that the Boston Guild, of which several English ringers who had emigrated to America were members, is at present short-handed, as two have enlisted, and several have accepted offers for better positions outside the city. The Guild rung a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire in celebration of the capture of Jerusalem.

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NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Publow, Saturday, July 27th. Divine Service at 3.30; tea and business at 4.15. N.B.—No sugar provided.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., School House, Midsomer Norton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—A Summer meeting will be held at Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks, on Saturday, July 27, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Ringing 3 o'clock, evensong 5.30, and tea 6 p.m. for those who notify the hon. sec. that they will be present.—W. H. Fussell, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough. The Annual Committee Meeting of the Diocesan Guild takes place at Oxford on Saturday, July 20th.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Association will be held at St. Phillip and St. Jacob's (Bristol) Parish Hall on Saturday, July 27th. Business: Presentation of accounts and report and election of officers. Bells available at St. Phillip's Church at 2 o'clock; Service at 3.30, to be followed by business meeting and tea. Several other towers will be available for ringing.—F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Gloucester Road, Thornbury, Glos.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Idle (near Bradford) on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m.; the business meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Church Schools.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available from 4 p.m.; business meeting at 7. All ringers invited.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Mersham on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available from 3 o'clock.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yatton on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available at 3 o'clock; Divine service 4.30; tea in the Church Hall at 5.30; business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. local Sec., Long Ashton.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Thrapston District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Aldwinckle on Saturday, July 27th. Bells ready at 3; service at 4.30; tea at 5 o'clock. Election of officers.—S. Stubbs, District Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Raunds.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, July 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; short service at 5.30, followed by tea and a business meeting. The tower of St. Mary's, Walthamstow, will be open in the evening from 7.30. All ringers welcome. Members are asked to forward any outstanding subscriptions for 1918.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, August 3rd, at Glodwick. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The August meeting will be held at Killamarsh on Saturday the 3rd. Six bells available afternoon and evening. For those who bring their own rations arrangements will be made to provide a cup of tea.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Cheddar on Saturday, August 3rd. Service 3 o'clock; tea and meeting after service; bells (8) afternoon and evening. Intending visitors please write.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637.)—A meeting will be held at St. Giles', Cripplegate, on Saturday, August 3rd, at 6 p.m. Meetings will also be held at the 'Coffee Pot,' Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on the 8th and 22nd, and for general business on the 13th and 27th, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on August Bank Holiday, when the Bells of All Saints' (10) will be open from 2 o'clock. Tea will be prepared at the Castle Cabin as last year (no sugar); the business meeting will follow. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Laurence, District Sec., Little Munden.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Henfield on August Bank Holiday. Tower open 12-1, 2-4 and after meeting; service at 4; tea at 5 in Parish Room, meeting to follow. Half Railway Fares. Tea 1/- each to those who let me know not later than Wednesday, July 31st.—A. D. Stone, Divisional Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A meeting will be held at All Saints', Ryde, Isle of Wight, on Monday, August 5th. By kind permission of the Vicar, the bells are available at 2 p.m. Members wishing to be present must bring their own rations for which 9d. will be allowed. All visitors welcome. Members please notify me not later than August 1st.—E. J. Harding, Hon. Sec., 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Ashford on Bank Holiday, August 5th. Ringing from 2 till 4; tea at 4 o'clock, kindly provided by the Vicar, Rev. T. K. Sopwith, at Passmore's Restaurant (adjoining the Churchyard), to be followed by the annual general meeting for the election of officers, etc.; service at 5.30; ringing after till 8 o'clock. Those intending to be present at tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, July 30th.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Colchester (St. Peter's) on Bank Holiday, August 5th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock; service with address by the Rev. Triffit Ward, Vicar; business meeting at Parish Room, 5.45.—B. Redgwell, District Sec., Rayne.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Bank Holiday, August 5th. The bells of seven towers in the town available throughout the day. Meeting at 2.30 p.m. sharp in St. Lawrence Parish Hall. Owing to food restrictions it is impossible to arrange for the customary luncheon. For full particulars see circulars sent to all masters of companies.—C. E. Borrett, Sec., 12, Grove Avenue, Norwich.

PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 5th. Bells available all day: St. John's (8), Woodston (6), St. Mary's (6), and, it is hoped, the Cathedral (5). Service at St. Mary's at 2.30; meeting in Schoolroom after. All ringers invited.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 10th, at the Church of All Saints, Isleworth. Tower open from 3 to 8 p.m., followed by a business meeting at the 'London Apprentice' near by. Ringers generally cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—(Estab. 1755.)—Special notice.—The Rector of Birmingham and Mrs. Willink extend a hearty invitation to members of the Guild and their wives to spend an hour or two with them in the Rectory garden on Saturday, August 17th. Meeting at 4 o'clock. Light refreshments will be provided. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than the 13th prox.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

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SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS. DEVIZES BRANCH.

A most successful and pleasant meeting of the above Guild was held on Saturday last, July 13th, at the grand old Church of St. Mary, Steeple Ashton, the bells of which were kindly placed at the disposal of the ringers by the Rev. Canon Knubley, M.A. The meeting was well attended by ringers from Westbury, Bratton, Southbroom, Hilperton, Keevil, Potterne, Melksham, Steeple Ashton and Trowbridge, and the bells were raised at 3 o'clock. The authorised Guild service was held in the church at 4.30 p.m., at which the Vicar kindly officiated, and gave a most instructive address, keenly listened to and appreciated by all present, the singing, as usual being well sustained by the ringers. Tea was provided at the Long's Arms Hotel by Host Hill, to which 22 members of the Guild sat down. Afterwards, a short business meeting was held presided over by the Vicar (Canon Knubley), supported by Mr. Hy. Brownlee West, hon. secretary of the Devizes branch. The minutes of the last meeting being read by the secretary, and duly passed, one new candidate from Hilperton was elected as a member of the Guild.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also for the service in church, to which the Canon made a genial response, and invited any present to walk around and inspect the Vicarage gardens, which king offer some availed themselves of, whilst others returned to the tower for more ringing, the day being very fine, the meeting was much enjoyed by all.

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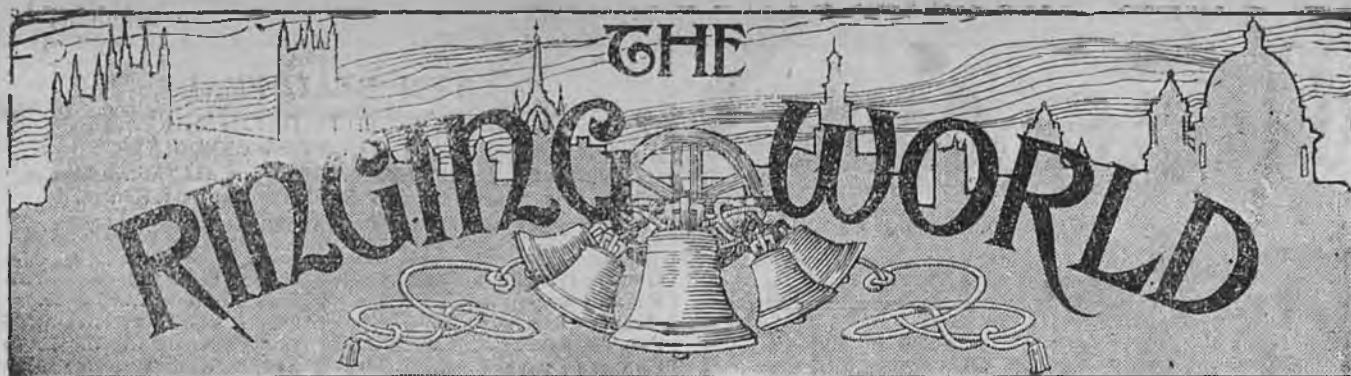
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GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.
Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK.

Archdeacon, Diocese of Worcester

ROUSING THE COUNCIL.

The persistent efforts which we have made to induce the Central Council to increase its utility to ringers have of late produced effects. The most substantial was, of course, the opening up of the subject in the Council itself; another has been that members of the Council have been induced to talk about it in their own associations. In regard to this latter phase it is quite natural that the position should be put by members in the light of their own feelings, and where the member has been sitting on the Council perhaps since its foundation, it is of course most unlikely he would see eye to eye with those who view the matter from the outside. As a result we are not surprised that our attitude should be criticised. The President of the Lancashire Association told a meeting the other day that he doubted whether our remarks had not been too laboured. But does anyone believe that a single thought would yet have been given to increasing the usefulness of the Council if we had not hammered at the subject as we have done? Even the most prejudiced of its members are now ready to admit that the Council has faults, and it is to get these faults remedied that we have for years been trying. Some day, perhaps, we shall see some result.

Our chief complaint is that the Council, in recent years, has met, but done nothing—at least nothing commensurate with the time involved and the expense incurred by the affiliated associations in sending their representatives. And the best argument in support of this contention is the Council's official record of its pre-war trienniums. That period, which took its members to London, Newcastle and Winchester, resulted in the passing of four resolutions, a debate without a motion, and the formalities connected with the reappointment of Committees. What we are afraid of is that a repetition of this kind of thing, when the average ringer comes to think it over, will bring ridicule on the Council and guide Associations to the decision that it is not worth while. If, by labouring the subject, we can bring the Council, or those who attempt to shape its policy, to see the danger of letting things go on as they are, merely relying upon the work of many years ago to justify the Council's existence, we shall consider that we have done a service to the Exercise. A central body to focus opinion and to co-ordinate effort among the associations is as much an essential as is an association to unite the individual towers in a diocese or county, but to be of value that central body must be alive. An association would be useless that did nothing for its members, and the Council is in no different position. It is to rouse the Council that our efforts are directed. They may be a little too persistent for the tastes of everybody, but prejudices often require a good deal of shaking.

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MODERN WORK.

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Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 27, 1918, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANCES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

GEORGE HOLLIS	Treble	ALBERT H. WARD	6
FRANK JACOBS	2	JOHN HOLMAN	7
WILLIAM LAMBERT	3	*CHARLES E. HART	8
SAM THOMAS	4	JAMES GEORGE	9
CHARLES DRAPER	5	ARTHUR KNIGHTS	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by SAM THOMAS.

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

MARKET DRAYTON, SALOP.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 27, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

HARRY OVERTON	Treble	ERNEST WEATHERBY	5
ALBERT CRAWLEY	2	WILLIAM WEATHERBY	6
RICHARD T. HOLDING	3	WILLIAM SAUNDERS	7
LEONARD HEWITT	4	CHARLES R. LILLEY	Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal of Kent Treble Bob on the bells and for the ringers of the 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th. Messrs. Hewitt and Saunders were made members of the above Guild before starting for the peal. The band also belong to the Salop Archidiaconal Guild.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SOLIHULL.

THE SOLIHULL GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 23, 1918, in One Hour and Fifty-Five Minutes,
In the Belfry of the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 42 six-scores.

HARRY BRAGG	1-2	EDGAR C. SHEPHERD	3-4
CHARLES BRAGG	5-6		

Conducted by EDGAR C. SHEPHERD.

Witnesses: D. MATKIN and C. HOLLAND.

First peal by all and first attempt. This is the first handbell peal ever rung in Solihull. The ringer of 5-6 is 13 years old, and is the youngest boy to ring a peal in Solihull.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, July 23, 1918, in Three Hours,
In the Belfry of St. Martin's Parish Church,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 14 size in D.

A. PADDON SMITH	1-2	THOMAS RUSSAM	7-8
GEORGE F. SWANN	3-4	ALBERT WALKER	9-10
JAMES E. GROVES	5-6	MORRIS J. MORRIS	11-12

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: JOSEPH PIGOTT.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, July 25, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
In the Belfry of St. Martin's Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 14 size in D.

JOSEPH PIGOTT	1-2	GEORGE F. SWANN	5-6
JAMES E. GROVES	3-4	WILLIAM KENT	7-8
MORRIS J. MORRIS	9-10		

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Mr. Pigott's first peal of Stedman in hand.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By 'BOB MAJOR.'

When I penned my last few notes, Mr. Trollope's reply to the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' pamphlet had not been printed. Its appearance only goes to bear out my anticipation that we may expect a nice little skirmish over these lead-ends. Now, if you had asked me, I should have said that if there were two people in this world who knew what was a proper lead end, those two people were the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and Mr. J. A. Trollope. But they have disappointed me, for it is evident they don't both know. But I am not the first to be disappointed in the abilities of other ringers. I have heard it said—I believe the tale used to be told by my dear old friend, the late Mr. John Whiting—that in one of those delightful Hampshire 'weeks,' the bells in a certain tower were rapping out some of the most perfect 'Treble Bob.' The two or three tourists who were standing out were loud in their praises of the ringing to those of the local band who were listening with them. 'If there are eight men in this world that can ring Treble Bob, they are up in that tower now,' said one of the 'odd men out,' when, lo! a moment after, up in the belfry somebody ran away from the slow, and the bells went up in a heap, and stopped. The locals were consequently not much impressed with the abilities of the best in the world.

As a matter of fact, change ringing is not always thought so much of by local professors of 'stonev.' I remember once the late Rev. P. E. Robinson rang a peal of Stedman (with the aid of seven others, of course), at a church within five-and-twenty miles of London. I forget just how long it took, but a few minutes over the three hours. 'If that old man and them others can do that, so can we,' said the foreman of the tower to his colleagues, the next practice night. So soon after, they met and rang call changes for three hours and a bit—a minute or two more than the peal had occupied—and the local Press trumpeted abroad how the parish ringers had beaten the cream of the land. Where ignorance is bliss—you know the rest, my readers. In the case of the lead ends, however, ignorance is not altogether bliss. I used to think that a lead end was the end of a lead, but apparently that is not always so. It seems to me as if you can put the lead end where you like, to suit your own convenience and argument. But I may be wrong—in fact, I'm most likely wrong, but I wish some one of my friends would tell me what is really a proper lead end.

THE PROPER LEAD END.

Now what is a proper lead end?

"It's a question I'll ask you, my friend.

If you can decide it

So none over-ride it

You're a genius, you may depend.

Just tell us the proper lead end.

In making new methods, my friend!

If experts can't agree,

There are many like me

Look to you for a lead to that end.

Oh! Where is that proper lead end?

Can it really be found, old friend?

When they've finished their fight

Will the experts be right,

Or their own fancied views then amend?

But why have a proper lead end?

Why not please ourselves, my old friend?

Now here is a riddle,

If we start in the middle,

What becomes of the proper lead end?

I must just revert to the Council for one minute, and that is to offer my humble congratulations to the new President. There is no doubt in selecting the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, the Council made a happy choice, and I doubt if among its members there is one who, everything considered, could more adequately fill the post. But while a compliment has been paid to the former Dean of Trinity, it is certainly a compliment to the Exercise that such a gentleman should be secured for the position of what is really titular head of the ringing fraternity. Apart from his practical ringing abilities—which are of no mean order (probably Mr. Boughey has rung more peals 'in hand' than any other clergyman)—his enthusiasm and interest are unbounded. We welcome all classes of society into the brotherhood of the Exercise, and I don't think I shall be wrong in saying that, through the medium of the Cambridge University Guild, Mr. Boughey has secured more ringers from what I may perhaps be pardoned for calling the upper class than any other individual, to the benefit and the advancement, be it said, of our art.

The death of G. F. Attree recalls a good many matters of ringing interest to those who followed the doings of the St. Peter's Society, Brighton, of twenty or more years ago. Some were told in the

obituary notice, but there are others. I am not quite sure, but I believe it was at that time that the first 'George' peal was rung. It was, I recollect, a peal of Stedman Triples, and, if I remember aright, five of the Georges came from St. Peter's, the rest of the county of Sussex having no difficulty in providing the other three. Then there was another performance worthy of note, and that was a peal by eight members of the St. Peter's Society, all of whom had rung over 100 peals. No mean record in those days, for those eight men were all regular ringers at St. Peter's tower. Probably this is a performance that has often been repeated since in other belfries, but that was the first, and the first is always the best. Which reminds me that many years ago a band who were making their name in the Midlands rang their first peal of London Surprise. When they had accomplished it one of the band exclaimed: 'Well, I expect this is the first time a peal of London has been rung by a band of all "first in the method" men.' He had forgotten the first peal of London that was ever rung. But it has not often been done, all the same. When Mr. Attree first started the Sussex Association a marble tablet was put up for every peal that was rung! This generosity on the part of the Association did not, however, last long. The treasury could not stand it, but these early tablets are still to be seen in some Sussex towers.

My old friend Ben, the steeplekeeper, sat musing the other night on the number of 'young fellers' that had been lost from his hand through the War. 'As fast as I teaches 'em,' he said, 'off they go, and now there's Tom, nigh on 50, and a grandfather, he's going next. Now there's only seven of us left.' Then he thought a minute or two. Next came one of his little problems. 'When we meet,' he said, 'we generally manage a 720. Now, with the seven of us that's left, how many 720's can we ring, if, every time we ring one, we have a different band, or, having the same band, each ring a different bell?'

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

On Saturday week the Manchester branch of the Lancashire Association held its monthly meeting at Prestwich. Coinciding with it was the Association Committee meeting, which naturally gave more than usual interest to the gathering, which was a very large one, members attending from every branch save one. The bells of the Parish Church were at the disposal of the ringers from noon and well into the evening.

After the committee meeting, the President (the Rev. H. J. Elsee, M.A.) presided over the branch business meeting, and made an interesting reference to the history of the Church of St. Mary's, Prestwich. Referring to the work of the Central Council, he said he doubted whether the severe criticism passed on that body was altogether justifiable, and whether the remarks of the 'Ringing World' were not laboured too much, for after all the Council could not do the work of each individual Association, that being a matter for members connected therewith. One of the chief purposes of the Council lay in bringing the different Associations into touch with each other, and the result of that had been the gathering together of representatives of all ringers in England. The effect could not be put in tabulated form, but it had undoubtedly been of great benefit to the ringing community. The Council's faults he did not deny, but like all human institutions it was capable of improvement.

Another object was that it should serve to voice the feeling of ringers in national affairs. He supposed it was within the range of probability that an attempt might be made to restrict ringing after peace was declared, and they might feel that their accustomed English liberty was being tampered with. In that case the Council would be of great service in voicing the feeling of the great body of ringers throughout the country.

The election to membership of the Association of Miss Emma Tougno, of Miles Platting, and Miss Ethel Grinshaw, of Ashton-under-Lyne, was unanimously passed.

Worsley was chosen as the next meeting-place, to be held on August 17th, and nominations for president, general secretary, treasurer, and vice-president are to be handed in at this meeting to the branch secretary.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and local ringers for the use of the bells and having things in readiness.

R.A.M.C. RINGERS.

On Sunday, July 21st, at the Parish (St. John's) Church, Blackpool, for evening service, a touch of Grandsire Triples (1106 changes) was rung by the following: Pte. A. E. Austin, R.A.M.C. (Great Shelford, Cumb.) 1. W. Wilde 2. J. Smith 3. Pte. L. W. Jacques, R.A.M.C. (Olney), conductor, 4. Pte. J. H. Pasmore, R.A.M.C. (London), 5. 1st R. Son, R.A.M.C. (Maidstone) 6. T. D. Crookall 7. F. W. Greenwood 8.

On Tuesday, July 23rd, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1296 changes) was rung on handbells at the tower of St. John's by the following: L. W. Jacques 1—2. A. E. Austin 3—4. J. H. Pasmore (conductor) 5—6. M. Sone 7—8. The longest touch by the ringers of 1—2 and 7—8.

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of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

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For Rehangings, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general business meeting was held at Oxford, in St. Giles' Parish Room, and was attended by the Revs. Canon Coleridge, R. H. Hart-Davis, R. E. C. Newhouse, E. M. Thorp, A. C. R. Freeborn, and C. W. O. Jenkyn, M.C., S.C.F., Messrs. H. Dickens, E. Barlow, C. Barlow, J. Molk, H. Sear, W. F. Smith, F. Webb, J. Monk, H. Holfield, J. F. Juggins, F. W. Juggins, J. Cyphus, F. W. Freeman, F. W. Freeman, junr., G. A. King, G. King, junr., F. T. Clinkard, S. W. Prosser, G. E. Stone, S. Hounslow, G. Holfield, C. W. Warwick, J. Butler, T. W. Bond, A. Woodley, T. East, H. Smith, W. Sear, J. Evans, J. L. Kirk, A. J. Wright, G. Caudwell, Mrs. A. E. Lock, and Miss Holfield. Letters of apology were received from the Revs. Canon Drummond, H. C. Wilder, H. D. Rice and E. Broome, Messrs. W. Newell, W. H. Fussell, J. J. Parker, J. F. Barlow, and Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Reeves. After the minutes of the last annual meeting held at Reading in July, and the special general meeting held at Oxford in September last had been read and signed, the election of officers took place. Canon Coleridge, on being asked to take the chair, said he absolutely refused to sit in the chair, but from where he stood he would have unbounded pleasure in proposing the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn for re-election, knowing that no other nominations would be forthcoming, and no dissentient voices raised. — The Rev. A. C. R. Freeborn seconded this proposition in a most hearty manner. The motion was carried with great acclamation. — The Master, thanking the members for the unanimous support, said he did not wish to waste much valuable time in talking, but he could not sit down without saying how much joy he felt in being with them all again, and to receive such a welcome. He had often thought of the Oxford Guild, on the battlefields of France and Flanders, and had been much cheered by the news he had received at various times from friends as to Guild meetings and business. Therefore, he would take this opportunity of thanking one and all for the hearty co-operation and brotherhood which had kept the Guild a real living body through these last four years of trouble and anxiety, especially thanking his old friend Canon Coleridge for the way in which he had got to the branch meeting, and helped in every way possible to keep things going. He had faith that by God's help the Oxford Guild had a greater future before it than it had had a past. The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis was again elected hon. treasurer, on the motion of the Master, seconded by Canon Coleridge. The Reverend gentleman said he should always be pleased to do whatever he could for the benefit of the Guild, whose treasurer he had been since its inception, in 1881, and said the financial position was quite satisfactory, as in addition to balance in hand on December 31st he had now a further balance of £22, and hoped this year to add another £25 to War Loan investments. Mr. K. T. Ribbert was elected secretary for another year, and Mr. G. Holfield, of Appleton, to serve on the Standing Committee, vice R. T. Ribbert. The election of 63 change ringing and 48 probationary members was confirmed. The Rev. E. M. Thorp proposed, and Mr. G. A. King seconded, 'that as every parish will have its own war memorial, the Guild memorial should be at Christchurch, Oxford.' — Carried, without dissent. Mr. A. J. Wright proposed, and Mr. H. Smith seconded, that the words 'June and August' should be deleted from Rule XIII. — Carried. Mr. A. J. Wright proposed, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis seconded that Rule XXI, should read: 'Notice of motion should reach secretary ten days before a committee meeting, and on or before June 15th for the annual meeting.' — Carried.

Canon Coleridge gave a short resume of the last Central Council meeting, which was held in London on Whit-Tuesday last. Amongst the items of 'any other business' it was decided to again issue a leaflet balance sheet instead of a report in book form. — A vote of thanks was passed to the hon. auditor, Mr. Ernest Francis. The balance sheet was adopted with a vote of thanks to the treasurer. Through the kindness of Mr. G. A. King and other Oxford friends, a tea had been arranged, of which 32 members partook. Through the energy of Mr. King, the bells of the Cathedral, St. Giles', St. Aldates', All Saints' and Carfax, were available. The meeting was most successful and enjoyable.

WOODSTONE.—At St. Augustine's Church, 360 Bob Doubles, for morning service, and for evening service, 720 Bob Doubles: Miss K. Williams 1, Miss F. Culpin 2, C. Hoare 3, E. Martin 4, H. Hoare, junr. (conductor), 5, Miss E. Parkins 6. The ladies had their first lesson in handling a bell the week before Christmas, and great credit is due to them, not only for coming forward to fill the gaps caused by the men joining the army, but also for their perseverance in the art. Three other ladies are also making good progress.

TRING, HERTS.—On Sunday, for evening service, 536 Grand sire Triples were rung by: F. Reeve 1, F. J. Reeve (conductor) 2, F. Waterton 3, T. Wright 4, J. Bull 5, W. Redman 6, Corpl. W. H. Pasmore, R.A.F., 7, E. Noyce 8. Longest length by 1, 3 and 8. Also plain courses, in which Miss F. Harding and Miss M. Batchelor, the treble and 2nd, Mr. T. Wright bails from Halesowen, and has recently joined the Tring company, and Corpl. W. H. Pasmore, of London, is stationed at Hapton Camp, and the band would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the help he has given them.

HAPPY GATHERING AT GREAT MISSENDEN.

A Buckinghamshire village of antiquated appearance, great in its rural simplicity, great with its noble peal of bells and Early English Parish Church; and great in the annals of the Oxford Diocesan Guild from Saturday, July 13th, when the first meeting of the members of the East Berks and South Bucks branch took place there. Situated in a valley about mid-way between Aylesbury and Denham, upon a well-kept tar-mac road, and fairly level, Great Missenden is reached by a pleasurable cycle run, the road meandering alongside the Missbourne stream, now merely a brook, but at times a river, discharging into the Colne at Uxbridge. There is a beautiful range of picturesque hills on either hand, covered at intervals with well-wooded clumps, which have been heavily thinned out for war usage—but the smiling tillage and pastures of the land of the Penns yet remain, a sylvan district perpetuated in U.S.A. by the Pilgrim Fathers, who left Old England in the eventful year 1606. Still these fine old bells are sounding down the valley, and after many, many years with an added depth of tone, for the men of Pennsylvania are coming from New England to help the old country in her heavy war task, and we may rest safe and sound in the dear Motherland, well knowing after four long years of warfare that the destruction and desolation in Europe can hardly come to the sacred walls of these ringing isles.

There was once a time—when the late Richard French ran a 'James' Society team in the early '80's—at which the present 'tube lines only took one as far as Harrow, and many a country jaunt out to Pinner, Ruislip and Rickmansworth, had to be continued on foot from there. In these days visitors can train all the way, and of the some took advantage when they visited Great Missenden. The company present on this occasion included Mrs. F. Hairs, Mrs. John Evans, and the Misses F. Gudgeon, G. Bateman, Feltham, Evans, and Williams. Also Messrs. Brinklow and Leman (Oxhey), John Evans, G.C., H. Stratford, R. H. Biggs and F. Boreham (Hugghenden), W. Hewitt (Camberwell), W. T. Cockerill (Clapham), A. Hughes (Whitechapel), Corpl. W. H. Passmore, R.A.F., T. S. Smith (Windsor), W. Henley (Farnham Royal), Rev. E. J. Teesdale (Bledlow), J. H. Barnes and son (Missenden), and others.

Kent Treble Bob Minor was going well when I came within sight of the tower, and on the heavy end was one of the St. Paul's Cathedral band—who is usually found hanging on to that end. The third bell was in the hands of a Surrey Vicar, new to this district, and thus our meeting was justified by electing a new hon. member, and creating fresh interest in a district in need of ringing revival.

Evening service, attended by some 20 members, was kindly conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Littlehales, M.A., whose address from the chancel steps was founded upon the coming of our Lord, the greatest work of all ages, the redemption of mankind by our Saviour, a perfect work which each one of us must do our very best to carry on each in his own sphere, according to his capacity.

Appropriate hymns were sung, Mr. T. Cross, F.R.C.O., the organist, giving his services, and revealing the power and tone of the new organ but recently opened.

Remarks having been made anent the 'Ringing World,' notice as to bell ringing being coupled with 'beer drinking' make it necessary for me to add that the fox-hunting, wine-bibbing habits of the squire and the parson of early Victorian days, have also been reformed, equally as much as that of the bell ringers, hence the notice of ten drinking was quite correct, and to tea we all went at 6 o'clock. Tilehurst Cottage, the residence of Mr. Barnes, made one think it was a Reading branch meeting, for here in small compass large hospitality was afforded through the generosity of the local foreman, Mr. W. Worsfold, and his wife, and Mr. and Mrs. Barnes, assisted by Mrs. John Holt and Mrs. Miles. The Vicar took the chair, and a happy social followed, much appreciated by everyone. Cigarettes and handbells were brought out after a vote of thanks (proposed by Mr. Cockerill), to all those who had made the visit to Missenden so enjoyable, and to which the Vicar and Mr. Barnes replied.

The fun of the evening occurred during a course of 'Tedman Taters,' which came home with the Corporal's 7—8 reversed. However, what was lost on the rounds was gained on the swings, and thereby hangs a little story. There is a nice children's swing in the back garden of 'Tilehurst,' which may have had something to do with the Barnes' boys love of swinging bells. On this occasion a larger boy—Sidney Smith—was swaying in it to the tune of our handbells. He left the ropes for some purpose, and the seat tilted back with the result that Thomas was shot on to the footpath, amidst roars of laughter among the party. Some said the tea caused it, others that he was trying to 'set himself' at backstroke. Anyway, 17 miles is a long way to travel to try it.

The tower was next visited, and Cambridge Surprise was rung, completing three Minor Methods and two of Doubles. The ladies were quickly satisfied for once, because Missenden bells are classed as a nun's ring of bells. Parting time came only too soon, and the hour of nine separated the meeting.

W. H. F.

ISHAM.—Central Northants Association. — On Whit-Sunday, May 19th, 720 Bob Minor: *Miss Cecil Hepburn 1, *Andrew Bloxley 2, W. C. Lewis 3, W. T. Wilson 4, W. Gilbert 5, G. A. Blaxley (conductor) 6. * First 720.

LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In connection with Mr. Trollope's letters in your last issue, I should like to make two or three remarks.

1. I take the 'Report on Legitimate Methods' as it stands, whole and entire. If it requires additional props, supports, and explanations in the form of 'results of argument' and 'controversial letters' (!) that is not my affair. The report should either openly confess its want of completeness, or take the consequences.

2. Once for all, let Mr. Trollope give us in plain black and white some adequate explanation of the important truth regarding 'Principal' and 'Coursing Order,' which I have failed to grasp. This is only a fresh wording of the old accusation that I am 'ignorant' of something, which I knew and said would be trumped up again. Once more I ask, 'Of what?'

3. I repeat, that my motion was passed by a large majority, as may be seen by reference either to the published minutes or to the Press-report of the meeting. I also ask members of the Exercise to read the whole passage on that subject in my preface to 'Lead Ends,' and then to judge for themselves as to the fairness, or want of it, on the part of Mr. Trollope in his manner of presenting it in his fifth paragraph.

4. I never saw a syllable of the 'Report on Legitimate Methods' in Mr. Trollope's handwriting. For 'Rules and Decisions' I copied from 'Bell News' as I there found it. If the comma there was on the 'lead head,' its misplacement is no fault of mine. If it got wrong, in passing through my hands, the error was unintentional, and I regret it. By all means let Mr. Trollope put his comma where he likes. The statement on the middle of page 22 of the report is quite enough for me.

5. Mr. Trollope says that by the term 'Plain Course' he means 'the course of any method starting from rounds without bobs or singles.' I ask 'without what bobs or singles?' Is a course of Union a Plain Course? Nearly 'every ringer, myself among them, says that it is. But Mr. James, one of Mr. Trollope's fellow members of committee, says, 'Certainly not. It is a lough.' In the face of this I maintain all my complaints and strictures to the full. I go further, and say that the committee does not know its own meaning.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Deane Rectory, Overton, Hanis.

Mr. J. A. Trollope's full postal address is desired by a correspondent.

INTERESTING CEREMONY AT KING'S NORTON

MARRIAGE OF MR. THEODORE PRITCHETT'S DAUGHTER.

A very interesting event took place within the ancient walls of King's Norton Parish Church at 1 o'clock on Saturday, July 20th, when Miss Valentine Mary Pritchett, youngest daughter of Mr. Theodore Pritchett was married to Lieut. Hubert Davenport Price, M.C., the bridegroom having travelled all the way from Mesopotamia to claim his bride. The service was fully choral, and the crowded church testified to the esteem in which the family is held.

The bride's father is one of the accomplished quartet of ringing brothers who have placed their names high on the scroll of fame, and to whose perseverance and ability is mainly due the fact that, in pre-war days, King's Norton folk were frequently called to worship to the tune of Superlative, Cambridge or London Surprise.

Coming from such stock it was only natural that the bride required the bells to be rung at her wedding, and, therefore, her uncle, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., Presiding Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, invited eight members of the Guild to attend. The Vicar of King's Norton has opinions of his own about the ringing of church bells during the war, but eventually he agreed that they should be rung for half an hour, and, accordingly, as the newly-wedded couple left the church at 1.30, the beautifully mellow ring of eight pealed out in rounds and 'Queens,' followed by an excellent touch of 872 Stedman Triples, conducted by Harry Withers, the band standing as follows: Thos. Russam 1, Wm. Kent 2, Wm. H. Godden 3, J. Eaton 4, Alderman J. S. Pritchett 5, Jas. E. Groves 6, Harry Withers 7, C. Webb 8. The bells were lowered in the 'Queens,' with very pretty effect, after which the ringers adjourned to the house of Mr. Theodore Pritchett for refreshments, who proved a generous host.

The health of the bride and bridegroom was drunk with enthusiasm, and it was noted that the wine came from the old French town of Epernay, which is close to the present fighting line in the beautiful Champagne country.

The bride, who looked perfectly charming, and radiantly happy, personally thanked the ringers for their attendance, and said she would have regarded the service as incomplete without the dear old bells.

By special request, the handbells were brought on to the lawn where touches of Stedman and Grand sire Caters were rung to the great interest of many of the guests, and, incidentally, to the accompaniment of the incessant rumble of distant thunder. Those taking part in the handbell ringing were Alderman Pritchett, Messrs. J. E. Groves, Wm. Kent, Thos. Russam, A. Padden Smith and Harry Withers.

To the enjoyment of the company, and the confounding of her Alderman Uncle, who insisted that she had forgotten all about it, a daughter of the late Wm. S. Pritchett (Mrs. Bramer) rang 3-4 to a plain course of Grandsire Triples, and followed this up with a lengthy touch in the same method in very creditable style, although she had not touched a bell for years.

A. P. S.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BRISTOL.—At St. Nicholas' Church, in honour of the King's birthday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): Mrs. E. J. Wilson 1, F. W. Wade 2, Alfred Pearce 3, Bandsman F. M. Day, R.E., 4, J. Richmond 5, I. Long 6, Fred G. May 7, U. Braven 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman Triples by ringers of treble and 4th.

FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.—Norwich Diocesan Association.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Sunday, April 7th, for morning service 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: C. Wybrow 1, C. S. Tuthill 2, A. W. Baldwin 3, J. A. Godfrey 4, R. W. Cooke 5, W. E. Bason (conductor) 6, G. Beverley 8 (covering). For united service of Intercession, 704 Bob Major: G. Beverley 1, A. W. Baldwin 2, F. Harrison 3, C. Wybrow 4, C. S. Tuthill 5, W. E. Bason 6, J. A. Godfrey 7, R. W. Cooke (conductor) 8. For evening service, 672 Bob Major G. Beverley 1, R. W. Cooke 2, F. Harrison 3, C. Wybrow 4, A. W. Baldwin 5, C. S. Tuthill 6, W. E. Bason (composer and conductor) 7, J. A. Godfrey 8. This touch contains 'queens' and 'titlums.'

PORTSEA.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday evening May 5th, 504 Stedman Triples: Gunner S. G. Twyman (Margate) 1, C. Groves 2, J. Symons 3, A. Collins 4, J. Harris 5, H. Bond (Burford) 6, E. J. Harding (conductor) 7, A. Hardy 8.—On Sunday evening, May 12th, 504 Stedman Triples: F. J. Cullum (Erith) 1, Mat. Ellesmore 2, S. Thomas 3, C. Groves 4, J. Symons 5, H. Bond 6, J. Harris (conductor) 7, E. J. Harding 8.

HILLINGDON.—At St. John's Church, on May 5th, for evensong, Thurstans' quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. Gutteridge 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, A. W. Davis 3, A. Mason 4, W. H. Hewett (conductor) 5, W. Honor 6, J. J. Pratt 7, H. H. Chandler 8. Also a short touch of Grandsire, with Miss F. Feltham taking a rope.

WALKDEN.—Lancashire Association.—On Sunday, May 5th, for the Sunday School Anniversary sermons the following touches were rung: For early service, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Denner (conductor) 1, J. Worthington 2, J. Welsby 3, Jas. Denner 4, M. Berry 5, B. Welsby 6, J. Potter 7, R. Denner 8. For morning service, 546 Grandsire Triples by the same band, conducted by John Potter. For afternoon service, 336 Bob Major: H. Watts 1, A. Potter 2, B. Allred 3, J. Welsby 4, S. Oakes 5, T. Worsley 6, J. Potter (conductor) 7, Titus Barlow 8. After service, 336 Stedman Triples: J. Worthington and Jas. Denner in place of H. Watts and B. Allred, conducted by T. Worsley. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: J. Denner 1, A. Potter 2, T. Worsley 3, T. Barlow 4, J. Welsby 5, W. Pennington 6, J. Potter (conductor) 7, Jas. Denner 8. After service, 504 Stedman Triples, with S. Oakes and B. Welsby in place of Jno. and Jas. Denner, conducted by John Potter.

CHRIST CHURCH, CUBITT TOWN.—On Sunday morning, 5th May 1918, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins.: C. T. Clark 1, A. Beer 2, J. G. Shade 3, E. E. Richards 4, T. H. Hawkins (conductor) 5, H. Hoskins 6, T. Jakeman 7, D. Hodgson 8.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At St. John's Church, on May 8th, for Confirmation service, by the Bishop of Woolwich, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: G. R. Simmonds 1, W. E. Maulden 2, A. G. Bennington 3, J. Crowder 4, W. J. Jeffries 5, J. Law 6, F. W. Richardson 7, E. B. Crowder 8.

LIVERPOOL.—On May 8th, the Eve of the Ascension, at the Church of St. Nicholas, 495 Stedman Caters: J. W. Bell 1, J. H. Moore 2, E. Gunner 3, T. Hammond, senr. 4, G. R. Newton 5, T. W. Gilmour 6, H. Fyles 7, J. Martin 8, W. Davies (conductor) 9, Sergt. W. Farley (N.S. Yeomanry) 10; and 503 Grandsire Caters: J. W. Bell 1, J. H. Moore 2, G. R. Newton (conductor) 3, T. Hammond, senr. 4, H. Fyles 5, T. W. Gilmour 6, J. Martin 7, W. Davies 8, Sergt. W. Farley 9, E. Gunner 10. Sergt. W. Farley hails from Wells, Somerset, and was about to proceed home, having spent some time in Dublin prior to coming to Liverpool.

CARDIFF.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On May 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): W. Coombes 1, S. Dave 2, A. Rowley 3, F. Chamberlain 4, W. Bolton 5, A. J. Pitman 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, S. Barker 8. Rung specially for the occasion of a public institution of the Rev. M. Jones Powell, D.D., at the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist.

BRAINTREE.—On Whit-Sunday, at 6 a.m., for early celebration of Holy Communion the last 742 of Holt's Original: W. Hasmond 1, W. Soller 2, C. H. Howard (conductor) 3, G. Melbourne 4, H. E. Hammond 5, G. Lindridge 6, E. F. Slade 7, L. W. Wiffen 8.

FULHAM.—On Whit-Sunday, for evening service, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: R. Harvey 1, C. Charge (composer) 2, A. Cole 3, W. H. Joiner 4, J. Lee 5, Corpl. E. J. Ridler, R.E., 6, L. Atwater (conductor) 7, M. E. Smith 8. Rung after meeting short for Stedman Caters.

NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, August 3rd, at Glodwick. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The August meeting will be held at Killamarsh on Saturday the 3rd. Six bells available afternoon and evening. For those who bring their own rations arrangements will be made to provide a cup of tea.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Cheddar on Saturday, August 3rd. Service 3 o'clock; tea and meeting after service; bells (8) afternoon and evening. Intending visitors please write.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS—(Estab. 1637.)—A meeting will be held at St. Giles', Cripplegate, on Saturday, August 3rd, at 6 p.m. Meetings will also be held at the 'Coffee Pot,' Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on the 8th and 22nd, and for general business on the 13th and 27th, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

BEDDINGTON, Surrey.—St. Mary's peal of ten bells will be available on Bank Holiday, Monday, August 5th. Tower open at 2.30 sharp till 8 p.m.—A. J. Perkins, 3, Mellows Road, South Beddington, Wallington.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on August Bank Holiday, when the Bells of All Saints' (10) will be open from 2 o'clock. Tea will be prepared at the Castle Cabin as last year (no sugar); the business meeting will follow. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Laurence, District Sec., Little Munden.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Henfield on August Bank Holiday. Tower open 12-1, 2-4 and after meeting; service at 4; tea at 5 in Parish Room, meeting to follow. Half Railway Fares.—A. D. Stone, Divisional Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Bank Holiday, August 5th. The bells of seven towers in the town available throughout the day. Meeting at 2.30 p.m. sharp in St. Lawrence Parish Hall. Owing to food restrictions it is impossible to arrange for the customary luncheon. For full particulars see circulars sent to all masters of companies.—C. E. Borrett, Sec., 12, Grove Avenue, Norwich.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Ashford on Bank Holiday, August 5th. Ringing from 2 till 4; tea at 4 o'clock, kindly provided by the Vicar, Rev. T. K. Sopwith, at Passmore's Restaurant (adjoining the Churchyard), to be followed by the annual general meeting for the election of officers, etc.; service at 5.30; ringing after till 8 o'clock.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual Festival will (D.V.) be held at Chester on Monday, August 5th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Colchester (St. Peter's) on Bank Holiday, August 5th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock; service with address by the Rev. Triffit Ward, Vicar; business meeting at Parish Room, 5.45.—B. Redgwell, District Sec., Rayne.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A meeting will be held at All Saints', Ryde, Isle of Wight, on Monday, August 5th. By kind permission of the Vicar, the bells are available at 2 p.m. Members wishing to be present must bring their own rations for which 9d. will be allowed. All visitors welcome.—E. J. Harding, Hon. Sec., 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 5th. Bells available all day: St. John's (8), Woodston (6), St. Mary's (6), and, it is hoped, the Cathedral (5). Service at St. Mary's at 2.30; meeting in Schoolroom after. All ringers invited.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Deane on Saturday, August 10th. Bells ready at 4; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 10th, at the Church of All Saints, Isleworth. Tower open from 3 to 8 p.m., followed by a business meeting at the 'London Apprentice' near by. Ringers generally cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—(Estab. 1755.)—Special notice.—The Rector of Birmingham and Mrs. Willink extend a hearty invitation to members of the Guild and their wives to spend an hour or two with them in the Rectory garden on Saturday, August 17th. Meeting at 4 o'clock. Light refreshments will be provided. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than the 13th inst.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Worsley on Saturday, August 17th. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

FOR SALE. SET OF 8 HANDBELLS in perfect condition, good as new; in lockup box; £4.—Hy. Brownlee West, 'Avalon,' Devizes.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 9th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

'RECONSTRUCTION.'

In another column a correspondent expresses surprise that at their last meeting the Central Council did not consider the question of 'reconstruction' after the war. The reason is that probably no one thought about it; or, if they did, decided not to trouble over it. Nevertheless, the matter is one that deserves attention. Ringing, like everything else which may be classed in the same category, has been sadly deranged by the events of the last four years. Thousands have gone from the belfries; many, alas! never to return. Large numbers, absent for years, will have lost touch, especially where but moderate interest was previously displayed. It is true that in a considerable number of instances the most commendable efforts have been made to fill the gaps created by those who have gone, but these form only a minority of the cases where the bands have been depleted, for time and opportunity have prevented the instruction of new hands in hundreds of towers. When the war comes to an end, therefore, there will be much to be done to raise ringing to its old standard—not the standard which is denoted by large numbers of peals, but which is shown by the number of competent ringers which can be found in their places for the service ringing on Sundays and by the quality of the methods that are rung.

There may be some who fancy that we have only to wait till peace is declared, and all the men who are spared to come back will at once flock again to the belfries. We all hope so, but events are scarcely likely to justify this view. Those to whom ringing was a pursuit of great attractiveness will, of course, come back to the towers when they get home again; but it must not be forgotten that there are others whose lukewarm interest will have evaporated by long absence, and it will require no small effort to get hold of these men again, especially in places where the enthusiasm generally has fallen away.

How long it may be before the war ends none can say, but this question of reconstruction is one which associations might well bear in mind. The best and quickest methods of getting the ringers back to the towers, of raising the standard of ringing, and of re-instilling the old enthusiasm, is as much a matter for the organised societies as it is for the individual towers, and just as they lay themselves out to rebuild, so will they, as associations, prosper. A lead from the Central Council might have been useful; without it the associations must set out on their own initiative, and the present period is the time for laying plans. If the end of the war does not come as soon as we hope, the schemes will be none the worse for being held over a while; but having got them, they will be ready for immediate use when the boys really do come home.

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Dear Sirs,

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Saturday, August 3, 1918, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANCES;

Tenor 18 size in G.

WILBY J. HAZELL... ..1—2 | FRANK SMITH... ..5—6

JOHN D. MATTHEWS... ..3—4 | ARTHUR J. NEALE... ..7—8

HUGH T. SCARLETT... ..9—10

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by FRANK SMITH.

Rung as a compliment to the conductor and Mrs. Smith upon the 20th anniversary of their wedding day.

Mr. B. Foskett had arranged to act as umpire, but was unfortunately prevented at the last minute by illness.

CYCLING TRIP IN QUANTOCK LAND.

VISIT TO SOMERSET VILLAGES.

On Sunday, June 30th, in delightful weather, a number of ringers spent a very pleasant afternoon visiting some of the village towers lying at the foot of the famous Quantock Hills, in Somerset. The party started from Halse, and included the local men, Messrs. W. Crews, W. Clapp, G. Hancock, and Messrs. A. Tout, A. C. Harvey Milverton; F. Polo, Fitzhead; H. V. Young, G. Jones, Chipstable, on their way to Lydeard St. Lawrence, the first stopping place. The party passed through Ash Priors, where lived (1550) the noted bell founder, R. Simpson, who cast the tenors of Bradford-on-Tone and Talaton, which are reputed to be the best toned bells in Somerset and Devon. Here the visitors were joined by Mr. W. Sealey, of Bishops Lydeard. During the half an hour's ringing on the peal of five (with tenor about 18 cwt.), some of the ringers had the experience of having heard and of ringing changes with the tenor turned in for the first time.—The Vicar (the Rev. T. L. Hughes) thanked the party for coming, and expressed the hope that they would soon pay another visit to Lydeard St. Lawrence. After inspecting the fine old church, the journey was resumed for Crowcombe, situate right at the foot of the Quantocks. Mr. J. Bailey (steeple-keeper) was waiting, and after a few words of welcome by the Rev. H. C. Young, the bells were set going to Grandsire Doubles. The bells are a ring of six, with a fine-toned tenor of 19 cwt., and as they were in good going condition, some good ringing was enjoyed, in spite of their being hung in reverse order.

The next stopping place was Stogumber, a mere distance of three or four miles, but a cruel bit of road, uphill and down dale, with the surface covered with grit and loose stones, which caused several punctures, and some delay. Soon after starting, a trip occurred to one of the party. Apparently he attempted to 'bob' at the wrong place, and, as a result, he was laid low in the dust, which necessitated stopping at the Railway Hotel for repairs to rider and steed. Arriving at 5 o'clock, half an hour was allowed for refreshments before commencing to ring for evening service. At 5.30 the party were met by Mr. J. Sully, who is well known locally as a bell hanger, as well as a change ringer. He had everything ready, and in a few minutes the bells were sending forth the good old tune of Grandsire Doubles, so well loved by those village ringers. On leaving the tower, the Rev. E. A. Couch shook hands with each ringer, and expressed a few words of thanks.

An immediate start then had to be made to get to Bagborough, the last stopping place to ring immediately after evening service. When the roll was called here at 7.45, two members were missing, but these 'came in at the death,' as the natives of this stag hunting district would term it. Here, as at the last two places, is a peal of six of about the same weight and tone, and after 35 minutes the day's ringing was brought to a close, it having been greatly enjoyed by all, in spite of hilly, dusty roads, heat and rationing. Nothing more ambitious than Grandsire Doubles was attempted, the object being, not to practise various methods for the benefit of the ringers, but to set going bells that would otherwise have remained silent, and it is hoped another trip will soon be arranged.

HORNCHURCH.—Essex Association. — On Sunday, May 26th, for evensong, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1280 changes), in 50 mins.: E. Rainbird 1, G. R. Pye (conductor) 2, E. J. Butler 3, Gunner L. A. Pye 4, Staff-Sergt. A. Pye 5, H. Dawkins 6, W. Watson 7, J. Dale 8. This quarter-peal was rung as a welcome home to Lieut. H. Dale, son of the Rector of Hornchurch, who until recently was a prisoner of war in Germany, but who has succeeded in making his escape, and arrived home the previous week. Lieut. Dale, together with his mother, visited the tower, and thanked the ringers, who, in turn, heartily congratulated him on his return.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

JOHN NICOLL,

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80, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

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'ROUSING THE COUNCIL.'*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir.—Your article on 'Rousing the Council' tempts me to say that I think the Central Council of the future may perhaps find that it owes something to your efforts at this stage to get it to wake up. To my mind there is no doubt that the Council was slowly drifting into uselessness, and when it reached that stage it would inevitably have expired. You, sir, are doing your best to galvanise it into new life, and, while some of the old members may resent it, I think their views are mistaken, if they want the Council to live after they have gone. If one may judge from what the hon. secretary said at the last meeting, it has been due mainly to the efforts of one or two of the original members that the Council has been able to find the few topics for discussion that have hitherto appeared on the agenda, so that when, as in course of time they must, these old members disappear from the scene, there will be no one interested enough left to carry on. If anything can be done to widen the interest now, all may be well for the Council; but let the policy of 'drift' get the upper-hand, and 'Ichabod' may soon be written over the portals.

While writing, may I just say I am surprised to find the Council have done nothing to help, even in an advisory way, in the important matter of 'reconstruction' after the war. This will be a very real question, if the Exercise is rapidly to gain its former strength and position, and might very well have been discussed at the Council's last meeting. Now another year must slip away, and even if it is then considered, still another year—according to precedent—will elapse before the Council will feel itself able to act.—Yours, etc., ANON.

DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHANGE RINGERS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—May I call the attention of all incumbents and churchwardens who possess a chiming apparatus in their bellries, to the urgent necessity of having some definite and printed regulations as to its use? A most unfortunate accident occurred lately in the Winchester Archdeaconry. The bells had been left 'up' between the morning and afternoon services. By some means or other, the chiming apparatus had not been thrown out of gear. The consequence was that a valuable old bell, cast in A.D. 1582, was hopelessly cracked, and must be recast. In these times, when most of the older and more experienced ringers are serving their country, many willing but inexperienced lads have taken their places, and sometimes it may happen that the foreman or steeplekeeper is absent. The authorities in charge of all peals, should (1) make some fixed rules that either the bells should be rung, or the chiming apparatus used at certain services; (2) issue an order to the ringers that the bells are never to be kept 'up' between services, but always lowered. The custom of keeping bells 'up' is both dangerous and lazy, and is entirely unnecessary.—I am, yours, etc., CHARLES D. MATTHEWS,

Titchfield Vicarage Hants.

Master of the Guild.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**ANNUAL MEETING.**

This meeting was held at Bristol on July 27th. About 50 members put in an appearance some time during the day, and the majority of them attended the meeting, which was held in St. Philip's and St. Jacob's Parish School. The bells of St. Philip's were available from 2 till 3.30, when a service was held in the church.—The Rev. Michael E. Thorold gave an excellent address, and in its course touched upon some very interesting and historic events which the bells had heralded to the people. He said that we all looked forward to the time when all ringers would be ringing the bells of peace. After the service, the members adjourned to the schoolroom for the meeting. The Rev. Thorold was elected as chairman, in the absence of the Master (Mr. John Austin).

The treasurer was asked to read the balance sheet, but owing to Rule 3 (Local Branch rules) not being adhered to, it was decided that he be postponed till the committee meeting later on.—The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. F. K. Howell) read a letter from Mr. Austin, wishing to be relieved of his office. After reading it, he said how well the association had been served in the past with one of the clergy at the helm, and had much pleasure in proposing the Rev. Michael Thorold as Master. This was received with enthusiastic cheers, and the Rector thanked the members for the honour, and hoped to do his best for the association. Mr. E. Guise was elected hon. secretary, and Mr. F. H. Howell was re-elected hon. treasurer. There was some discussion on the memorial to the late Rev. H. A. Cockey, but owing to the absence of the secretary it was impossible to give any details. If, however, there should be any of the Rev. Cockey's friends who wish to subscribe they should communicate with the secretary, Mr. G. Condie, 15, Westbourn Road, Easton, Bristol.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, and for arranging the service and the tea. Ringing was then continued at St. Philip's and also at St. Nicholas'.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, the usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale branch was held at Glodwick Parish Church, the members present being from Glodwick, Middleton, Milnrow, Newhey, and Oldham.

Touques of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. As the ringing had to cease at 7.30, on account of a service, it was decided to commence the business meeting at that time instead of six o'clock. The meeting was presided over by Mr. S. Stott (of Oldham), and after the minutes of the last meeting had been confirmed, it was decided that the next meeting should be held on Saturday, August 31st, at Whitworth.

Mr. S. Stott was then appointed President of the local branch for the ensuing two years; he will also be a member of the Lancashire Association Committee during his term of office.

The next business for consideration was the nomination from the branch of a president, general secretary and treasurer for the Association for the next twelve months.

The three present officials—Rev. H. J. Elsee, Mr. W. H. Shaker and Mr. H. W. Jackson were re-nominated.

Mr. S. Stott was also nominated as vice-president of the Association for twelve months.

The meeting concluded with the usual vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the tower and bells, and the local ringers for having everything in readiness; also to Mr. Stott for presiding.

After the service was over, about half an hour's ringing took place for the benefit of three young lady learners of the Glodwick band.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very poorly attended meeting of the Lewisham District was held at Conford, on Saturday, July 20th; but as it was possible for the district secretary to walk two miles and be present, a few more might have strained a point to be there. At 5 p.m., when the Vicar came to take the service, there were three from Erith, two locals, and the district secretary. This was abandoned. The back six were raised, and Grandsire Doubles rung. One then turned up from Cheshunt, followed by one from Swindon. Just before 6 p.m. five came from Beckenham, and one from Bromley (these had been detained by a wedding). A capital 504 Stedman Triples was then rung, followed by two courses of Bob Major. The business meeting followed in the belfry. Mr. W. Smith in the chair. One member was elected, and two elections in the towers confirmed. St. John's, Deptford, was selected for the October meeting.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar concluded the meeting, and a touch of Grandsire Triples the ringing.

ANOTHER BROMLEY RINGER KILLED IN ACTION.

The Bromley Youths, the band at SS. Peter and Paul, Bromley, deplore the loss of another of their ringers killed in action, Bombr. E. G. Filtness, of the R.F.A., Welsh Brigade, joined the forces in 1915, and went to Palestine in June, 1917, and met his death at a forward observation post in July of this year. He was home on special leave in March to get married, and much sympathy is felt for his young wife and his parents.

The bells were rung half-muffled on Sunday, July 28th, when 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung, and on Tuesday, the 30th, 504 of Stedman Triples was rung, both conducted by G. Dupling.

Bombr. Filtness, who was 23 years of age in June last, was a most promising ringer, being one of a few to whom the art of change ringing came quite easily.

Starting to learn at the age of 16, he made rapid progress, and before he was 19 he was composing and conducting touches of Stedman and Double Norwich from any bells, and conducted a peal of Bob Major just about his 19th birthday.

He, of course, was a member of the Kent County Association, who thus loses one of their most promising members.

LOSS TO LEWES RINGERS.**DEATH OF FORMER CHURCHWARDEN.**

The ringers of St. John the Baptist's Church, Southover, Lewes, have lost a good friend, by the death, which occurred with tragic suddenness on the 1st inst., of Mr. John Richard Lusted, who until last year served the church for a long period as people's warden. As a vice-president of the Southover Bell Ringers' Guild he showed much practical interest in the affairs of the belfry. On more than one occasion, in the old days, when funds were difficult to raise, Mr. Lusted, who had a remarkable knack of raising money for parochial purposes, collected the necessary sum for new ropes, and anything he could do to further the interests of the ringers he did with a willing heart. For years he filled the vice-chair at the ringers' annual dinner, and always joined in their summer outings. He was well known to many visiting ringers, whom he was always ready to welcome. In the parish, too, he will be much missed, and great sympathy has been expressed with the widow and family in their sudden and grievous loss. Mr. Lusted was 62 years of age.

The funeral took place on Tuesday, the 6th inst., amid many manifestations of esteem and regret.

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Foundry
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A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of these occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

MEDIAEVAL BELLS.

WHAT THEIR INSCRIPTIONS TEACH US.

As already briefly announced, the President of the Central Council (the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey) recently read a paper on the subject of 'Mediaeval inscriptions on Church Bells' before the Royal Archaeological Institute. The main purpose of the paper was twofold: (I.) to point out some ways in which inscriptions help us to determine the dates of the bells on which they are found; (II.) to enunciate some principles for criticising, elucidating, and (where necessary) amending inscriptions. With regard to (I.), the President of the Council pointed out that very few English mediaeval bells—only about a score before 1500—have their dates stamped upon them. The earliest known so far is at Claughton, in Lancashire 1296; the next at Cold Ashby, in Northamptonshire, 1317. We have to go on more than 80 years before we find, still existing, another dated English bell. Occasionally, but rarely, the name of its donor on the bell guides us to the approximate date. A good example of this is supplied by Mr. Cocks: a bell at Caversfield, Bucks, has an inscription to the effect that it is one of a ring given by Hugh Gargat and Sibilla, his wife. In a document of 1219 Sibilla is described as the widow of Hugh Gargat; so the bell is earlier than 1219.

Names of founders are much more common than names of donors on bells. Careful investigation has in most cases discovered the periods when foundries were working. For instance, amongst early founders, the Wymbishes, of London, and John Godynge, of Lynn, were at work about 1300. These names remind us that, though Latin was the almost universal language of bell inscriptions, Norman-French and English are also found: thus—

Michael de Wymbis me fecit: (Latin).

Ricard de Wymbis me fist: (French).

Joh[n] me yeyt: (English).

(To 'yet' is to cast a bell: hence the name 'bell-yetter' for a founder.)

Two charming English inscriptions may be quoted:

In God is al[l] quoth Gabriel.

I Katery[n]e, Goddes derlyng, (God's darling.)

To thee, Mari, shall I syng.

Makers' marks are very frequent on bells; and these, by being identified with foundries, assist us in dating bells.

A few bells bear the heads of a king and queen. The head of Edward III. was used first by John Rufford, who was appointed Royal Bell Founder in 1367. There is reason to think that the head of Henry VI. was used first by John Danyell about 1460.

The style and shape of the letters in inscriptions are different at different periods. They may be divided into three great types: (1) Roman, which is found on 13th century bells, like those at Caversfield, Marton, Chaldon and Claughton; (2) Lombardic or Gothic, from about 1300 to 1425; (3) Black-letter, from the beginning of the 15th century. As we might expect, the styles overlap and mingle to some extent. To turn to the subject matter of the inscriptions themselves, the earliest inscriptions (though, as we have seen, sometimes giving a date or a donor's or founder's name) most often give the dedication of the bell. Thus at Chaldon:

Campana beati Pauli: at Marton.

Campana Sancti Johannis Evangeliste: at Cold Ashby.

Maria vocor: at Caversfield.

In honorem Dei et Sancti Laurencii. Sometimes simply Jesus.

From the middle of the 14th century two forms of inscription became very predominant: (1) The 'Ora pro nobis,' after a saint's name; (2) the rhymed 'Leonine' hexameter verse. The origin of both of these can be traced back earlier: for instance, we find on a bell before 1291 Sancte Petre ora pro Petro Exoniensi Episcopo.

And rhyming verses occur earlier still. But it is only after 1350 that they became common.

The paper went on to speak about (II.) the structure and elucidation of Leonine inscriptions. To anyone accustomed to classical poetry they seem at first detestable. Dr. Raven declares: 'Bad grammar, false quantities, and impossibilities in scansion abound, to say nothing of other defects. But these verses had rules of their own—two principles especially, which may be formulated thus: (1) Any syllable anywhere may be long or short, as required; (2) the rhyme must be always perfect to the eye.

Remembering these principles, and the use of abbreviations, we are able in almost every case to arrive at correct readings and satisfactory meanings. Several Leonine verses were examined by the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey; and even so harsh a line as

Fidelis mie[n]suris nomen campana Michaelis

was shown to be as amenable to rule as the simple and easy

Virgo coronata duc nos ad regna beata.

Corrections were offered of some verses where mistakes appear to have crept in.

The last point dealt with in the paper was the detection of errors and difficulties due to abbreviations. Letters were often omitted in mediaeval writings, amongst the commonest omissions being M and N and R preceded by a vowel (AR, ER, etc.). This fact was used to elucidate several bell inscriptions finishing up with 2 puzzling ones

(1) On a bell in Derbyshire:

Hic venio retro cum silis noie Petro.
The general sense is clear: a bell named Peter has been recast and returned to the tower. But what is 'silis'? Suggestions like 'similis,' 'sanctis,' give no reasonable explanation. But if we alter one letter, to 'siois,' we get what looks at first like nonsense (and so might easily be mistaken by the bell founder), but is really the regular abbreviation for 'simonis'—exactly as the next word 'noie' is for 'nomine,'—and the verse runs:

Here I come back with Simon's name, Peter.

(2) On a bell at St. Botolph's, Cambridge:

Sancte Apoline ora pro nobis.

No saint 'Apolinus' is known. Various guesses (including 'Apollonia,' who is feminine) have been made. But if we venture to supply AR (two letters often omitted) we get the name of a well-known saint, Apollinaris.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

A successful quarterly meeting of the above Guild was held at Berks. well on Saturday, July 20th, when over 30 members (including several lady ringers from Birmingham and Nuneaton) and friends were present from the following places: Allesley, Birmingham, Berkswell, Chilvers Coton, Coventry, Emscote, Erdington, Knowle, Nuneaton, Rugby, and Stoke Golding.

The bells, a good ring of six (tenor 16½ cwt.) were raised about three o'clock, and kept going to touches in various methods until 4.45, when a short service was held in the church, conducted by the Rector and President of the Guild, the Rev. H. O. A. Back.

Tea was partaken of at the Rectory, by the kind invitation of the Rev. and Mrs. Back, which was much appreciated by all.

The usual business meeting followed, at which the President (the Rev. H. O. A. Back) presided, supported by Mr. J. George (Ringing Master), J. H. White (hon. secretary), and Mr. H. Argyle (Central Council representative). It was suggested that a memorial be erected to the late secretary, Mr. G. H. Kettle, and it was decided to bring the matter forward at the next quarterly meeting, which will be held at Southam, in October.

Mr. H. Argyle congratulated Mr. George upon his election to the Central Council, to which Mr. George suitably responded. Four new members were elected.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. and Mrs. Back for their kindness. This concluded the business.

The tower was afterwards visited, and touches in various methods were rung until 9 p.m.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the North and East District was held at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, on Saturday last, and proved very successful, just over 30 members attending.

Evening was said at 5.30 p.m., which the members attended; this was followed by tea, kindly arranged by some lady friends of the local society. The tea and business meeting were presided over by the Vicar (the Rev. G. H. Siddons). All learned with regret that the District Ringing Master, Rifleman John Armstrong, was a prisoner of war in Germany, not wounded, but ill.

Mr. C. V. Ebberson, of Fakenham, Norfolk, was elected a member. For the place of the next meeting it was the unanimous wish that application be made to visit Edmonton.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded to those who had helped in carrying out the necessary arrangements.

At the conclusion of the business, a move was made to St. Mary's for the remainder of the evening.

The ringing throughout the day was generally good, and included Stedman Caters and Triples, Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich, London and Superlative, while the handbells, kindly provided by Mr. J. Raynor, were rung to Stedman Caters and Double Norwich.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Thrapston district was held at Aldwincle on Saturday, July 27th. Members were present from Raunds, Thrapston, Lowick, Tichmarsh, Ringstead, and the local band. A short service was held, conducted by the Rector. Tea was served in the Parish Room, about 20 sitting down, the Rector (the Rev. Canon Hodgson) presiding, supported by the Rev. W. St. George Coldwell, and the general secretary (Mr. F. Wilford). The following officers were elected: Rev. H. E. Fitzherbert, Thrapston, vice-president; Mr. F. Stubbs, secretary; Messrs. D. Redhead, E. Mayes, A. Bellamy, R. Dunkley, G. Jeffs, committee. The Rev. W. St. George Coldwell being elected for the Ringers' Memorial Committee, it was decided to hold the next meeting at Thrapston on Saturday, September 14th, and a practice at Great Addington on Saturday, August 24th. The Rector was elected an honorary member; also one ringing member from Islip was elected.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, and for the excellent war-time tea was passed.—The Rector, replying, said how pleased he was to welcome them. After tea, the beautiful Rectory grounds were open for the visitors.

A VISIT TO THE WEALD OF KENT.

Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, having expressed a wish to ring for Sunday services in some churches in the Weald, arrangements were made by Mr. C. Tribe, the hon. secretary of the Kent County Association, to carry out the same on Sunday, July 21st. The first tower on the list was Staplehurst at 9 a.m. The bells were raised, and several touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round, and the bells lowered in peal. The band here represented eight different towers, viz., F. Sharp, London; J. H. Shepherd, Swindon; C. Sone, Linton; L. Honess, Biddenden; W. H. Lambert, Benenden; W. Kerry, Salehurst; J. Blake, Hawkhurst; and C. Tribe, Tenterden. Some more touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at Cranbrook for the afternoon service, and lowered the bells in peal. The Vicar (Canon Bell) paid us a visit in the belfry during the ringing, and thanked us very heartily for our services. On arriving at Goudhurst, the organist met us at the church, and conducted us to the top of the tower, where one of the most lovely views imaginable rewarded us for our climb; he also informed us that the Rector (Canon Raikes) had provided a tea for us at the Temperance Hotel opposite the church, and conducted us thither; and, needless to say, the tea was gratefully appreciated by us all. The tower was then visited, the bells raised, and several touches of Grandsire Triples brought round for the evening service, including a 504, conducted by C. Tribe, and the bells lowered in peal. The Rector visited us during the ringing, and said what a pleasure it was to hear his bells ringing again after such a long silence. Mr. Arthurs, of Sutton Valence, and Mr. Waghorn, of Hawkhurst, joined us at Cranbrook and Goudhurst, taking the place of Messrs. Sone and Sharp, and also Mr. O. Hodges, of Biddenden. Before separating we decided to repeat the visit on some future occasion.

'THE BELLS OF OATLANDS.'

Among the lady ringers at St. Mary's, Oatlands, Surrey, is to be found one who makes a hobby of writing poetry, and the following is from her pen recently:—

How sweet the bells of Oatlands sound!
To me, no sweeter bells around:
And every one delights to hear
The bells ring out their call to Prayer;
To ring them we so much rejoice,
For they might represent God's voice;
And more than that, Church bells to me
Appear as one's own life to be.
The lightest bell, that Treble mild
Might represent a little child;
And number 'Two' is also light
Which makes me think of childhood bright;
A little heavier is 'Three'
Of early youth reminding me,
And in comparing number 'Four'
With human life—the 'open flower':
As half-way through the peal is 'Five,'
So we at middle-age arrive;
And heavier 'Six' with deeper sound
Might signify one Homeward bound;
And deeper still, that Sacred 'Seven'
Doth sound as one prepared for Heaven;
The last—the Tenor—and so deep,
Tolls for us when we 'fall asleep.'

VIOLET SNOW

5184 CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR.

BY E. M. ATKINS.

23456	B M H
53246	x —
43526	x —
36452	x —
62345	x —
42635	x —
32465	x —
25346	x —
52634	x S
24563	x —
43256	x —
53426	x —
23546	x —
23654	x —
34265	x —
45326	x —
54632	x S
42563	x —
42356	x —

Twice repeated.

First rung on handbells at Enfield, conducted by the composer.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The East Berks and S. Bucks Branch of the Guild continues to justify its existence, the members mustering in force on Saturday, July 27th, at Chalfont St. Peter, for a war-time half-day off. Proceedings began and ended with the pealing of the bells, a useful peal of six cast mostly at Whitechapel (tenor 9½ cwt. in A), which were utilised in the usual five and six-bell work from 3 till 9 p.m. The ladies were well represented, ten being present, and a six-score of Grandsire Doubles off their own bat was rung by the following: Cooper, McKrell, Feltham, Williams, Bateman and Parker.

Evening service, arranged for 5.30, was conducted by the Rev. C. S. A. Whittington, Vicar, and to this 38 brothers and sisters responded, and incidentally it should be noted that the bells were lowered in peal at 5.20, and a bell tolled for the service just as if the day was Sunday. Hymns No. 84, 48 and 97 were selected, the organist, Mr. Copus, leading the congregation. Before the prayers Mr. Whittington kindly welcomed the Guild to his church, and said: 'A good many times ringers have met here, but this, I believe, is the first time we have come together with prayers. The act of prayer every day is an observance, showing God we do feel our need of Him. In acknowledging God we recognise a fact the Glory of God, our religion is not merely obeying rules of tower and ringing.'

The Vicar also very kindly presided at the tea tables, and when apologising for his having to leave early, deputed his curate, the Rev. J. Fraser Amies, to carry on that duty, which he did most effectively, distributing Guild certificates as qualified change ringers to Misses E. Jones, B. McKrell and N. Williams, and to four of the local band as male probationers. Thanks to the united help of friends and patrons in the locality tea was found ample, satisfying and very enjoyable, and out of 40 members expected 38 put in an appearance: Mr. and Mrs. G. Twitchen, Messrs. W. J. Wilkins, W. Goodchild, and W. Horne (High Wycombe), Mr. J. H. Barnes and Son (Missenenden), Messrs. C. Hallam, C. Shreeve and G. T. Leader (Slough), H. F. Hunt (Windsor), G. H. Gutteridge (Ives), Parker, J. J. Kenley and Fussell (Farnham), F. J. Reeve (Tring), W. Hewitt (Camberwell), W. Lawrence (Ealing), E. Harding (Fulmer), E. M. Atkins (Isham), F. W. Perrins, R.A.F. (Sutton Coldfield), J. Blackmore (Beaconsfield), the Misses F. Gudgin and E. Fuller (Fulmer), Mr. W. Bateman (Stoke), Miss E. K. Parker (Edmonton), Miss E. Jones (Ealing).

Messrs. F. Barrell, E. Burnham, C. Johnson and J. Stone (foreman), all members of the local company. Tea-time was prolonged by a number of details that required attention.

Mr. Lawrence proposed a vote of thanks to Messrs. Stone, Burnham, and Johnson, and to their wives and mothers respectively for arranging and serving the tea, and especially the clearing up, no light task. —Mr. J. J. Parker proposed a similar expression of the company's gratitude to the Vicar, the organist, the curate, and the tower foreman, for their united and willing share in making the visit a memorable one.

A course of Stedman Caters (double-handed) to welcome a Birmingham St. Martin's Youth was ably performed by: Ferrins, Edith Parker, Elsie Hairs, Atkins and Hewitt (tenor 22 size in C), the bells forming part of 2½ octaves, formerly used by the local time playing party.

Talking and chatting is not the prerogative of the fair sex where change ringing is concerned, for nothing can equal the quantity of language employed when two expert male composers start arguing the 'in and out of course.' A junior's definition of a 'lead end' recently overheard was said to occur when the bells 'fired out' during a touch.

W. H. F.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BRISTOL.—On April 21st, at St. Stephen's Church, Bristol, for evening service, a course of Cambridge Surprise Royal: H. Tucker 1, A. Reeves 2, H. Pring 3, C. Tompkins 4, R. Clarke 5, C. Gordon 6, H. M. Day 7, Wm. Knight 8, J. Burford 9, G. Condieck 10. First course of Royal by the ringer of the 7th.

ISLEWORTH.—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on Sunday, May 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): G. A. Ransom 1, A. Beckensale 2, A. Diserens 3, T. Beadle 4, Pte. J. Preston (Middlesex Reserves) 5, H. W. Lidbetter (conductor) 6, A. Harding 7, P. Norton 8.—On Sunday, May 26th, for morning service, a 504 Grandsire Triples: E. Webb 1, G. A. Ransom (conductor) 2, A. Beckensale 3, E. Cole 4, T. Beadle 5, H. W. Lidbetter 6, Seaman G. Spencer, R.N., 7, A. Sheard 8. For a Confirmation service in the afternoon, 168 Stedman Triples.

STONY STRATFORD, BUCKS.—On May 12th, 720 Bob Minor: J. A. Giles 1, C. A. Valentine (conductor) 2, A. Clarke 3, W. W. Bonham 4, T. C. Tompkins 5, E. Yates 6.—On Whit-Sunday, for 10 a.m. Communion, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: A. Clarke 1, E. Yates 2, E. C. Lambert 3, T. C. Tompkins 4, W. T. Tucker (conductor) 5, C. A. Valentine 6. For evensong, 720 Cambridge Surprise: A. Clarke 1, C. A. Valentine 2, T. C. Tompkins 3, E. C. Lambert 4, W. T. Tucker 5, E. Yates (conductor) 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles.

BOLTON.—On Sunday, May 12th, at the Saviour's Church, on the occasion of the anniversary sermons, for afternoon service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 48 mins.: T. Barlow 1, F. Abbot 2, T. B. Worsley (conductor) 3, G. Pinecott 4, J. Welsby 5, W. Pennington 6, J. Potter 7, J. Edge 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman as conductor.

CALVERTON, BUCKS.—On Whit-Sunday, for morning service, 600 Grandsire Doubles: J. Tompkins 1, C. A. Valentine 2, J. Taylor 3, E. C. Lambert 4, W. T. Tucker (conductor) 5, J. Tompkins, senr., 6.

FASSENHAM, NORTHANTS.—On Whit-Sunday, for afternoon service, 480 Grandsire Doubles: A. Clarke 1, E. C. Lambert 2, H. Ridgway 3, W. T. Tucker (conductor) 4, C. A. Valentine 5. Also 120 Doubles. The above touches were arranged for W. T. Tucker, of Eastleigh, who was home on a visit at Stony Stratford.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—Lancashire Association.—On Whit-Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins.: John Denner (first quarter-peal as conductor), S. Oakes, J. Welsby, Jas. Denner, Harry Allred, M. Berry, John Potter, R. Denner. Arranged for H. Allred (Tyldesley).

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, on May 19th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 43 mins.: W. Stevens 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, Pte. J. Meadows 4, F. Skevington 5, H. Cook 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, H. Dyas 8.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.—Central Northamptonshire Association.—The following are the first 720s by the four local lady ringers, and as such are worthy of record.—On Whit-Sunday, May 19th, 720 Plain Bob: *Miss C. Hepburn 1, *A. Blaxley 2, W. C. Lewis 3, W. T. Wilson 4, G. A. Blaxley (conductor) 5, W. Gilbert 6.—On Sunday, June 9th, 720 Plain Bob: *Miss B. Everest 1, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 2, A. Blaxley 3, W. C. Lewis 4, G. A. Blaxley 5, D. Mallett 6.—On Feast Sunday, June 30th, 720 Plain Bob (for 8 a.m. service): Miss C. Hepburn 1, *Miss L. Geary 2, E. M. Atkins 3, A. Green 4, W. T. Wilson 5, J. B. Williamson (conductor) 6. Also after evensong, 720 Bob Minor: *Miss M. Hull 1, A. Green 2, W. T. Wilson 3, A. Blaxley 4, G. A. Blaxley 5, J. B. Williamson (conductor) 6. * First 720. It is noteworthy that the ladies only commenced ringing in December last, and great credit is due to their wonderful perseverance.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET.—On Wednesday, May 22nd, 504 of Grandsire Triples: Walter Whittington 1, Miss N. Gillingham (conductor) 2, Miss A. Stokes 3, Mrs. R. Whittington 4, E. Goldstone 5, R. Whittington 6, W. Gillingham 7, J. Nisbet 8.—On Sunday, May 26th, after evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss A. Stokes 1, Mrs. Staley 2, Miss N. Gillingham 3, W. Watts 4, J. Nisbet 5, Miss E. M. Hole (conductor) 6, W. Gillingham 7, Miss H. Orchard (first quarter-peal) 8.

TWO PEALS OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

In 6 Parts,		In 3 Equal Parts containing 135 Calls.	
234567		234567	Continued
672453 2		532746 5	
S 276453 4		465273 2	S 627534 3
x 342576 1		324765 1	S 546327 1
653742 1		723546 5	S 375246 1
S 726453 1		527634 5	623475 1
347526 1		465327 1	S 456723 1
723465 3		274536 2	754362 5
547623 1		362457 2	237654 1
725436 3		253674 3	632475 5
537264 3		462753 1	546732 1
645723 2		254637 3	745263 5
376245 1		762354 1	567432 3
273564 5		367425 5	325746 2
362745 3		S 273654 3	463572 2
243657 3		S 642573 1	564237 5
762543 1		736254 2	435672 3
437256 2		237465 5	574326 3
624537 1		652743 2	285437 2
436275 3		376452 1	742365 1
524736 1		633724 3	347526 5
365472 2		756432 5	653247 1
243765 1		247356 1	256734 5
362457 3		752463 3	342675 2
573246 2			Repeat twice.
625473 1			
736542 2			
427653 2			
534762 2			
275634 1			
342567 2			

Repeat 5 times.

Commencing last 3 parts as from x.

Single for Bob 3rd and 6th Part Ends.

July 7th, 1918.

A. J. PITMAN.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Deane on Saturday, August 10th. Bells ready at 4; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 10th, at the Church of All Saints, Isleworth. Tower open from 3 to 8 p.m., followed by a business meeting at the 'London Apprentice' near by. Ringers generally cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—(Estab. 1755.)—Special notice.—The Rector of Birmingham and Mrs. Willink extend a hearty invitation to members of the Guild and their wives to spend an hour or two with them in the Rectory garden on Saturday, August 17th. Meeting at 4 o'clock. Light refreshments will be provided. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than the 13th inst.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Worsley on Saturday, August 17th. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, August 17th. Tower opened for ringing at 4 o'clock.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*).

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Olveston on Saturday, August 17th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m.—W. Stafford, Branch Hon. Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

FOR SALE. SET OF 8 HANDBELLS in perfect condition, good as new; in lockup box; £4.—Hy. Brownlee West, 'Avalon,' Devizes.

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PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HARPENDEN, HERTS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday afternoon, June 2nd, for men's service, a quarter-peal (1280 changes) of Stedman Triples, in 48 mins.: F. Hunt 1, W. Hilt (first quarter in method) 2, G. Newson 3, B. Jarman 4, T. Kendall 5, H. Wood 6, A. King (conductor) 7, C. Dellar 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. The ringer of 1, 5, 6 and 7 belong to Luton Parish Church.

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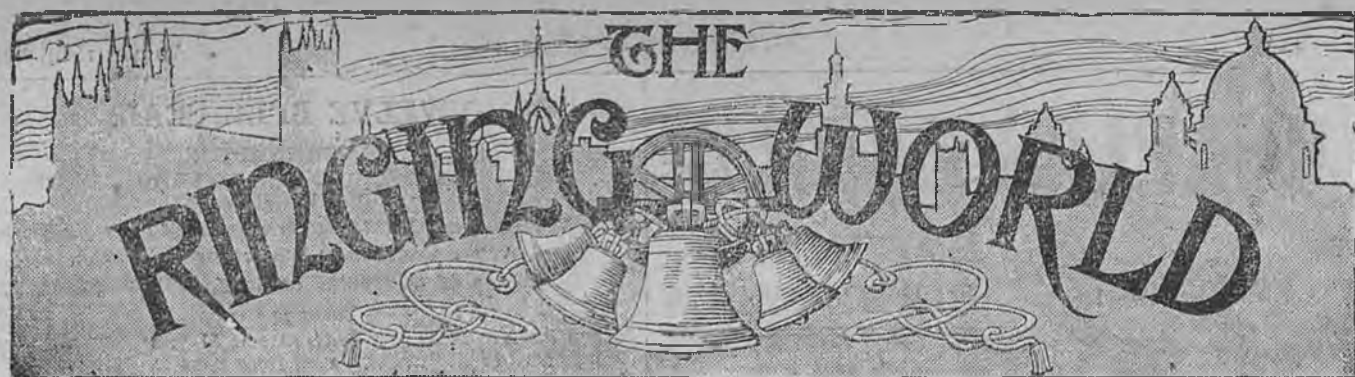
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FRIDAY, AUGUST 16th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



**St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.**

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUM CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

CHIMING APPARATUS DANGERS.

Several times in this journal attention has been called to the danger to bells which arises from negligence in connection with a chiming apparatus. The Rev. C. E. Matthews, Master of the Winchester Guild, in the last issue, once more returns to the subject, emphasising the danger by recording the fact that a valuable old 16th century bell has recently been hopelessly cracked. Such unfortunate occurrences are deeply regrettable, and every precaution ought to be taken to avoid them. Accidents, we know, will happen, but mishaps of this kind, whenever they occur, can generally be traced to forgetfulness or ignorance.

Suggestions have been made for securing the bells against damage from collision with the chiming hammers, and one of the most practical of the mechanical kind was put forward some time ago by Mr. J. R. Jerram, of Salisbury, who suggested a locking arrangement, which would prevent the door enclosing the apparatus being shut when the hammers are in action. The Rev. C. E. Matthews suggests the adoption of certain fixed rules in all belfries where a chiming apparatus is used, and the issue of an order that bells should not be left up between services. It is quite certain that special care is needed in all cases where there are chiming hammers. A beginning, we think, might be made with the installation of the hammers, for we see nothing to prevent the fixing of the hammers in the majority of the towers in such a position relative to the bells that, when the former are left untouched, the bells could turn without coming into actual contact with the fixtures. Where such an arrangement is not possible—and these cases should be very rare—then a lock answering the purpose of that suggested by Mr. Jerram could easily be fixed.

As to bells never being left up, that is a counsel which is wise, but not altogether acceptable in towers where there are heavy peals. Bells, of course, cannot be chimed with the apparatus when they are up, which is proof that in the case quoted by the Master of the Winchester Guild, there must have been interference by some ignorant and, presumably, unauthorised person. This, of course, ought to be beyond the bounds of possibility in any tower. It is this interference by irresponsible people that leads to trouble, and is the thing which should be specially guarded against. In the case which has recently happened in the Winchester Archdeaconry the bell is to be recast. We often think that, where these bells of real antiquarian value come to grief, it is a pity they could not be saved from the melting-pot. It adds, we know, to the expense, yet an ancient bell recast, even if everything is a replica of the old one, has not the same interest and value in it, and, damaged though it may be, we should like to see such a relic of antiquity preserved in some honoured niche in the church where it has for so long done duty.

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The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, August 5, 1918, in Three Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

At the COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5103 CHANCES;

Tenor 33 cwt.

JOSEPH FIGOTT Treble	CECIL MAYNE 7
GEORGE FIGOTT 2	JOHN BASS 8
GEORGE F. SWANN 3	THOMAS J. ELTON 9
ALBERT WALKER 4	WILLIAM FISHER 10
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 5	BENJAMIN GOUGH 11
MORRIS J. MORRIS 6	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOSEPH FIGOTT.

First peal of Grandsire Cinques by all except 6 and 12.

TEN BELL PEAL.

STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS
(Estab. 1686.)

On Saturday, August 10, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS 5021 CHANCES

Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE ORCHARD Treble	ALBERT WRIGHT 6
WILLIAM HALE 2	THOMAS BALDWIN 7
JESSE GILLET 3	HUBERT SCRIVENS 8
JOHN AUSTIN 4	FRANK COLE 9
WILLIAM HASTINGS 5	ROBERT SHARP Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

The jubilee peal was rung by special request on St. Lawrence's Day, in connection with the special services which are being held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the reopening of the Parish Church in August, 1868, after being entirely rebuilt with the exception of the old tower and spire which dates back about 500 years. Also as a wedding peal to Sapper C. Austin, R.E., who was married at St. Michael's Church, Gloucester, on August 5th, all wishing them both long life and happiness.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BIRSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 3, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOSEPH GARNETT Treble	W. ARTHUR HUDSON 5
EDWARD CRABTREE 2	FRANCIS BAKER 6
GEORGE BRITTON 3	EDWARD CROWTHER 7
HERBERT DRANSFIELD 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Joseph Garnett and Arthur Hudson.

PENDLETON, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, August 3, 1918, in Three Hours,

At the CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' REVERSED. Tenor 18 cwt. 10 lbs.

FRANCIS SMITH Treble	JOSEPH LOWE 5
REV. A. T. BERTON 2	WILLIAM H. SHUKER 6
JAMES W. WASHBROOK, JUNR. 3	HARRY CHAPMAN 7
JAMES W. WASHBROOK 4	AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Rung as birthday compliment to Mr. J. W. Washbrook, who received the usual congratulations afterwards.

GOOLE, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 5, 1918, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. John the Evangelist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

† AUGUSTUS HATFIELD ... Treble	* ROBERT B. SMITH ... 5
SERG. E. MORRIS, A.S.C. 2	† WILLIAM ARTHUR HUDSON 6
* WM. ARTHUR HALL ... 3	HENRY FAIRLAM ... 7
FRED CRYER ... 4	JOSEPH DRAKE ... Tenor

Transposed and Conducted by SERGT. ERNEST MORRIS, A.S.C.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the heroes of Goole who have fallen during the war. The ringer of 1st belongs to Hemingborough; 2nd, Leicester; 3rd, 4th and 7th, Selby; 5th, Howden; and the 6th to Birstall.

* First peal. † First Peal of Triples.

ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 5, 1918, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Anne,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE E. TURNER ... Treble	WILLIAM H. SHUKER ... 5
JAMES W. WASHBROOK, JUNR. 2	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ... 6
JOSEPH LOWE ... 3	HARRY CHAPMAN ... 7
PTE. H. R. PASMORE, R.A.M.C. 4	AMOS TRIPPIER ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

First peal of Stedman on the bells.

SIX BELL PEAL.

ARLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 6, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Ten different callings. Tenor 9½ cwt.

* KEITH SALTER ... Treble	ROBERT MOY ... 4
WILLIAM SHORT ... 2	CHARLES BEAMAN ... 5
THOMAS J. SALTER ... 3	JOHN WOODBERRY ... Tenor

Conducted by W. SHORT.

* First peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, August 9, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At 13, HARLESDOWN ROAD, FULHAM, S.W.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

* GEORGE M. KILBY ... 1—2	HERBERT LANGDON ... 5—6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 3—4	WALTER S. WISE ... 7—8

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpire: ARTHUR HOBBAARD.

* First peal in hand and first attempt.

THE MEETING AT BEDDINGTON.

Thirty members of the Exercise attended this meeting on August Bank Holiday, hailing from Crayford, Chislehurst, Bromley, Leatherhead, Epsom, Mitcham; St. Paul's, Putney; Kensington, Northampton, Tottenham, Bishopsgate, etc. This date was an old custom revived, but has lapsed lately, through various causes. Ringing commenced at 2.30, and all the touches (with one exception) were brought round in the following methods: London Surprise Major; a 500 Stedman Triples, conducted by E. Barnett, senr.; three touches of Stedman Caters (one & 500), conducted by W. Smith and E. Barnett, junr., respectively; a 500 Grandsire Caters and four courses, conducted by A. Dean and — Elson respectively; and 520 Kent Treble Bob Royal, conducted by A. J. Perkins; also a Plain Course. Beddington ringers would remind all ringers that the tower is open at 6 p.m. on Saturday, September 7th, and every first Saturday in the month until further notice.

A. J. P.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT IPSWICH.

The annual meeting of the above Association was held at Ipswich on Bank Holiday, August 5th, the bells of St. Mary-le-Tower, St. Margaret's, St. Clement's, St. Mary Quay, St. Matthew's, St. Lawrence, and St. Nicholas' Churches being available for the use of visiting members throughout the day. The usual service and luncheon, for various reasons, were abandoned, but about 70 members assembled for the annual general meeting in the St. Lawrence Parish Hall, under the chairmanship of the President of the Association, J. Laneroff Holmes, Esq. The Lord Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich graciously attended the meeting to give members a welcome to the town. In a very happy speech, his Lordship expressed his pleasure at meeting so many members of the Association, and his desire to further in every way the cause of change ringing in his diocese.

The annual report was read by the secretary, and formally adopted, and the re-election of the president, committee, and hon. auditor unanimously carried. Four nominations only were received for representatives to the Central Council, and these four—the Rev. H. Drake and Messrs. G. P. Burton, A. L. Coleman and J. Motts—were declared elected.

The President announced that Mr. Borrett had been compelled, by doctor's orders, to give up the secretaryship of the Association, which he had held for the last 16 years, and had placed his resignation in the hands of the committee. This, of course, the committee were compelled to accept, although they greatly regretted the cause. They were very desirous of showing their appreciation of all the work Mr. Borrett had done for them, and recommended that he should be elected a vice-president of the Association. — The President having formally proposed this, it was carried with acclamation, and Mr. Borrett feelingly acknowledged the great honour paid him, and thanked members for their many kindnesses shown him in the past.

The President said the committee were in the happy position of having found a gentleman willing to undertake the vacant office of honorary secretary and treasurer, and, on their behalf, proposed the election of Mr. Arthur L. Coleman, of North Walsham. — This was seconded by Mr. G. G. Burton, and carried unanimously, and Mr. Coleman was accorded a very warm reception on rising to acknowledge his election.

The President briefly placed before the meeting various recommendations of the committee—that meetings should be held on Easter Monday and Whit-Monday, 1919, at Diss and Beccles respectively, if the bells were available—that a further sum of £50 should be invested in War Bonds—and that a review and balance sheet should be printed at the end of the year and sent to members. These were all agreed to, and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the clergy of Ipswich for the use of their bells, and to the President for coming, at some personal inconvenience, to preside over the meeting.

Mr. Coleman, the new secretary, was one of the founders of the Warwickshire Guild, and its first secretary, and, curiously enough, the godson and son of two of the founders of the Norwich Association in 1877—the Rev. G. H. Harris, of Tunstead, and the Rev. H. J. Coleman, of Westwick.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Central Division was held at Henfield on August 5th. Ringing commenced at 12 o'clock (after the 'Angelus'), and at one o'clock an interval was taken for lunch. At 2 o'clock the bells were off again, the number present steadily increasing, and reached a total of 54. At 4 o'clock all attended a special service, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. J. Lea), the Rev. E. Cresswell Gee (Vicar of St. Philip's, Aldringham, giving a very appreciative address. The offertory was for the Benevolent Fund, and gave very gratifying results, the sum of £1 0s. 11d. being gathered in. A very enjoyable tea was provided by the local branch, the Vicar presiding, supported by the Rev. E. Cresswell Gee, and wardens. Towards the end of tea, the Vicar had a scheme, to which he called attention in a very ingenious manner. He had a cake before him not sufficient to go round—better have a competition for it to benefit the Benevolent fund. Each had to think of a number—placed on the piano. The 'Central' did not get the cake, it has gone 'West,' and the fund benefited to the extent of another 10s. There was very little business beyond the reading of the minutes.—Mr. Merritt drew attention to the new rules not yet being all that was desired, and suggested that the members study them in readiness for the next annual meeting, to be held in May.—Votes of thanks were then passed to the Vicar, the Rev. E. Cresswell Gee, and also to the ladies who had kindly prepared tea. Music, including 'Sussex by the Sea,' followed by God Save the King, concluded the meeting. The tower was again visited, and the bells kept going until 8.30, the methods rung during the day being Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain and Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise, on a very musical peal of eight by Messrs. Taylor. The following towers were represented: Brighton (St. Peter's and St. Nicholas), Cuckfield, Crawley, Ditching, Hcenc, Hurstpierpoint, Keymer, Lindfield, Pulborough, Shoreham, Steyning; also independent members and the local branch. The best thanks of the Association are due to the local branch who worked so whole-heartedly to make the meeting a success.

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**Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.**

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

DEATH OF MR. RICHARD FAUX, OF HANDSWORTH.

A VICE-PRESIDENT OF ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

One who never turned his back, but marched breast forward;
Never doubted clouds would break; never dreamed though right were
worsted

Wrong would triumph; held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better,
Sleep to wake.—Browning.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. Richard Faux, which took place at his residence, 43, Murdock Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, at mid-day, on Wednesday, July 31st. Mr. Faux had passed the Psalmist's fourscore years, his 81st birthday being on March 1st, and he died what was in every sense of the word a "natural" death, continuing active until a few months ago, and possessing all his faculties until the very end. Of a studious nature, he was always a great reader, and when he was at last confined to his house as a result of a slight stroke, he kept himself well informed as to current events, and followed the war news very closely until a week or so ago, when, realising that he was not much longer for this world, he abandoned the newspapers and all other secular reading, giving himself up entirely to the study of the Scriptures and the book of Common Prayer.

This was typical of the man. All his long life he had made it a practice not to worry himself with things that did not concern him, but went straight on, happy, contented, placid, at peace with himself and all around him. It required no effort on his part to detach himself from mundane affairs, and to concentrate on the higher life, to which he looked forward with confident and abiding hope.

Deceased was born at Handsworth, and lived in the parish all his life. He had been a member of the Handsworth Old Church belfry for more than half a century, and for many years was a staunch supporter of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham, of which he was a vice-president at the time of his death. He had never been enthusiastic about peal ringing, but was very keen and punctilious about ringing or chiming for Divine service. He had rung about a dozen peals, mostly Grandsire Triples, but what he enjoyed most of all was to listen to a well-struck peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's, which, he used to say, was as great a musical treat as the finest orchestral concert at the town hall.

Mr. Faux was good company, and when in reminiscent mood could tell some amusing tales of Handsworth ringers of sixty years or more ago. One of these related to the ringing in of the New Year, which had been a custom at Handsworth, perhaps, for centuries. On the occasion referred to, there had been some dispute, and while the Rector remained neutral, the wardens forbade the ringing at midnight. The ringers were not to be disposed of so easily, however, and not having the key when the time arrived, a ladder was procured and entrance obtained through the belfry window, which is about 30 feet up. As the clock finished striking twelve the wardens presumably were astounded to hear the bells start off, and they proceeded to the church in all haste to investigate. However, they omitted to bring a key themselves, and either were afraid to mount the ladder or did not see it. After a time the key was procured, and they ascended to the belfry in high dudgeon determined to assert their authority and to stop the bells instantly. But by this time the bells were up, and as the ringers showed no inclination to stop, and the ropes seemed to rattle up and down rather bewilderingly, at times coming too close to them to be pleasant, they beat an ignominious retreat, uttering grievous threats the while. Nobody was hanged, however, and when the parishioners heard what had happened a nice little sum was subscribed for the ringers!

Another tale related to one of the ringers who lived in a small cottage opposite the church gates. (This cottage is still standing, and inhabited.) He would oversleep himself on a Sunday morning, and had frequently been awakened by the other ringers at a few minutes to ten, when he would jump out of bed, and hastily pulling on his trousers and slippers would run across in that guise to save his fine!

Our old friend was also musically inclined, and possessed a sweet, but rather light tenor voice, which he used with good taste.

The funeral took place at Handsworth Old Church on Saturday, August 3rd, the remains being followed to the grave by members of the family, including the widow, and many relatives and friends, testifying by their presence to the respect in which Mr. Faux had been held.

The beautiful burial service of our church was read by the Rector of Handsworth, the Rev. Canon H. G. Daniell-Bainbridge, and six of his fellow ringers, Messrs. J. E. Groves, A. P. Smith, R. Speakman, G. F. Swann, A. Walker, and T. Verry, acted as bearers.

After the coffin had been lowered, a plain course of Grandsire Caters was rung over the grave by Messrs. A. Walker, T. Russum, J. E. Groves, T. Miller and A. Paddon Smith. There is something peculiarly solemn about the ringing of handbells at the graveside; it is one of the most touching of all ceremonies. The open grave, the ringing of the trees, the silent sobbing of the mourners, the hush of the churchyard, even the very birds seem to twitter softly, and over it all the music of the bells. It is a beautiful custom, far more impressive in its simplicity than the pomp and tinsel often associated with the funerals of members of friendly and other societies. And as the course runs home, followed by a few slow, well struck rounds,

and the lingering hum at last dies away, it is pardonable to hope, or even perchance to believe, that the departed brother may hear and appreciate; who knows?

In any case it is a very fitting farewell for a ringer, and so we bade farewell to Richard Faux, leaving him to sleep with his fathers, within a few yards of the church he had served so long and so faithfully.

Later, a touch of Stedman Triples was rung on the tower bells, half-muffled, by: A. Walker, J. Pigott, G. F. Swann, T. Russam, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, J. George, J. E. Groves, and A. P. Smith, conducted by J. E. Groves, followed by the whole-pull and stand, to the number of the deceased's years, by the above with Mr. S. Smith in the place of Alderman Pritchett. A. P. S.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ASHFORD DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the above took place at Ashford, on Bank Holiday, August 5th, and although the weather conditions were none too favourable, a good number of members attended, about 40 in all representing the following towers in the district: Ashford, Appledore, Brabourne, Hythe, Headcorn, Mersham, Rolvenden, Stone, Teuterdon, Woodchurch, and Willesborough. Ringing commenced soon after two o'clock, and continued till 4, when some well-struck touches were brought round in the four standard methods. An adjournment was then made to Passmore's Restaurant, as the guests of the Vicar (the Rev. T. K. Sopwith) where a substantial tea was much enjoyed, the Vicar presiding, as also at the general business meeting which followed, at which the district secretary, Mr. C. Tribe, and district representative, Mr. G. Paine, were re-elected. Several new members were proposed and duly elected, and the following chosen as the places for future meetings: Mersham, in September; Headcorn, March, 1919; Folkestone, Whit-Monday, 1919; and Ashford, Bank Holiday, August, 1919. A proposition as to the best way of organising the ringing for peace (when it comes) was referred for further consideration to the next meeting, at Mersham in September. — A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for his generous hospitality, for permission for the meeting, and for presiding at the tea and meeting, and carried with acclamation, to which the reverend gentleman suitably replied. — A cordial welcome was given to the following visitors from other districts, viz., W. Haigh, Clitham; E. G. Allen, Rochester; W. Spice, Sittingbourne; H. Claywell, Dover; P. Fairbeard, Adisham; and A. E. Edwards, Salehurst (Sussex). The members then attended evensong in the church, which was taken by the Vicar, and the appropriate hymn, 'O God, our help in ages past,' was heartily sung. The tower was again visited, and several more touches brought round till about three o'clock, when the bells were lowered in peal. It was worthy of notice that most of those present were beyond the calling-up age as at present fixed, but will be quite ready to fall in and answer the call when the old age pensioners are called up.

PETERBOROUGH and DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting was held at Peterborough on August Bank Holiday. The bells of the Cathedral, St. John's, St. Mary's and Woodston, were available all day.

The service was held at St. Mary's Church, the Vicar (the Rev. A. C. Neeby) officiating.

The address was based on the words from Ecclesiasticus xlv. 9. 'And he compassed him with pomegranates of gold, and with many bells round about, to send forth a sound as he went, to make a sound that might be heard in the temple, for a memorial to the children of his people.'

The business meeting was held in the Schoolroom, when the president, the Very Reverend the Dean of Peterborough, presided, supported by the Rev. C. J. Sturton, Vicar of Orston, Notts.

The accounts presented by the secretary showed a balance of £5 12s.

Fourteen new members were elected, including eleven ladies, seven of which were from St. Mary's and four from Woodston. After Mr. Narborough's report of the Central Council's meeting, some discussion took place on Mr. Lewis's suggestion, of providing (by the ringers of England) some memorial in Belgium. The meeting generally were in favour of the idea.

The officers were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. A. Holland (Crowland) on the committee.

The bells were kept going until dark, everyone agreeing it was a very successful meeting. Amongst those present were Messrs. W. E. and W. White (Cotgrave, Notts), J. W. Clarke (Bedford), S. Proctor, W. G. Thorpe (Grantham), York Green (London), Messrs. Creasy and Jesse Pulett (March), Narborough (Wisbech), E. Jones (Easton Maudit), etc.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.—On Whitsun Monday, 1216 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Bennett 1, J. Garnett 2, B. Thorp 3, J. Hutchinson 4, J. Hewitt 5, J. W. Dews 6, F. Barker 7, Joe E. Sykes (composer and conductor) 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. E. Sykes' mother. This contains all the 4—6—8's and 6—4—8's possible in this number.

THE SHEFFIELD and OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

This year's six-bell meeting on Saturday, August 3rd, was allotted to Killamarsh. The meeting was considerably spoiled by the rain, which never ceased during the whole day. The few that put in appearance got a bigger share of the cake than would have been the case if 60 or more had been there, as our Killamarsh friends turned up in force, and were the means of giving one or two visitors some satisfaction, notably among a variety of methods being a well-struck 720 Cambridge Surprise; also a good 720 of London Surprise. Altogether six towers were represented, viz., Anston, North Wingfield, Sheffield Cathedral, Rotherham (St. Stephen's), Worksop, and Killamarsh.

The Rector (the Rev. J. S. Powell, M.A.) very kindly pointed out the principal features of the church, which is the successor of older ones; the present tower is the oldest part of the present structure, dating from the 15th century, some stones built into the principal entrance being undoubtedly Norman, while in the churchyard stands an Anglo-Saxon font, a stained glass window in the chancel representing the Virgin and Child, being both curious and interesting.

THE HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DISTRICT MEETING AT HERTFORD.

A very successful and enjoyable meeting was held at Hertford on Bank Holiday, when the ring of ten at All Saints' were kindly placed at the disposal of the meeting from 2 till 8, and they were kept merrily going in various methods during the whole of the time with the exception of the interval for tea, which was prepared at the Castle Cabin, Maidenhead Street. About 30 members and friends attended during the afternoon, and 24 sat down to tea. Several well-known faces from the Metropolis appeared, including Messrs. W. Doran, R. Saunders, E. F. Pike, Scarlett, Twist, and others, besides one or two in khaki, one being Mr. Phillips, of St. Peter Mancroft, who is at present at the N.C.O.'s School at Hertford.

The business meeting was afterwards held, when the Bennington veteran, Mr. S. Page, presided. — The usual votes of thanks to the Vicar and others were duly proposed and seconded, and the minutes of the last meeting held at Bennington were read by the District Secretary, Mr. W. N. Lawrence, and passed. The tower was again visited, and the bells kept going until 8 o'clock, all having spent an enjoyable time.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT.

A combined practice meeting was held at the Priory Church, Christchurch, on Saturday, August 3rd. The following members of the Guild turning up about 4.30: Messrs. G. Williams (hon. general sec.), W. T. Tucker (North Stoneham), M. Stewart (Ferndown, Wimborne), C. W. Goodenough (Bournemouth), L. W. Wiffen (Wyke Regis), Q.-M.-S. W. Cave, R.E. (Chatham), Rev. —, Whitford (Southbourne), G. Preston (district secretary), S. Best, E. Street, F. Sparshott, of the local band, and Mr. W. Ledbetter, of Isleworth, who happened to be on holiday in the district.

The bells were kept busy (with a short interval for tea) till 8 p.m., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob and Double Norwich Major and Stedman Caters brought round, the ten being lowered in peal. On Sunday, on the occasion of the Mayor and Corporation attending Divine service at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor and Stedman Triples: G. Williams (conductor) 1, T. Green 2, F. Phillips 3, H. Forfit 4, E. Waters 5, C. W. Goodenough 6, M. Freeman (Stoke Coventry) 7, — Harris 8.

MIDLAND DISTRICT.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

Favoured with glorious weather, on Saturday, August 10th, the Midland District of the Ladies' Guild held their second practice meeting at St. Luke's, Wolverhampton.

Ringings commenced shortly before four o'clock, the ladies opened the proceedings by 'manning' the ropes themselves, a notable feature being the creditable manner in which a tiny tot of only ten summers handled her bell after only a fortnight's training. Afterwards touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung by mixed companies, and an all men's touch of Stedman Triples, in which Mr. J. E. Groves rang 3—4, concluded the tower bell part of the programme. Thirty members and friends sat down to an enjoyable tea at Povey's Cafe. The handbells were then requisitioned, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung by Messrs. Groves, Walker, Pigott, Jones and Preston.

The thanks of the company were tendered to Mr. Dan Jones for his excellent arrangements, all agreeing that the meeting had been most enjoyable.

The next meeting takes place at Erdington, on Saturday, September 4th. Will members and friends please note?

SILVER WEDDING CELEBRATION AT CHIDDINGFOLD.

August Bank Holiday being the occasion of the silver wedding of Mr. A. Ashdown, one of the local ringers, Mr. Bartlett, also of the local band, arranged a band for an attempt for Stedman Triples at the Parish Church. After one or two false starts the bells were soon tapping the method in good style, but in the 21st course a trip lead to a shift course and stand was called, much to the regret of all. A quarter-peal of Bob Major was suggested, and the result was a well-struck 1,248, the band being stationed as follows: A. J. Bartlett (Chiddingfold), W. G. Brockhurst (Chiddingfold), W. Shepherd (Hersham), T. Mack (Haslemere), Sergt. R. Carrier (Witley Camp), W. Charman (Craneleigh), T. Attwell (Chiddingfold), Major J. H. B. Hesse (Taddington). Mr. Bartlett was the composer, and Mr. W. Shepherd conducted. Mr. Ashdown entertained the local band and visitors to a knife and fork tea at the Swan Hotel, and during the meal it was found that it was also Mr. T. Mack's silver wedding day.

After the repast, Major Hesse voiced the thanks of those present in a few well-chosen words, and Mr. Ashdown suitably replied, thanking the ringers for the ringing and for their company. Handbell ringing was then indulged in until 7 p.m., when the party dispersed, all voting the time spent most enjoyable, notwithstanding the loss of the peal.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, CLUN.

Clunbury, Clungunford, Clunton, and Clun.
Are the pleasantest places under the sun.

On Thursday evening, the 8th inst., six members of the St. George's Society, Clun, cycled to the village of Clunbury, where hangs a nice ring of six bells, augmented from three by Messrs. Warner and Sons as a jubilee memorial of Queen Victoria's happy reign, the object of the visit was to try and again rouse the band there in half-peal ringing, permission and arrangements had been kindly made by Mrs. Bevan, wife of the Vicar, who is on active service doing duty for King and country.

On arriving at the tower, the bells were raised in peal.

After adjustment of ropes, etc., the bells were soon going to the old familiar tune of Grand sire Doubles, several well-struck six-scores being rung by the following: F. Wolley, Rd. Morris, Rev. H. J. Scott, W. Mead (conductor), and F. A. Watkins.

On conclusion of the ringing, they were met at the door by Master Tom Bevan, who conducted them to the Vicarage, where Mrs. Bevan most kindly had coffee and cake ready, which, needless to say, was much appreciated and enjoyed. The visitors were thanked by the ladies for their beautiful sweet ringing. It transpired that two of the visitors (Messrs. Roberts and Mead) were among the invited ringers who took part in the dedication of the bells thirty years ago. The ringers wish to heartily thank Mrs. Bevan for so kindly entertaining them, and for making arrangements for the visit which was so much enjoyed.

RINGER'S MILITARY HONOURS.

LIEUT. J. W. RUSSELL GAINS THIRD DECORATION.

Mr. F. E. Dawe writes: All friends of John William Russell, late of Ewhurst, will be pleased to hear of the excellent work done by him at the front, where he has been for about three years. During the past year he has gained the Military Medal and the Distinguished Conduct Medal, and followed this up by obtaining a commission on the field in the regiment he voluntarily joined at the outbreak of war, viz., the signalling section of the Royal Engineers. Now comes the news that he has been awarded the Military Cross. Lieut. Russell will be well remembered in the district as a member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, and also the Ancient Society of College Youths, being a skilled and most reliable change ringer. He was also a well known and enthusiastic cricketer in all parts of Surrey. His younger brother, Charles, has also been busily engaged at the front for the last three years in the field ambulance of the R.A.M.C. He was a member and assistant master in the local troop of Boy Scouts. The four sisters and both parents are engaged in work of national importance.

DANIEL PRENTICE FUND.

Donations received at Ipswich, August 5th:—

E. Beckwith	...	...	...	2s.	6d.
F. Claydon	...	...	...	2s.	0d.
H. Rampling	...	...	...	2s.	6d.

This fund is now closed.

DERBY.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Empire Day, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 47 mins.: W. J. Wileman 1, Rev. R. F. Wilkinson 2, C. E. Hart 3, B. Mitchell 4, S. Maskrey 5, W. Wallace 6, E. Willis 7, J. Page, (composer and conductor) 8.

NOTICES.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—(Estab. 1755.)—Special notice.—The Rector of Birmingham and Mrs. Willink extend a hearty invitation to members of the Guild and their wives to spend an hour or two with them in the Rectory garden on Saturday, August 17th. Meeting at 4 o'clock. Light refreshments will be provided.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Worsley on Saturday, August 17th. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, August 17th. Tower opened for ringing at 4 o'clock.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*).

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Olveston on Saturday, August 17th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m.—W. Stafford, Branch Hon. Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. H. Wilson), at Hurlington on Saturday, August 17th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. If possible tea will be arranged. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Kettering District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Barton Seagrave on Saturday, August 24th. Bells ready at 3; service at 4.30. Arrangements will be made at 5 o'clock for a cup of tea, but please bring own rations.—Walter T. Wilson, District Sec., The Pines, Isham, near Kettering.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the Guild will be held at Rye, Sussex, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, A-bford, Kent.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Farnham on Saturday, August 24th. Bells (8) available from 2.30—4 and 6.30—8.30. By kind invitation of the Lord Bishop of Winchester, the Castle Grounds will be open to members at 4 p.m. Service will be held in the Castle Chapel at 5; tea to follow. It is imperative I should know by August 21st how many will be present. If you don't reply, please don't come.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Wells Street, Oxford Street, W., on Saturday, August 24th, from 4 to 8 p.m. All ringers cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 50, Cannon Street, E.C. 4.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Stoke Poges Church on Saturday, August 24th. Tower open from 3 p.m. Bus leaves Slough station about 2.45. Service at 5 p.m.; followed by tea at 6 p.m. Will all those

intending to be present for tea kindly notify Mrs. F. I. Hairs, Strawberry Cottage, Fulmer, Slough, *not later than* August 21st?—E. K. Parker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7; business very important. A good attendance is requested from all towers.—J. H. Haydock, 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The usual monthly meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, August 31st. Bells available from 3 o'clock till dusk; business meeting at 6 p.m.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

INTERCESSION SERVICES AND DAY OF REMEMBRANCE.

FAKENHAM, SS. Peter and Paul.—A peal of 1260 changes of Bob Major was rung on the bells before morning service: G. Beverley 1, C. S. Tutthill 2, W. E. Bason 3, C. Wybrow 4, A. W. Baldwin 5, J. Godfrey 6, P. Cooke 7, R. Cooke (conductor) 8. Time 47 minutes. Tenor 20 cwt.

RICHMOND, YORKS.—On Sunday, August 4th (Commemoration Day), at the Parish Church of St. Mary, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins.: A. Morton 1, J. T. Frenchum 2, Gnr. R. Wood (Billingshurst, Sussex), 3, Gnr. W. Welling (Old Windsor) 4, R. J. Todd 5, Pte. M. E. R. Hibbert (conductor, Bushey), 6. Rung on the back six, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to all those who have lost their lives in the great war.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church, on August 4th, Remembrance Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: J. Shaw 1, F. Hunt 2, T. Blackburn 3, A. King (conductor) 4, H. Wood 5, J. Rookwood 6, L. A. Good-enough 7, Second-Lieut. J. B. Jones, R.F.A., 8. The ringer of eight is from Rickmansworth, and is stationed at the Biscot Camp, Luton.

BAKEWELL, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, August 4th, for the Intercession and Commemorative Service, at which Bishop Abraham preached an eloquent sermon on the objectives of the war, and at which nurses from hospital and wounded soldiers, V.T.C., etc., attended in large numbers, the church being crowded. A 558 of Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, H. Turner 2, J. Fearn 3, A. G. Wallis 4, T. Clarke 5, W. Smith 6, W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, T. Howard 8. The treble and 7th are from Ashton-under-Lyne.

CARDIFF.—Llandaff Association. — A quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1260 changes), at the Church of St. John's, in 50 mins., for evening service, on Sunday, August 4th: Samuel Williams 1, John Harris 2, Harry Day 3, Clarence O. Hobbs 4, William B. Biss 5, William Coombe 6, Sidney Dawe 7, Allen Rowley 8, William Bolton 9, Seymour R. Barker 10. Conducted by William Bolton. First quarter-peal of Caters as conductor. Rung on the anniversary of the declaration of war, and the first visit of Petty Officer Clarence O. Hobbs, after two years at sea. Also for evening service, 188 of Stedman Triples: William Biss (conductor), Clarence O. Hobbs, Harry Day, John Harris, Sidney Dawe, William Bolton, Allen Rowley, Seymour R. Barker.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM ROBERTS, NORTHAMPTON.

The death has occurred of Mr. Wm. Roberts, on July 25th, at his residence, 54, Craven Street, Northampton, at the age of 61 years. He had been in business in Northampton many years as a wheelwright and smith. He was for many years a ringer at St. Giles', Northampton, and took part in the first peal on the ring of ten in 1898. He also took part in the first peal of Double Norwich rung by a local band.

His list of peals are: Doubles, 1; Bob Minor, 1; Grandsire Triples, 4; Stedman Triples, 3; Grandsire Caters, 4; Bob Major, 3; Double Norwich, 2; Bob Royal, 1; total, 19.

He was a respected member of the Central Northamptonshire Association of Church Bell Ringers.

He was buried in Northampton Cemetery on July 27th, the service being conducted by the Rev. T. Hands, Vicar of St. Lawrence. In addition to the family mourners there attended Mr. F. Hopper (vice-president) of the Northampton District of Church Bell Ringers; Mr. S. J. Lawrence, Messrs. W. Faroy, W. Rogers, E. James and H. L. Key, acting as bearers.

Among the floral tributes was one from the Ringers' Association.

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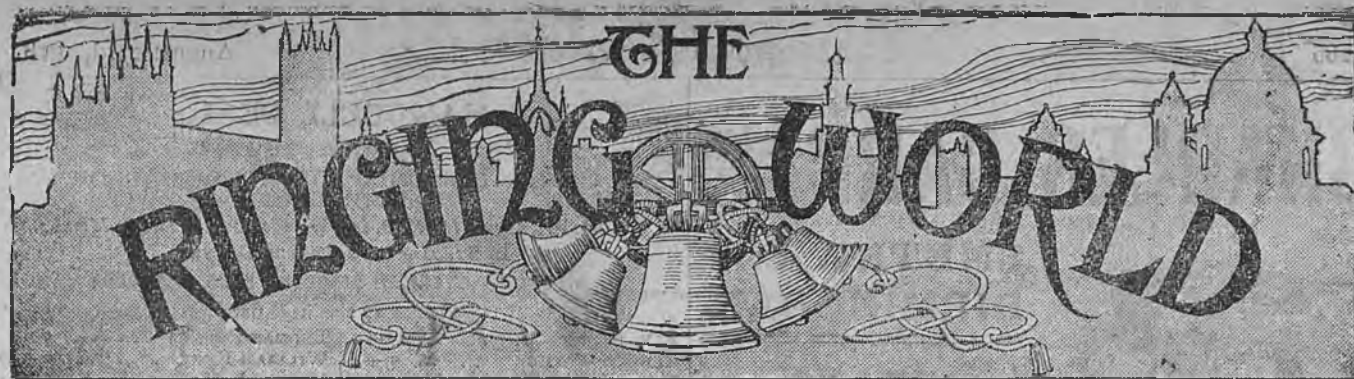
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FRIDAY, AUGUST 23rd, 1918.

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.

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BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



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Wolverhampton.

Senior (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WILFRID CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Messrs GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BLOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

THE NORWICH ASSOCIATION.

Every member of the Norwich Diocesan Association will, we are sure, regret to learn of the resignation of the Secretary, Mr. Charles E. Borrett, who has been compelled by ill-health to relinquish the duties which he has so efficiently discharged for 16 years past. With all the enthusiasm of a keen and clever ringer, Mr. Borrett has carried on the work, not only with credit to himself but to the great advantage of the Association, and his service has covered a period which witnessed a great acquisition to the strength of the organisation, as well as a steady advance in the standard of the methods rung. Mr. Borrett comes of a ringing family, and he was one of a young and earnest band who did great things in the days when big performances were not so common as in the times just before the war. Everyone will hope that Mr. Borrett will recover his health and be long spared to participate in the art which he has done so much to promote in the two counties formerly covered by the Diocese of Norwich.

To succeed him, the Association have been exceedingly fortunate to secure a man, not only deeply interested in ringing, but with practical experience as secretary of a ringing association. Mr. A. L. Coleman was one of the founders of the Warwickshire Guild and its first secretary, and it is interesting to read that he was a son of one of the founders of the Norwich Association. He comes into the task eminently fitted for the post, and the prestige of the Association will be safe in his hands. It is pleasing to note the revival of activity in the Diocese, where for nearly four years no meetings were held. An attendance of 70 members at Ipswich is extremely gratifying, and, while fully justifying the decision to revive these gatherings, was full of encouragement for the future. The excellent financial position of the Association is shown by the decision to invest a further sum of £50 in War Bonds.

While on the subject of the Norwich Diocesan Association, it may not be inappropriate to refer to the record, which appears elsewhere in this issue, of the first peal of Grandsire Triples, which was rung at Norwich just 200 years ago next Monday. The war prevented the bi-centenary of the first peal of Bob Triples (rung in 1715) from being celebrated at St. Peter Mancroft; where it was rung, and the same cause may prevent a commemorative peal of Grandsire being attempted there next week, but perhaps it will be possible for some other towers to celebrate the unique event. Had the times been normal we might have had quite a glut of peals in honour of the occasion, but we hope it will not be passed over quite unnoticed. Even the very composition that the Norwich men performed, the result of the genius of John Garthorn, is available, and although not quite on the orthodox lines of present day peals, it would not be out of place if it were rung as a centenary celebration.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
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HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, August 13, 1918, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
IN ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH BELFRY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5006 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 size in B flat.

ALF. PADDON SMITH	... 1-2	THOMAS RUSSAN	... 7-8
ALBERT WALKER	... 3-4	WILLIAM KENT	... 9-10
JAMES E. GROVES	... 5-6	MORRIS J. MORRIS	... 11-12

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON.

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: MR. J. PIGGOTT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. William Kent.

All the above are members of St. Martin's Church Sunday Service band.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT ISLEWORTH.

Under ideal weather conditions, a very enjoyable time was spent by members of the London County Association on Saturday week at All Saints', Isleworth. Ringing was carried on from about 5 to 8.30 p.m., when a large number from various parts of the Metropolis had the opportunity of a pull on this historic peal, including four ladies.

The business meeting, presided over by the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), was held at the London Apprentice 'hard by', and was also well attended.—Mr. E. V. Everson, of Fakenham, Norfolk, now serving with the A.S.C. at Greenwich, and Mr. Peter Crook, a celebrity, who in peace times was a respected member of the Bolton Police Force, at present stationed at Caterham, and serving with the Machine Gun Corps, attached to the Brigade of Guards, were unanimously elected members.

It was decided to hold a by-meeting at St. Andrew's, Wells Street, Oxford Street, on Saturday, August 24th, commencing at 4 p.m., when it is hoped that ringers generally will avail themselves of this opportunity of paying a visit to hear this fine eight.

The next monthly meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday, September 14th, full particulars of which will appear in the notice column of the 'Ringing World.'

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the authorities of All Saints' for their kindness in permitting the use of the bells, also to Mr. Tom Beadle for his customary kindness and untiring energy in making all arrangements to ensure a most pleasant and successful meeting.

RINGER'S WEDDING AT GLOUCESTER.

An interesting wedding took place at the Parish Church of St. Michael, Gloucester, on Bank Holiday, the bridegroom being Sapper C. H. Austin, R.E., and the bride, Miss Laura Tule.

The marriage service commenced with the hymn, 'The voice that breathed o'er Eden,' and the Rector (the Rev. H. M. Braithwaite, M.A.), who officiated at the ceremony, gave an excellent address. The register having been signed, the happy couple left by the north door to the sound of the bells, and being plentifully besprinkled with confetti. As they proceeded to the station, en route for London, where the honeymoon was spent, the St. Michael's band, assisted by some ringing visitors, rang a touch of Grand sire, Caters, while other touches followed during the afternoon at the Church of St. Mary le Crypt, in honour of the occasion. The visiting ringers were from Newport, London, Birmingham, and Coventry, etc. On the following Sunday evening, at St. Mary le Crypt Church, a short farewell touch was rung, the bridegroom taking part in it, while the bride also rang a few rounds. The bridegroom left later on the evening for France, his brother ringers wishing him a safe and speedy return.

The bridegroom is the second son of Mr. John Austin, the well-known ringer and conductor, and past Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—Lancashire Association. — At the Parish Church, on May 25th, for morning service, 560 Bob Major: J. Huddleston 1. Miss E. M. Stuart 2. Miss Gilchrist 3. T. Watson 4. W. H. Dennison 5. T. Stuart 6. W. S. Forshaw 7. J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For evening service, 720 Bob Major: T. Watson 1. Miss Lindsay 2. Miss Gilchrist 3. Miss E. M. Stuart 4. J. Huddleston 5. T. Stuart 6. W. H. Dennison 7. J. Burrows (conductor) 8. — On Sunday, June 2, for morning service, 560 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1. Miss Lindsay 2. Miss Gilchrist 3. Miss E. M. Stuart 4. J. Huddleston 5. T. Watson 6. W. S. Forshaw 7. J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For evening service, 360 Bob Minor: Miss E. M. Stuart 1. Miss Lindsay 2. Miss Gilchrist 3. T. Watson 4. T. R. Jackson (conductor) 5. W. S. Forshaw 6. J. Burrows 7 (cover).

KILLED IN FRANCE.**WELL-KNOWN MONKSILVER RINGER'S DEATH.**

With very much regret, the numerous friends of William Bennett, of Monksilver, will hear that he was killed in action in France on July 20th last. Pte. Bennett, who was formerly coachman to the Rev. — Dupuis, of Nettlecombe, joined the colours on the 27th March, 1916, and served first as driver in the Wessex R.M. until December, 1916, when he was transferred to the 2nd Welsh Regiment. After about three weeks training in the Infantry, he sailed for France on January 12th, 1917. He encountered some very severe fighting from time to time, but came through this ordeal safely. He came home on leave in February, 1918, and returned to France a fortnight later. His next experience proved fatal, as he was killed by a shell some distance behind the front line. An officer in his battalion, in reporting his death, states: 'Ever since I joined the battalion, I always found Pte. Bennett very keen and hard-working. It may be some little comfort to his relatives to know that he had a Christian burial, at which I was present.'

As a ringer, 'Billy' was well known and respected throughout the Dunster Deanery branch of the Bath and Wells Association, of which he was a member. He was most enthusiastic in ringing, having himself acquired scientific methods, which, in turn, he taught his band at Monksilver, and they accomplished many peals of 5040, rung in various methods on their little ring of five bells. For peals on eight bells he joined with other bands at Minehead and Dunster, having altogether rung 33 peals, 22 of which he conducted for the Association. He was a regular attendant at Deanery meetings, and was always willing to lend a helping hand at the neighbouring towers. He made many journeys to Carlhampton to meet the local band and the Minehead contingent, which included the late Harry Moore, to learn the difficult method 'London Surprise.' It is feared, now these two men have died, that this method will fall into disuse in the district.

A memorial service was held at Monksilver, on Sunday evening, August 11th, and the little church was filled with relations and friends. The service opened with Beethoven's Funeral March. Mr. E. Sangar, an old friend of deceased's, presiding at the organ. The first part of the burial service was sung by the Rev. T. F. Page, locum tenens for the Rev. H. Gardner McTaggart. Special Psalms, 23rd and 46th, were rendered, and the first lesson was read by Mr. Sweet, and the second by Mr. Page. Special prayers followed, and hymn 235 was sung. Then the last part of the burial service was read, and hymn 230 was next sung.—The Rev. E. T. Page announced that he had just received a telegram from the Rector, asking that the collection should be taken for a memorial to William Bennett. An eloquent and touching address was based upon St. John xv. 13, 'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.' In the course of this address, Mr. Page referred to the fact that in his home and village Bennett was honoured and respected by all who knew him, and that he was a faithful servant to his master and a good son to his father and mother. In his church life he was a regular worshipper, and a hard worker for the church. He was painstaking and thorough as a bell-ringer—in fact, he was a king of bell ringers. In his soldier's life he had done his duty to King George as in his everyday life he had been a soldier of Christ.

At the special request of Pte. Bennett's parents, the hymn, 'Lead, kindly light,' was sung, and the service concluded with Handel's 'Dead March in Saul.'

A wreath from his brother ringers had been placed on a stand covered by the Union Jack at the foot of the chancel, with a card bearing the inscription: 'In memory of a true friend and comrade.'

Ringers from Carlhampton, Minehead, Withycombe, Winsford, Sampford Brett, and Stogumber, attended to render a last service to an old comrade, and several touches were rung before and after the service, with bells half-muffled.

Pte. A. Case, of the London Irish Rifles, who previous to joining the colours about 10 months ago, was a ringer at Langport, Somerset, was killed in France on August 6th. He was only 19 years of age. For morning service, at Langport Parish Church, on Sunday last 720 Grandstre Doubles were rung for morning service, with the bells half-muffled: 1. J. Lloyd (conductor) 1. T. W. Creed 2. W. T. Jones 3. F. Westlake 4. F. Locke 5. H. Westlake 6.

EWERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On May 25th, on the occasion of a combined practice, 504 Stedman Triples and 384 Bob Major: Air-Mechanic J. Bragg, Air-Mechanic S. J. Riddell, J. T. Holmes, F. W. Stokes, Flight-Sergeant F. A. Holden, C. Ward, W. Dickinson, W. Wood. Afterwards, 1511 Grandstre Caters: S. O. Skinner 1. S. J. Riddell 2. W. Wood 3. J. T. Holmes 4. F. W. Stokes 5. J. Bragg 6. F. A. Holden (conductor) 7. W. Dickinson 8. C. Ward 9. G. Smith 10. Composed by Wm. Marks, Leatherhead.

MITCHAM.—On Sunday, May 26th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (composed by C. Charge): W. S. Smith 1. J. D. Drowell 2. A. Clayton 3. C. R. Grimwood 4. C. Bance 5. A. Colver 6. W. H. Joiner (conductor) 7. J. Ourrell 8.

SAFETY CHIMING APPARATUS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In your leading article of August 16th, you mentioned a suggestion of a practical nature that was put forward some time ago by Mr. J. R. Jerram, of Salisbury, viz., a locking arrangement which would prevent the doors, enclosing the chiming apparatus being shut, when the hammers are in action. I would like to say that Messrs. John Warner and Sons have installed a good many of these in various churches up and down the country. They are constructed with this special feature to prevent as far as possible such a disaster as the Rev. C. E. Matthews wrote to you about. The rail across the case with chime ropes attached is kept nearly to the front of the case when in action; this prevents doors from being closed.—Yours faithfully,

Bishop's Hull, Taunton.

J. HUNT.

ANOTHER DEVICE.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—With regard to the arrangement for preventing chiming apparatus from being left in gear, which I recommended some time ago, and which you allude to in your article of the 16th inst., I may say that there is also an arrangement by which the door of the chamber in which the manual is fixed may be connected by a rod with a crank, which knocks the pawl out of the ratchet wheel when the door is opened. It is necessary to shut the door before the apparatus can be put into gear, and as soon as the chimer opens it to go downstairs the hammers are immediately thrown out of gear. This device is useful where the manual is not enclosed in a lock-up case.

I may say that it is always best to have the manual in the ringing floor. It often happens that, where the bells are rung from the floor above, the manual is fixed in the church below for the convenience of the chimer. This arrangement is always attended with more or less danger.—Yours, etc.,

Salisbury, August 19th, 1918.

J. R. JERRAM.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**A MEETING ON THE ISLAND.**

A very pleasant ringing meeting was held at Ryde, on Bank Holiday last. Owing to the wet weather and restricted boat accommodation, not many travelled from the mainland. The bells of All Saints' Church were set going soon after two o'clock, and the probationers had a fine practice. Then the Newport band arrived, and with three of the Ryde company and Mr. Brinklow, from Oxhey, Herts; Mr. Rowe, from Herisham; Gunner Twyman, from Southsea; three probationers from Wickham, and three probationers and two ringers from Portsea, made up the total company. Some very nice touches of Grandstre Triples, Stedman Triples and Bob Major were brought round, conducted by Mr. Ward (Ryde), Mr. Jennings (Newport), Messrs. Harri, and Harding (Portsea), and Mr. Brinklow (Oxhey). Treble Bob Major was then practised, and the plain course almost brought round, and we may look forward to the Newport band accomplishing that method before long under the leadership of Mr. Jennings. As the boat left at 5.40, time did not permit of any tea or meeting, and as the visitors left the pier the bells were still going to Grandstre Triples, which had a very pleasing effect. Although it had been a wet and miserable day, it did not mar the pleasure of the ringers, who left with the satisfaction of something attempted, something done.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A MACCLESFIELD RINGER.

The Macclesfield Parish Church company has sustained a severe loss by the tragically sudden death of Alfred Mottershead. Deceased was at his post ringing for service on Sunday evening, August 11th, apparently in his usual health. On the following day he died suddenly at his work. The news came as a great shock to all who knew him, as he was the picture of health. At the inquest, which was held, the medical evidence showed that death was due to syncope, caused by fatty degeneration of the heart.

It is just about 25 years since Mr. Mottershead started ringing, and he had been a regular ringer, with one short break, for 23 years. He had taken part in nine peals altogether. He was most regular in attendance, both for practice and service ringing, and it was a rare thing for him to be either late or absent.

The funeral took place on Thursday, August 15th, at the Macclesfield Cemetery, four of the deceased's brother ringers acting as bearers. There were many floral tributes, the one from the local band being in the form of a bell. After the coffin had been lowered into the grave, the hymn, 'Rock of Ages,' was sung, and the handbells were rung for a short time. A touch of Grandstre Triples was afterwards rung on the Parish Church bells, which were muffled. On the following evening, a quarter-peal was attempted, with the bells half-muffled, but was lost owing to a miss call.

SOUTH HACKNEY.—At St. John's Church, on Sunday, May 26th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 48 mins.: C. Stephenson 1. W. A. Alps (conductor) 2. A. A. Hughes 3. G. J. Smith 4. R. Sanders 5. R. G. Fenn 6. H. G. Alford 7. A. Riley 8.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

METHOD CONSTRUCTION.

MR. TROLLOPE AND THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—Mr. Davies maintains all his complaints and strictures to the full. So be it. I especially note the word 'all' and if and when I am able to attend another Council meeting, I shall have a word or two to say. Meanwhile, I will try and answer in some sort one or two of his questions.

Mr. Davies is a clever man, and a recognised authority on some things in ringing. He knows as much as anyone, and much more than all but a very few, about peals of Grandsire Triples. He knows a good deal about Stedman Triples—far more than I do. But, like the rest of mankind, his knowledge is not so great in some things as in others. He has never troubled himself much about Major methods, and the questions of method construction were, until lately, no concern of his. He took no part in the many controversies which led to the appointing of the Method Committee, and had no interest whatever in what it did or he many discussions in which it was concerned. Herein he was in the company of many thousands of other ringers. They did not bother themselves about the matter. Only once he started (so we are told) to work out some Treble Bob methods, but apparently this was just an isolated incident. (I may, perhaps, point out that the ability to write out a few methods does not necessarily involve any knowledge of method construction.) Then he visited Mr. John Carter and took one of these methods to ring on his machine. So far so good. But Mr. Law James saw this method and expressed his opinion of it. He did more; he expressed it in the full Law James' manner. And then, as the saying goes, the fat was in the fire. Mr. Davies now realised that not only his own cherished method, but actually Union Triples also was included in the condemnation. With that, his soul boiled within him. He laughed a scornful laugh, and summoned his varlet. 'Bring me my tomahawk,' he said, 'before the night falls I will have Law James' scalp!'

Now, though I do not myself share the feeling, I can understand the thirst some men have for Mr. James' blood. I understand, I say. I do not say I justify or excuse. There it is. But I do submit that it is hardly an adequate reason for attacking the honesty and ability of quite other people, or for running amok among the work they have patiently been doing for years.

And anyway a dislike of Mr. James' manner and a prejudice in favour of Union Triples do not make a man an authority on method construction. These, however, are Mr. Davies' chief qualifications. This will, perhaps, explain somewhat my use of the word 'ignorant'. Yet since I am not in the habit of being personal in controversy, may I say that I did not intend the word in any offensive sense, and that I used it at a time when my patience had sorely been tried. For one hour and a half—ninety weary minutes—I had had to listen to a tedious flow of words, of which the whole tenor and purport was that I and my colleagues were incompetent fools and knaves. That speech contained quite a number of surprisingly silly things (surprisingly silly, that is, for a man of Mr. Davies' ability). Such, for instance, as when he gravely informed us that in Double Norwich you have a course-bell up behind, but when you come away down toward the front you meet that bell coming up to pass you in the middle. Still, though my patience was tried, I did not, as I say, use the word in any offensive sense. I meant merely that Mr. Davies was talking about what he did not understand. After all, you don't gain knowledge in this matter, any more than in any other, from prejudice and intuition. You have to take trouble and learn.

I am just a little amused at Mr. Davies' demand, that I should 'once for all, in plain black and white, give some adequate explanation' of method construction. The demand strikes me as a trifle cool. Time back, when I thought he really wanted to argue the matter, and before I realised that he had dug up the hatchet and was out for blood, I placed all these explanations, proofs and illustrations at his full disposal. He curtly declined them. He wanted to smash the Method Committee, not to understand it. To tear it limb from limb, to cast it a mockery and a sham before the scornful eyes of the Exercise. Especially Mr. Law James. Always especially Mr. Law James. And now? I should have thought that by this time rumours of a war being on would have penetrated even into his quiet and secluded country rectory. If he came out here he would find that there is some foundation for the rumour. Does he think I carry a reference library about with me? or that up in the line here is a suitable place to draw up a complex scientific statement. And if I did would it do any good? I doubt it. You can't convince any man who has made up his mind that he is not going to be convinced. Why try then? I hope I shall be able to make the statement one day. I have been working at it for twenty years, and it is practically ready. When it is made it will not be made in controversy, nor to prove anybody is wrong or even that I am right.—Yours truly,

B.E.F., France, August 12th, 1918.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

THANKS.

The Editor thanks the many correspondents who have sent their good wishes for his restoration to health. He has now returned to his duties, much benefited by the course of treatment which he has undergone.

BI-CENTENARY OF FIRST PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

THE RECORD AND THE COMPOSITION.

A most interesting anniversary falls on Monday next, and in ordinary times would doubtless have called for special commemoration. This is no other than the 200th anniversary of the first peal of Grandsire Triples, which was rung at St. Peter Mancroft Church, Norwich, on August 26th, 1718. The peal is thus recorded in the tower:—

On the 26th of August, 1718, was rung that Harmonious Peal called Grandsire Triples, which have been ye study of ye most ingenious men of this Age who delight in ye art of Variations, but all their projections have proved errors until it was undertaken by JOHN GARTHON, who, with long Study and Practice, have perfectly discovered those Intricate methods which were hidden from the eyes of all the ringers in England; the extent of this peal being 5,040 changes, have oftentimes been rung with changes alike, but the first time that ever it was rung true, was in three hours and a half, without any changes alike or a bell out of course, by these men whose names are underwritten against their Bells as they rung:—James Brook, treble, John Briggs 2nd, William Palmer 3rd, Robert Crane 4th, Honory Howard 5th, Wm. Callow 6th, Tho. Melchior 7th, Tho. Barrett tenor.

The composition of this peal has been preserved to us, and is thus given in Snowdon's 'Grandsire':—

First Quarter Peal.				Second Quarter Peal.			
234567	1	2	3	435267	1	2	3
247563	—	*	—	357462	—	—	—
273564	—	*	—	372465	—	*	—
734265	—	—	—	725364	—	—	—
345762	—	—	—	254763	—	—	—
452367	—	—	—	543267	—	—	—
427365	—	*	—	537264	—	*	—
275463	—	—	—	574263	—	*	—
753264	—	—	—	743562	—	—	—
534762	—	—	—	432765	—	—	—
342567	—	—	—	325467	—	—	—

The above twice repeated will come round at the quarter-peal end, but by substituting a fifth's place bob for the common one at the 30th course-end, the course-end 1435267 will be produced.

The above ten courses twice repeated, substituting a bob-single for the common bob at the 60th course - end, produces 1432567, the end of the first half peal.

Fifth's place Bob				Bob-Single			
6413725				3412576			
6147352				3145267			
1674325				1345276			
1763452				1432567			
7164325				4135276			
7613452				4312567			

Shipway, in his 'Art of Kinging,' published in 1816, says concerning the first peal of Grandsire Triples:—

From the earliest period of this entertaining art, in all parts of the Kingdom, the peal of Grandsire Triples appears to have engaged considerable attention, and to have been anxiously sought, though without success, by many eminent practitioners; who were at last inclined to consider as fruitless any attempt which had for its object the attainment of 5040 true changes. The honour of this valuable production, it seems, is claimed both by Norwich and London. The state of the controversy is as follows:—

On the part of Norwich it is said that the 5040 was the study of the most ingenious men of the age, and that all was error till John Garthon, of that city, after considerable perseverance, discovered what had been so long hidden from the eyes of all ringers in England. It was also stated that the peal was rung at St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich, on the 26th August, 1718.

On the part of London it is asserted in "The Clavis," that had it not been for Mr. John Holt, this valuable treasure had probably been at this moment fast locked up in the barren womb of sterile obscurity, and that the peal was first rung by the Union Scholars, London, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on the 17th of July, 1751.

Without pretending to decide, I shall briefly remark that if the peal had been rung in Norwich, in 1718, it appears unaccountably strange that information on so important a discovery had not reached London in 1751, and that the composition of the same peal should then have been considered original and generally attributed to Mr. Holt. It is also further remarkable that of the three peals, viz.: Bob Triples in 1715; Grandsire Triples in 1718; and Stedman Triples in 1731, said to have been rung at St. Peter's Mancroft, not one can be found to ascertain the truth, whereas Mr. Holt's peals are universally rung and indisputably correct.

Commenting on Shipway's remarks, the late Mr. Jasper Snowdon, in whose researches the Exercise owes so much, says in 'Grandsire':—

From Shipway's remarks it will be seen that he did not know

anything further than what could be gathered from the pages of "The Clavis," and indeed he only condemns the Norwich peal by default—no record of the composition having been preserved. As he remarks, it would have been strange if the Norwich peal had not been known in London before 1751; I think, however, that it can be shown that not only was the Norwich peal known, but that it had been rung in London many years before that time. Shipway then gives and reviews the peals of Holt previously alluded to after which follows the bob and single peal from "The Clavis." This peal he states to be "By an unknown author." From this it is evident that the peal was not one of Mr. Holt's, or it would have been classed with his other discoveries, as they all seem to have been well known. It is also improbable that it was the production of a Londoner, or his name would have been known to Shipway. It would also for that reason appear to have been composed some time before Shipway's connection with change ringing, or surely he would have known who was its author, especially had it been composed in London, because there were many old ringers alive when Shipway wrote, who could have thrown some light on the subject. Of its origin, had it been of any recent date, these men would also have heard had it been claimed as the production of any of the Metropolitan section. It is very strange that Shipway, who, from the different notes of first performances, etc., to be found in his book, always seems to have been well posted in all such matters, should have dismissed this peal without any remark or conjecture as to the date of its origin, or the name of its composer, as it is composed upon a plan which I shall hereafter show to be as old as the Norwich peal.

Mr. Snowdon then goes on to show how a manuscript of the figures given above came into his hands, indirectly, through the late Henry Hubbard, from a person in Nottingham who claimed relationship with Garthon. He adds that, after examining the peal: 'The conclusion I came to was that, on account of the variety of calls used the composition had not met with the approval of those who had not been connected with its performance, and that in accordance with the proverb, "Give a dog a bad name, etc." from a mere condemnation of the composition of this account, its reputation had suffered so severely that its character as to truth had at length been affected, and thus eventually the peal had come to be handed about as a false composition. There was one interesting fact, however, established by the production of this peal, and that was the antiquity of the three-lead course plan of composition.

When the early date at which the Norwich peal was rung is taken into consideration, I think it must be allowed that it was a most creditable composition, and until supplanted by a less complicated production, was well adapted to supply the want of a true and complete 5040 in this method. My readers from the evidence now before them may think that I am taking for granted, without sufficient proof, that the composition obtained from Hubbard was the actual one rung at Norwich. Since the peal first came into my hands through this channel, additional evidence as to its identity with the Norwich has, however, come to light.

This evidence Mr. Snowdon proceeds to give, coupled with records of peals of Grandsire rung in the years intervening between 1718 and 1751, which makes the matter pretty conclusive.

Perhaps, even though it is war time, there will be some tower in the country where the bi-centenary may be celebrated next Monday.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT HARLINGTON.

A merry party, whose number was below the average, met at Harlington on Saturday last, when the ring of six bells gave out their tones and semijones to Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob and Kent Minor, several of the ladies present taking part. One is sure to get a genial welcome at Harlington, and the Vicar (the Rev. H. Wilson) met the first arrivals at the church, took tea with the ringers, and afterwards presided at the meeting.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for his great kindness, to which he suitably replied.—The District Master (Mr. T. Beadle) was present, and seconded a proposition made by Mr. C. Edwards (West Ealing), that two local ringers—Mrs. F. M. Newman and Miss M. E. Newman—be enrolled as members of the Association. These ladies, together with Miss Sybil Howard, kindly arranged the tea so much enjoyed by all. Miss Nora Williams and Miss Felcham cycled from Hillingdon, and H. Brooks and a juvenile came from Isleworth. During the ringing a good touch of 216 Kent Treble Bob was tapped off, by: T. Beadle 1. W. Lawrence 2. J. Payne 3. C. Bird 4. H. C. Chandler 5. George M. Kilby (conductor) 6.

A NOTEWORTHY ACHIEVEMENT.

In connection with the handbell peal at Birmingham, recorded elsewhere in this issue, it is interesting to note that it was rung by six members of St. Martin's Sunday service band. This band, twelve in number, have now rung a peal of Stedman Cinques on the tower bells at St. Martin's, and a peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells in the belfry. This is probably a new record.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

HILLINGDON.—Middlesex Association.—On Saturday, May 25th at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: Miss Emmé Fuller 1. W. H. Hewett 2. T. Smith 3. W. Henley 4. J. J. Pratt (conductor) 5. A. Mason 6. W. Lawrence 7. W. J. Bateman 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Fuller. Afterwards, touches of Stedman, Grandsire, Treble Bob and Double Norwich, in which Misses G. Bateman, W. M. Cooper, F. Gudgin and Miss D. G. Feltham and G. Gutteridge took part.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—On Sunday, May 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): Mrs. A. E. Reeves 1. W. Hibbert 2. G. Essex 3. R. T. Hibbert 4. Lieut. A. E. Reeves 5. E. J. Menday 6. E. W. Menday (conductor) 7. H. Simmonds 8; and on Tuesday, May 28th, 672 Bob Major: Miss D. Batten 1. L. Osborne 2. Miss E. Goodship 3. A. Wiggins 4. A. W. Osborne 5. R. S. Hibbert (conductor) 6. H. Egby 7. W. Hibbert 8; and 504 Stedman Triples: Miss D. Batten 1. L. Osborne 2. A. W. Osborne 3. A. Wiggins 4. W. Hibbert 5. R. S. Hibbert (conductor) 6. H. Egby 7. H. Simmonds 8. These two touches were rung on the 18th birthday of W. Hibbert, all the band wishing him many more happy and prosperous years.—On Sunday evening, June 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): G. Essex 1. E. W. Menday 2. J. Hands 3. R. S. Hibbert 4. W. Hibbert (conductor) 5. H. Smith 6. E. J. Menday 7. H. Simmonds 8. Rung as a farewell touch to the conductor, who joined the colours on Wednesday, the 12th June.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—On Tuesday, May 28th, 672 Bob Major: Miss D. Batten 1. L. Osborne 2. G. Essex 3. A. W. Osborne 4. A. Wiggins 5. R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 6. H. Simmonds 7. W. Hibbert 8; and 504 Stedman Triples: Miss D. Batten 1. L. Osborne 2. G. Essex 3. R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 4. A. W. Osborne 5. A. Wiggins 6. W. Hibbert 7. H. Simmonds 8. The two touches were rung on the 18th birthday of W. Hibbert, all the band wishing him the usual compliments.—On Sunday, June 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: H. W. Smith 1. E. W. Menday 2. J. Hands 3. R. T. Hibbert 4. W. Hibbert (conductor) 5. G. Essex 6. E. J. Menday 7. H. Simmonds 8. This quarter-peal was rung as a farewell to the conductor on his last visit to the tower as a civilian.

WRAXALL.—On May 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Staley 1. Miss M. C. N. Jukes 2. Miss A. Stokes 3. Miss E. M. Hole 4. E. Goldstone 5. Miss N. Gillingham 6. W. Gillingham (conductor) 7. J. Nisbet 8.

SHREWSBURY.—St. Chad's Society.—On Sunday, June 1st, at St. Chad's Church, for evening service, 572 of Kent Treble Bob Major with 8-10 covering: G. Scarrat 1. Pte. G. Burrows 2. G. Byolin 3. W. Brooks 4. W. Stockdale 5. G. Jones 6. A. Pullick 7. H. Jones 8. C. R. Lilley (conductor) 9. J. Evans 10. Also 168 of Stedman Triples, with 9, 8, 10 covering.—On May 25th, 352 Bob Major: R. Turner 1. G. Byolin 2. W. Brooks 3. G. Scarrat 4. W. Stockdale 5. G. Jones 6. G. Burrows 7. C. R. Lilley (conductor) 8.

HALLOW, WORCESTER.—On Sunday, June 2nd, for evening service, in 48 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. Bowkett 1. T. Lane 2. W. Lewis (first quarter) 3. W. Rouse 4. T. Bullock 5. G. Cheeketts (conductor) 6. G. Jacob (first quarter) 7. J. Batchelor 8.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, June 2nd, at St. Denis Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Bishop, junr., 1. A. Piper 2. T. Lade 3. H. M. Smith 4. H. R. Butler 5. C. Brazier 6. Jas. Hart (conductor) 7. E. Bishop, senr., 8.

EYESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, June 2nd, at the Abbey Tower, for morning service, in 53 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes): G. J. Hemming (first quarter) 1. J. Hemming 2. H. J. Phipps 3. H. Jordan 4. F. Johnson 5. C. W. Jones 6. F. Jordan 7. G. Cheeketts (conductor) 8. E. Watkins 9. F. Jinks 10.

ANOTHER VISIT TO SOMERSET VILLAGES.

The second of the cycling trips to the village towers was made in beautiful weather on a recent Sunday. The first place visited was Shaplegrave, and here the party consisted of Messrs. W. Sealey, Bishops Lydeard; F. Pole, Fitzhead; A. Tout, A. C. Harvey, Milverton; H. V. Young and G. Jones, Chipstable. After about 30 minutes' ringing on the light peal of five, the party moved on to West Monkton. Here they were met by some of the local men, and in a few minutes the beautiful peal of six was set going. The ringing was greatly enjoyed, it being the best toned peal yet visited, and if augmented would make a very fine peal of eight, the tenor being 20 cwt. A few minutes' spin brought the party to Durston, where there is a very light peal of five, so light indeed that it proved the undoing of some of the heavy-weight ringers. North Curry, the next stopping place, was reached at 5.30, and with the assistance of two local men, Messrs. F. Case and T. Dare, the peal of eight was kept going until service time. The last place to be visited was North Petherton, which was reached at 7.45. The fine peal of six (tenor 21 cwt.) was kept going till 8.30, when the visitors retired to the Clarence Hotel for refreshment, which had been thoughtfully provided by the curate-in-charge, the Rev. Lockyer, a kindness much appreciated. The weather being all that could be desired, the trip was more enjoyable, from a cyclist point of view, than the previous one.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Kettering District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Barton Seagrave on Saturday, August 24th. Bells ready at 3; service at 4.30. Arrangements will be made at 5 o'clock for a cup of tea, but please bring own rations.—Walter T. Wilson, District Sec., The Pines, Isham, near Kettering.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the Guild will be held at Rye, Sussex, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Farnham on Saturday, August 24th. Bells (8) available from 2.30—4 and 6.30—8.30. By kind invitation of the Lord Bishop of Winchester, the Castle Grounds will be open to members at 4 p.m. Service will be held in the Castle Chapel at 5; tea to follow.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Wells Street, Oxford Street, W., on Saturday, August 24th, from 4 to 8 p.m. All ringers cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 50, Cannon Street, E.C. 4.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Stoke Poges Church on Saturday, August 24th. Tower open from 3 p.m. Bus leaves Slough station about 2.45. Service at 5 p.m.; followed by tea at 6 p.m. Will all those intending to be present for tea kindly notify Mrs. F. I. Hairs, Strawberry Cottage, Fulmer, Slough, not later than August 21st?—E. K. Parker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7; business very important. A good attendance is requested from all towers.—J. H. Haydock, 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Waldron to-morrow (Saturday), August 24th. Ringing from 3 o'clock until sunset. Tea by kind invitation of the Rector, Canon Humble-Crofts. Short service after tea and business meeting.—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Sec., 'Kenilworth,' Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The usual monthly meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, August 31st. Bells available from 3 o'clock till dusk; business meeting at 6 p.m.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the Guild will be held at St. Luke's, Blakenhall, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, Sept. 7th. The bells will be available from 3 o'clock; service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the Vicar, who will also preside at the business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Twyford on Saturday, August 31st.—J. W. Elkins, District Sec.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Almondsbury, Glos., on Saturday, Sept. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow. Members and friends cordially invited. Will those who require tea, kindly notify me not later than Sept. 2nd? —N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting and 8-bell contest will take place at Brighouse on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Draw for order of ringing at 2.45. *No refreshments provided.*—W. Frith, Sec., 5, Lufton Street, Birkby, Huddersfield.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next and last meeting of this summer series will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Twelve bells available from 3 o'clock.—Sam. Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. T. Walker, Hon. Sec. of the London County Association, has removed to 50, Cannon Street, E.C.4.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Mr. William Willson, senr., having joined the Royal Air Force, Mr. J. Morris, 11, Devonshire Street, Leicester, is now Secretary of the Leicester District.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

RINGERS ENTERTAINED AT REIGATE.

On a recent Saturday afternoon, by kind permission, the bell ringers from Immanuel and St. Leonard's Churches, Streatham, rang some merry touches on the bells at the Parish Church, Reigate. At the invitation of Mr. A. Lorkin, who, by the way, is an enthusiastic campanologist, the party proceeded to Somersfield Cottage, London Road, Reigate, where they were entertained to tea. Afterwards an interesting discussion took place on the merits of various methods of bell ringing. Mr. Daniels, who was one of the party, conducts the ringing at Immanuel Church, Streatham. Mr. Shepherd, another of the party, also hails from the same place, and is now in his 73rd year. Both spoke most highly of the tone of the bells in the Parish Church, Reigate. During the discussion, Mr. Shepherd stated that over 50 years ago he had rung the bells at Immanuel Church, Streatham, and on that occasion the peal consisted of 5040 changes, taking 3 hrs. 20 mins. to complete. It appears that Reigate is at present very short of bell ringers, two old friends having passed away during the last three months, and for whom half-muffled peals were rung. The ringers on Saturday were accompanied by a few of the Reigate members, and at the conclusion of the gathering, Mr. Lorkin was thanked for his hospitality in so heartily entertaining the ringers. The opportunity was taken to comment on the historic nature of the town, and the beautiful surroundings of Reigate.—Mr. Lorkin suitably replied, and expressed the hope that it would not be long before he again had the pleasure of welcoming them to Reigate. The members present then returned to London by train, after having spent a most enjoyable day.

OATLANDS, SURREY.—On Sunday, June 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), from Holt's Original: Miss Ida Woodrow 1, P. L. Miles (Kensington) 2, C. E. Lathbury 3, D. A. Rowe 4, A. Diserens (Sunbury) 5, F. Shepherd, senr., 6, F. J. Shepherd (conductor) 7, R. Snow 8. At the conclusion, the Vicar and Mrs. Verd Leigh entered the belfry and congratulated the band on the good striking, they having been listeners outside.

LONDON.—On Sunday, June 2nd, for morning service, at Christ Church, Cubitt Town, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: C. Clarke 1, A. S. Beer 2, H. Hawkins (conductor) 3, F. W. Thornton 4, I. G. Shade 5, H. Hoskins 6, T. Jakoman 7, Pte. C. V. Ebberson, A.S.O., 8.

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writing to the Vicar of Minchinhampton, Lord Grimthorpe said:—"Smith
of Derby will clock you in the best way and as near eternity as possible."

"The World's Best Bellropes"

PROVED IN THE RINGING OF THE
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BEFORE THE WAR, AND PRICES VERY
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It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

Diameter	2½in.	2¾in.	3½in.	3¾in.	4in.	4½in.	5in.
Price	16/-	22/6	28/6	35/-	45/-	55/-	67/6

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THOMAS DOBLE & SON, Church Bell-
Hangers, TAUNTON.—Bells Hung on the
most approved principles Old Bells Re-cast,
New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.
Ellacombe's Chiming Apparatus fixed, Hand-
bells in sets, Chromatic or Diatonic.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 389. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BROM,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

AFTER THE WAR.

A month ago we made some observations in this column upon the desirability of Associations dealing with the question of "reconstruction" after the war. This is a subject which, as we then pointed out, is as much the concern of the organised societies as of the individual towers; indeed, we think that, unless they receive the encouragement and help of their Associations, there are many belfries where there will be little or no attempt at revival. By force of circumstances ringing has reached its lowest ebb for many years past, but there is no reason why, with properly developed effort, it may not rise as quickly as it has fallen. This, however, will not come about without organisation, and the means of organisation are in the hands of the Associations.

The whole subject is one which ought to occupy the attention of ringers at their various meetings, for the day, we hope, is not far distant when the schemes will be required. It opens a subject for discussion, and will provide a channel for practical effort. One of the first steps must be to ascertain how far bands have been depleted, what has already been done to fill the gaps, and to what extent the actual ringing standard has been reduced. With this information before them, Associations would then be more or less in a position to gauge what help is likely to be required of them. This assistance might be given in various ways, and different towers will require different treatment. But a scheme on well-conducted lines will be far better than a haphazard plan fixed up at the last moment when it is found that "reconstruction," left to look after itself, has collapsed from inanition.

Many methods will doubtless suggest themselves to those who think the matter out; but to our mind the surest way of re-establishing ringing after the war is to start now and get together a good band, if only of "round" ringers in every tower, so that "when the boys come home" the belfries will be well organised to meet them, and so set off adequately manned to climb again to the heights of campanological efficiency. Arrangements for the instruction of new bands, and for the interchange of visits between neighbouring towers are methods likely to promote the end in view, and in these things the Associations can not only encourage but help in a practical way. It just needs somebody to take the first step, and the rest, if not easy, is fairly sure of accomplishment. The important point is to get to work without loss of time. It may mean that some little trouble will be involved, but nothing is achieved without trouble, and we are sure the result will more than justify the efforts put forth, for we are all desirous of seeing the Art re-established in the eminent position it occupied before the war.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



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BIRMINGHAM**

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**FOR CHURCHES,
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OR IN PEALS.**

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

**PEALS AUGMENTED,
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**IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
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Chiming Machines.

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OF ALL KINDS.

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**MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.
BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.**

**BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers**

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

**Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford**

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

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Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc. etc

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SHENSTONE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.**

*On Saturday, August 10, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE F. SWANN Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS 5
THOMAS BLOORE 2	CHARLES DICKENS 6
GEORGE PIGGOTT 3	FREDERICK DICKENS 7
CHARLES WALTHMAN 4	JAMES REYNOLDS Tenor

Conducted by **GEORGE F. SWANN.**

Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Lieut. Michael V. Molloy (son of the Vicar and Mrs. Molloy), of the 2nd Battalion, Sherwood Foresters, who fell in action whilst leading his men at Hooze, on August 9th, 1915.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, August 17, 1918, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOSEPH BROADLEY Treble	JOSEPH WOOD 5
JOE GARNETT 2	FIRTH HOPWOOD 6
REV. A. T. BEESTON 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
W. ARTHUR HUDSON 4	HERBERT DRANSFIELD Tenor

Composed by **J. J. BREIRLEY, of Saddleworth.**

Conducted by **JOSEPH BROADLEY.**

It is over 20 years since a peal was rung on these bells.

BIRMINGHAM.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.**

*On Monday, August 19, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOSEPH PIGOTT Treble	JAMES GEORGE 5
JAMES E. GROVES 2	WILLIAM H. GEORGE 6
WILLIAM HOLBROOK 3	HARRY CHAPMAN 7
A. PADDON SMITH 4	AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor

Conducted by **JAMES E. GROVES.**

Rung as a farewell peal of John B. Collett, the deputy tower keeper, who has been called to the Colours. This was Mr. James George's 700th peal of Stedman Triples. The band was very generously entertained by Mr. Trippier after the peal.

HENBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, August 24, 1918, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.*

A PEAL OF GRANDBIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

J. CARTER'S TWELVE-PART; No. 61 in Council Collection of peals.	
FRED G. MAY Treble	PT. JOS. NICHOLLS, A.S.C. 5
ALFRED PEARCE 2	FREDK. W. WADE 6
MRS. E. J. WILSON 3	ISAAC LONG 7
GILBERT PEARCE 4	URIAH BRAVEN Tenor

Conducted by **FRED G. MAY.**

Mrs. Wilson belongs to Portishead and it is her first peal with a working bell. The peal was arranged for her.

BELLS WELCOME REPATRIATED MEN.

The pealing of the church bells, as well as the cheers of a large crowd, the waving of flags, and the sounding of ships' syrens, formed part of the stirring welcome given at Boston, Lines, on Sunday to 242 repatriated British prisoners of war, who landed from Germany.

MILES PLATTING, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, August 24, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Taylor's Six-Part. Tenor 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. 22 lbs.

MISS EMMA TONGE Treble	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 5
ARTHUR RIDYARD 2	FRANK STONELEY 6
JOSEPH HALL 3	PTE. W. H. JAMES 7
WILLIAM H. SHUKER 4	AMOS SIMPSON Tenor

Conducted by FRANK STONELEY.

Arranged for Pte. W. H. James, South Lancashire Regt., who hails from Cobham, Surrey, and who is stationed at Heaton Park, it being his first peal on eight bells. The ringer of the fourth hails from Pendleton, fifth from Ashton-under-Lyne, the rest are of the local company.

EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, August 24, 1918, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... Treble	JAMES PARKER 5
EDWARD F. COLE 2	WILLIAM A. ALPS 6
CHARLES V. HARE 3	GEORGE PAICE 7
WILBY J. HAZELL 4	CHARLES ROCHESTER ... Tenor

Conducted by Miss E. K. PARKER.

Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Herbert Cartwright and Miss Sarah Johnson, the bride being a member of the local band.

The following three peals were arranged for Mr. E. J. Pannett, of Lewisham, and Mr. E. B. Crowder, of St. John's, Deptford.

HAWKHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Taylor's Bob and Single. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs.

JOHN BLAKE Treble	EDWIN J. PANNETT 5
CHARLES TRIBE 2	ALBERT E. EDWARDS 6
WALTER H. PERRY 3	ERNEST B. CROWDER 7
OLDER WAGHORN 4	FRANK CHAPMAN Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 22, 1918, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Carter's Twelve-Part. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN BLAKE Treble	OLDER WAGHORN 5
FREDERICK G. BURDEN ... 2	ERNEST B. CROWDER 6
ALBERT E. EDWARDS 3	CHARLES TRIBE 7
EDWIN J. PANNETT 4	*RICHARD BARMIN Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

* First peal.

BRIGHTLING, SUSSEX.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 24, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS A BECKET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Vicar's. Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN CROWDER Treble	WALTER H. PERRY 5
JAMES ARTHURS 2	ALBERT E. EDWARDS 6
EDWIN J. PANNETT 3	ERNEST B. CROWDER 7
CHARLES TRIBE 4	*TRAYTON BOOTH Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

* Elected a member of the association in the tower.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WOODSTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 17, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob; each called differently.

FRANK DAINTY Treble	TOM VAUGHAN 4
WILLIAM WALDRON 2	HERBERT HOARE 5
FRED COOK 3	TOM TEBBITT Tenor

Conducted by TOM TEBBITT.

HUNTINGTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 25, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

AUGUSTUS HATFIELD ... Treble	*ROBERT B. SMITH 4
W. ARTHUR HUDSON 2	SERGT. E. MORRIS, A.S.C. 5
*H. NOBLE IMESON 3	EDWARD RICKITT Tenor

Conducted by SERGEANT ERNEST MORRIS, A.S.C.

* First of Minor. First peal on these bells. The ringers of the 3rd and 6th hail from York, treble from Hemingbrough, 2nd from Birstal, 4th from Howden, 5th from Leicester.

HANDBELL PEAL.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 25, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT 35, ALBANY ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Original.

WALTER S. WISE 1—2	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, Junr. 5—6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY 3—4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, Senr. 7—8

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpires: ROBERT BRETT-SMITH and JAMES FORD.

THE HANDBELL RECORD.

To-morrow (Saturday) is the anniversary of the record peal of Stedman Caters on handbells at Gullford. It was on August 31st, 1912, that Arthur Shepherd, Alfred Pulling, William Shepherd, Jas. Hunt and Frank Blondell sat for 9 hrs. and 32 mins., and brought round a peal of 19,738 changes. The peal, begun on one day, was not finished until the next, and indeed was spread not only over a part of two days, but of two weeks and two months.

5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES.

BY JOHN CARTER, BIRMINGHAM.

231456

512346 a a c b a a

425136 a a c b a a

152436 a a c b a b a

321546 a a c b a a

413256 a a c b a a

534126 a a c b a a

245316 a a c b a a

354216 a a c b a a

143526 a a c b a a

231456 a a c b a a

a—1s, 5s, 8s, 10s, 12.

b—1s, 5s, 8s, 9s, 10.

c—1s, 5s, 8s, 10s, 11s, 12s, 14.

This peal has all but 22 single calls, and is the first composed on this plan.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY. — On Sunday evening, June 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes): T. H. Tuffender 1. A. J. Perkins (conductor) 2. J. Trappitt 3. C. Dean 4. E. Pike 5. A. J. Plowman 6. W. R. Grimwood 7. M. Fensam 8. L. Rodwell 9. N. Brassett 10.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry
Established
A.D. 1870.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.



Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE WATSON.

FORMER SECRETARY OF THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

On August 13th last, Mr. George Watson, of St. Leonards-on-Sea, passed to his rest, after a long illness, at the age of 63 years. He was one of the original band formed at Christ Church, St. Leonards, in 1895, when the bells were first opened; and he was captain from the commencement. For some years he was secretary of the Sussex County Association, a position which he filled most admirably, resigning last year. At one time he represented the Association on the Central Council. He was well known in most of the towers in East Sussex, where he rang over 60 peals in the four standard methods, many of which he conducted.

Mr. Watson was for over 40 years headmaster of Christ Church Boys' School, and was for many years a sidesman of the church, where he was greatly respected, and will be much missed. His funeral took place at Christ Church on 17th August, and ringers from the different towers of the town united to ring muffled touches.

WEDDING AT EDMONTON.

On Saturday last an exceedingly interesting event took place at Edmonton—the wedding of Miss Sarah Johnson, a much-respected member of the local band, and Mr. Herbert Cartwright. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar (the Rev. R. G. Evill), who, in an appropriate address, paid tribute to the bride for the help she had given to the church, not only as a ringer, but also as a Sunday School teacher.

As the wedding party were leaving the church, the bells were rung in rounds, in which four ladies participated, and afterwards a selected band rang a peal of Stedman Triples (recorded elsewhere), in honour of the occasion. After the peal, the ringers were entertained at the Church Hall by the bride and bridegroom, and Mr. W. A. Alps took the opportunity of proposing the health and happiness of the newly married couple, wishing them every success in their married life.

The bride has been a member of the All Saints' band for a number of years, and is also a member of the Ladies' Guild, the Royal Cumberland Youths, and the Middlesex and Hertfordshire Associations.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER BRANCH MEETING.

On Saturday week, the usual monthly meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Worsley, members attending from Ashton-under-Lyne, Eccles, Bolton, Manchester, Pendleton, Miles Platting, Stockport, Pendlebury, Walkden, etc.

Mr. Percy Derbyshire presided over the business meeting, and extended a hearty welcome to the visitors.

St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, was chosen as the next meeting-place, on September 14th.

Mr. H. Chapman and Mr. Sam Greenhalgh were nominated for the office of vice-president, Mr. H. Jackson as treasurer, Mr. W. H. Shaker as general secretary, and the Rev. H. J. Elsee, M.A., as president.

An interesting discussion took place as to the advisability of the vice-president vacating the position after a period of one or two years, and to be ineligible for re-election in order that the honour might pass on to other respected members who have served the Association well during their membership.

After the business meeting ringing was again indulged in, several methods being rung, from rounds—with the youthful daughter of the branch secretary, Mr. Wolstoncroft, whose age is only nine years, and who managed the bell very creditably—to the more intricate systems.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for having things in readiness.

BLACKBURN BRANCH MEETING.

A meeting of the Blackburn Branch was held at the Parish Church, Blackburn, on Saturday last. There was a representative gathering, and the bells were put in motion soon after three o'clock, various touches in standard methods being rung.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. S. Redman.—Mr. W. Heaton, of Colne, was re-elected President of the branch; Mr. J. Watson was re-elected for another two years as branch secretary, and Mr. W. E. Wilson to serve on the committee for a similar period.—Mr. T. Redman, of Burnley, was nominated for vice-presidency of the Association, and Accrington was chosen as the place of the next branch meeting.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, also to the chairman for presiding over the meeting.—Further ringing took place afterwards.

WORTH, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, June 16th, at the Parish Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob: J. Rice 1, G. Paice 2, A. Ellis 3, J. P. Kent 4, G. Illman 5, F. Rice (conductor) 6; 240 Oxford Treble Bob: A. Mitchell 1, J. Rice 2, G. Paice 3, A. Mills 4, G. Illman 5, F. Rice (conductor) 6; 360 College Exercise: F. Rice 1, J. Rice 2, G. Paice 3, A. Mills 4, G. Illman 5, A. Ellis (conductor) 6.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD DISTRICT MEMBERS ENTERTAINED BY BISHOP.

A glorious August, afternoon, a fine peal of eight bells, a gathering of from 50 to 60 enthusiastic ringers, numbering amongst them a fair proportion of ladies, a hearty welcome from the Bishop of the Diocese to Farnham Castle and its beautiful grounds—what more could a ringer wish for? A combination of these circumstances was the experience of those members of the Winchester Guild who attended the Guildford District meeting on Saturday last. In addition to this, to the older members there was the added delight of meeting the Rev. Cyril Jenkyn, C.F., M.C., the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, home on leave from the front, and Mr. W. H. George, of Eastleigh.

The proceedings began with ringing in the Parish Church tower about 2.30 p.m., but owing to the illness of the daughter of Mr. A. Le Clercq, one of the local ringers, only short touches were indulged in, and at 4 o'clock the visitors made their way up the hill to the Castle, the residence of the Bishop, who was there to greet them, with his wife and daughters, Mrs. and Misses Talbot. Tea was already prepared for the party in the ancient covered courtyard, and the Bishop's children and grandchildren vied with one another in waiting upon the guests, who came from the towers at Aldershot, Binsted, Frensham, Farnham, Guildford (Holy Trinity and St. Nicolas), Godalming, Ewhurst, Puttenham and Worplesdon.

At the business meeting, which was held in the open air, a new band of six members at Puttenham was elected, as well as several other ringers.—A paper by Miss Fisher, of Dorking, giving her impressions of the annual Guild meeting at Winchester, was read and much appreciated, and it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Ashted in September.—For a year past, monthly practices have been held at Worplesdon, and it was decided that for the next twelve months they be held at Puttenham.—The Hon. Secretary was asked to write to Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, congratulating him on his restoration to health.—The Ringing Master's report was of a very satisfactory and encouraging nature.

At the close of the meeting, a vote of thanks to the Bishop and his family for their kind hospitality, was proposed in felicitous terms by Mr. F. E. Dawe, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, wife of the Rector of Worplesdon, and herself a ringer, and carried by acclamation.—To this the Bishop suitably replied.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, being called upon to address the meeting, said how heartened he was when he saw the way that Guild was endeavouring to carry on, and the great success that had attended their efforts.

During the meeting, a postcard was signed by as many ringers as could find space for their names, and dispatched to Gunner A. H. Pulling, who is at the front, to let him know that he was not forgotten.

Afterwards the members adjourned to the ancient private chapel of the Castle, where the Guild form of service was conducted by the Bishop, Miss Talbot officiating at the organ. The service was most heartily rendered, and an impressive address was given by the Bishop, who afterwards offered prayers for absent members of the Guild, and specially for those who have gone from the Guildford district.

During the afternoon touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung on handbells on the Castle Keep, by Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Hazelden, and Messrs. F. E. Dawe, S. Radford and M. Smither, while, after leaving the Castle, the members returned to the church tower and rang touches until train time called them away. The afternoon was one that will long live in the memory of those who were privileged to take part in the proceedings.

COMMEMORATION PEAL AT SHENSTONE.

It was a glorious afternoon on Saturday, August 10th, when the Sutton Coldfield Branch of the St. Martin's Guild, assisted by one or two ringing friends, journeyed to Shenstone to be the happy guests of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Molloy at Shenstone Vicarage, and to attempt the annual commemoration peal as a tribute of respect to an English officer, and one of Nature's gentlemen, Lieut. Michael V. Molloy. In travelling through the countryside, and surveying the plentiful cornfields, now ripe unto harvest, one was able to realise that Shenstone and district at any rate was doing its best to defeat the U-boat campaign.

The position of the Church and Vicarage of Shenstone is about all that could be desired. Situated on a hill, with its two towers, the church is a landmark for miles around. Whether it is the salubrious surroundings, or the delightful welcome one always receives at the Vicarage, that makes attempts for peals at this church more than usually successful, the writer cannot say, and it is certain the parish of Shenstone is at the present time very fortunate in regard to its church matters.

The peal on Saturday, the 10th, was the fourth in memory of the gallant officer. Each was rung at the first attempt, and all four have been conducted by Mr. G. F. Swann. The ringers again wish to thank the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Molloy for their kind hospitality on this and other occasions.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

GARDEN PARTY AT THE RECTORY.

'If parsons would mix among bowlers on the green more than they do it would take a lot of starch out of them.'—Country Vicar.

Upon the level sward
You may not put on frills,
And snobbery abhor'd
The trundling pastime kills.

Stiffness of manner, too,
It surely will attack;
Though now and then you do
Collect a rigid back.

And starch it won't endure—
Hard collars simply irk;
They hamper one, for sure,
In keen exciting work.

And oh, remember this:
Precise be with your 'wood,'
For the reward is bliss—
Your 'end' will then be good.

BEZIQUE.

Whoever the country Vicar might be who indited the paragraph above, it would have made his heart rejoice had he been present at the Birmingham Rectory on Saturday week, and have seen Canon Willink not only 'mixing' with the bowlers on the green, but giving some of them what is called 'a good licking' into the bargain. Some of the starched collars certainly lost a little of their pristine stiffness, but as for the Rector, well, he's got none to lose, for what Canon Willink does not know about the art of being sociable is not worth knowing.

It was at the kind invitation of the 'Guild's Own Rector' and Mrs. Willink that members of the St. Martin's Guild and their wives gathered in the beautiful Rectory garden for an hour or so, and a more delightful spot in which to spend a summer afternoon can hardly be imagined. Almost surrounded by tall trees, and flanked by bushes, ferns and flowers, it seems unbelievable that one can get from there into St. Martin's belfry in half an hour, and yet this is so.

A very nice war-time tea was provided on the terrace for a mixed party of about 40, after which games were arranged and the handbells brought into use. Quotas and bullboard were fixed up for the ladies, the Rector's daughter, Miss Dorothy Willink, 'bossing this show,' and bowls for the men. Prizes were offered for the winners, and there was much fun and some excitement as the bowling tournament drew towards its close, and one team after another got 'knocked out.' The 'final' lay between the Rector, who had Mr. Mansell as his partner, and Messrs. Groves and Pigott, the latter winning eventually, and thus landing some nice vases. For the second year in succession the prize for the bullboard competition was lifted by Mrs. Albert Walker, which we must bear in mind next year. Perhaps a little handicapping would be advisable!

Towards the end of the afternoon we were much astonished to see the burly form of Mr. Harry Chapman appearing through the shrubs, accompanied by three other Lancashire lads. It seems they had come to Birmingham on business, which would keep them perhaps a week, and had been trying all the afternoon to find the Rectory. However, when the Rector knew who they were, he ordered some tea to be prepared for them immediately, and in a few minutes Messrs. Harry Chapman, Amos Trippier, Wm. Holbrook and a non-ringer were busily engaged on the terrace.

In addition to these visitors from Lancashire, there were also present Mr. and Mrs. James Pagett, of Denby, and Mr. W. H. George, of Eastleigh, Hants. That fine old Black Country veteran, Mr. William Rock Small, was also in evidence, and although he invariably says he is not so well as he used to be, if he had to be graded by the military as it is done at present, he would undoubtedly be classed Grade I, as being 'very fit for his age.'

Various touches in various methods were rung on the handbells by Messrs. Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Wm. Kent, J. E. Groves, A. Walker, J. George, W. H. George, T. Russam, J. Pigott, J. Pagett, and A. Paddon Smith. Altogether a most enjoyable afternoon was spent, free of speeches and all other formalities, and all present felt deeply indebted to their good hosts for their kind hospitality, and for the very hearty way in which everyone was welcomed.

A. P. S.

THANKS.

Frederick W. Thornton, of Greenwich, London, S.E., desires to express his sincere gratitude to Messrs. T. Law, W. Rogers, F. Wilford, and other members of the Central Northants Association, for their goodness in arranging for and meeting him to ring for Divine service at the Churches of St. Giles, St. Peter, St. Edmund, and All Saints, on Sundays, August 11th, 18th and 25th, thus adding greatly to the pleasure of his visit to Northampton. The courtesy and kindness extended to him by all is most deeply appreciated.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY 'BOB MAJOR.'

Sitting over a pipe late on Monday evening, I was pondering over the fact that it was the 200th anniversary of the first peal of Grand-sire Triples, and I endeavoured to picture to myself the scene that must have been enacted in St. Peter Mancroft belfry when the bells came round, and those eight men finished their task. Well may they have been jubilant over their achievement, and what a triumph it was for John Garthorn, who had 'perfectly discovered those intricate methods which were hidden from the eyes of all the ringers in England.' What a to-do there was, I'll warrant, and not without reason, too. That peal was one of the greatest events that ever happened in ringing history. Some of us fancy we have done a thing or two in our time, but we never did, in ringing, a greater thing than that first performance of those Norwich men. We do not know who called the peal. Perhaps John Garthorn called it while sitting in the belfry, as John Holt forty years later called his famous one part? And we can quite imagine the congratulations that would go round, both inside and outside the tower. John Garthorn, it may be remembered, was the first to obtain a true peal of Bob Triples, and he took part in its performance in 1715. Only James Brook and John Briggs took part in the two peals.

Now that the military authorities are beginning to rope in the grandfathers, many of our towers are feeling a still greater pinch at the rope end. The coming is not quite so severe as in the days when younger men were called up, but it will be enough in some cases to squash out what little life there is left in not a few belfries. It isn't nice to contemplate—but there it is. As long, however, as they leave us the children and the great-grandfathers we will try to carry on. But what a business it will be to get things going as of old, when the boys and the old boys come home again. I often wonder whether they will flock to the belfries once more of their own sweet will. I somehow think we shall see them there again—those who are spared to come back—for ringing is one of those fascinating subjects that, once it has gripped a man, never seems to let go absolutely. Interest may flag and dwindle, but usually—sometimes after years—the spark rekindles it to flame, and the old enthusiasm returns. I hope this may be true of all who come back from the war.

For some reasons it is a good job that the Minister of National Service has based his man-power arrangements on age, and not entirely on physical fitness, otherwise some of our youthful veterans would have had to join up. There is that young man, James George, for instance, only waiting for the war to be over to ring Exeter or some other great tenor to a twenty thousand of Treble Bob. Well, he ought to be good enough for a twenty mile route march with a 90lb. pack, or a trip 'over the top.' At any rate, I know his heart is good enough. Then there is that active young fellow, William Rock Small, who is able to ring two peals for his birthday when past fourscore years. Why shouldn't he command a battalion of veterans? I could mention plenty of others who, if physical fitness, judged by their ringing activities is any criterion, might well go in front of some of us infirm old young men. A corps, with Colonel William Rock Small at their head, and Major Edwin Horrex as second in command, would settle the Kaiser's hash in quick time. I think I had better write to the Minister of National Service.

The Americans think a lot of their Liberty bell—pretty nearly as much as they do of Old Glory. It is something of an idol to them, and when it went on its tour of the States, en route to the San Francisco exhibition thousands of people we were told, kissed the precious relic from Philadelphia. Now, when a practical, level-headed people like Americans, come to kissing bells (with only one 'e,' Mr. Printer), I reckoned there must have been a pretty good reason for it. But I have come to the conclusion that the folk who saluted those hundredweights of cold metal with osculatory caress were either much misled or else the Americans aren't any better than anybody else in expressing their emotions. Old Liberty, which was trundled so many thousands of miles on a railroad car, didn't ring out any song on the original Independence Day, for a correspondent has informed us in the columns of the ever-reliable 'Daily Mail' that a new bell was pul up in 1876. I have no doubt, however, that the Yanks who kissed the bell enjoyed the job, so what matters?

Our men are learning many things, pleasant and unpleasant, in France, but it strikes me as curious that a man should go from London to the fighting line to study bell ringing. Yet that is what has happened to one young man of my acquaintance. He has been in France since 1915, and when he went he knew as much about the subject of bells as his horse did of aeroplanes. Yet a few days ago I received a most learned opus, from him on the subject of bells and ringing—including the acknowledgment that much had been done to eliminate unmusical cadences from peals—and an invitation to join in a peal with him after the war. I shall only be too glad to do so, but methinks he has been pulling my leg. Perhaps he has been making use of an encyclopedia which he found in some place behind the lines.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The usual monthly meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, August 31st. Bells available from 3 o'clock till dusk; business meeting at 6 p.m.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Twyford tomorrow, Saturday, August 31st. Bells available from 2.30 till 5.30 and from 6.30 till 8 o'clock. Tea cannot be provided, but gd. will be allowed each member of the district who attends.—Jas. W. Elkins, District Sec., 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Northampton District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Northampton, Saturday, August 31st. Ringing at St. Giles' 3 to 4 p.m., St. Peter's 4 to 5 and 6.30 to 7 p.m. Service 5 p.m.—T. Law, District Sec., St. Peter's Cottages, Weston Favell.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS—(Estab. 1637.)—A meeting will be held at Southwark Cathedral on September 7th at 6 p.m. Meetings will be held at the 'Coffee Pot,' Warwick Lane, E.C., on the 5th and 19th for handbell practice, and on the 10th and 24th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Stanmore on Saturday, September 7. Ringing from 3 p.m. Short service at 2 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Stanmore can be reached by train from Harrow, L. & N. W. Ry., by tram to Cannons Park and by bus from Cricklewood. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the Guild will be held at St. Luke's, Blakenhall, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, Sept. 7th. The bells will be available from 3 o'clock; service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the Vicar, who will also preside at the business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Almondsbury, Glos., on Saturday, Sept. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow. Members and friends cordially invited. Will those who require tea, kindly notify me not later than Sept. 2nd?—N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown Branch.—Combined Practice Meetings have been arranged as under: Sept. 7th, Otlands Park (Near Walton Station), 6 p.m.; Sept. 14, Ottershaw, 5.30 p.m.; Sept. 21, Yateley, 5.30 p.m.; Sept. 28th, Walton-on-Thames (St. Mary's), 6 p.m. Members and other Ringers are cordially invited.—F. J. Shephard, Dist. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, September 14th, at Doncaster, St. George's. Bells (8) will be at the disposal of the visitors from 3.30 till 5 o'clock, and from 5.30 till dusk. The fine-light peal of 6 at Arksey

(tenor 9 cwt.) are also at the service of the visitors. The business meeting will be held at 5.30 p.m.—Frank Willey, 110, Petre Street, Sheffield, Sec. *pro tem*.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Idle on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting and 8-bell contest will take place at Brighthouse on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Draw for order of ringing at 2.45. *No refreshments provided*.—W. Frith, Sec., 5, Lufton Street, Birkby, Huddersfield.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next and last meeting of this summer series will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Twelve bells available from 3 o'clock.—Sam. Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Ashton-under-Lyne Parish Church on Sept. 14th. Bells available at 4 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting will be held at St. Ann's, Highgate, on Saturday, 14th September, from 4.30 to 8 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED—Man and Wife to live in Church House; wife to manage same and husband to carry out duties of Verger, etc., Parish Church. Good remuneration paid to suitable couple.—Apply Box No. 2, 'The Ringing World' Office, Woking.

THE COCKEY MEMORIAL FUND.

The following is the list of subscribers up to the present to the late Rev. H. A. Cockey's Memorial Fund.

	£	s	d.
Rev. Maitland Kelly	2	2	0
Rev. H. Law James	1	1	0
Rev. E. Bankes James	1	0	0
Mr. F. K. Howell	0	10	6
Mr. E. J. Wilkins	0	10	6
Mr. Shepherd, of Stone	0	10	6
Mr. C. Gordon	0	10	6
Mr. W. Stafford	0	10	6

Other subscriptions will be acknowledged from time to time.—G. Gendick, 15, Westbourne Road, Easton, Bristol.

BATH & WELLS ASSOCIATION.

AXBRIDGE DEANERY BRANCH.

A well-attended meeting of the Axbridge branch was held on a recent Saturday at Cheddar. During the afternoon and evening the bells were kept going to Grandsire and Stedman. Ringers attended from Weston-super-Mare, Worle, East Brent, Brent Knoll, Huntspill, Winscombe, Congresbury, Burnham, and Mark. The branch was also favoured with a visit from the Rev. H. Law James, the Rev. E. Bankes James, and Mr. and Mrs. R. Wilkins, and others from Bristol.

Tea was provided at the Valley Restaurant. Subsequently the Secretary (after referring to the death of the President, the Rev. Preb. R. Hayes-Robinson) asked the Vicar (the Rev. J. N. Wallis) to preside at the meeting, which he did. One honorary member and two performing members were elected, and Weston-super-Mare was chosen for the next meeting.

The Rev. J. N. Wallis proposed a vote of sympathy with the relatives of the late president of the branch in their bereavement, and in so doing voiced the thoughts of all present when he remarked that the death of Preb. Hayes-Robinson was a loss not only to Burnham and this Association, but to the whole diocese. The members present rose reverently in their places to mark their approval.

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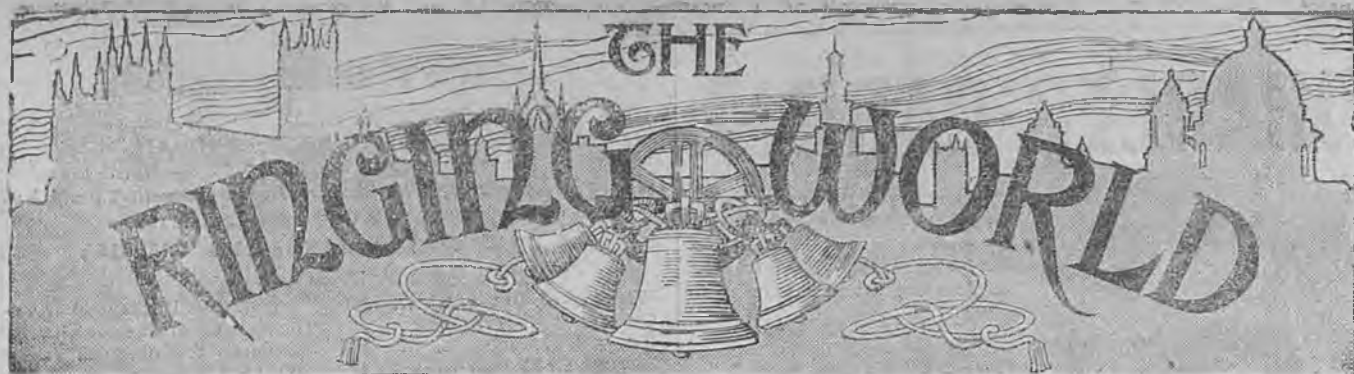
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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEEK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

PASSING HONOURS ROUND.

At a recent meeting of the Manchester Branch of the Lancashire Association the question of 'passing round the honours' was discussed, and it was a little disappointing that the result of the discussion—if a result was arrived at—was not announced. It is a question which is of real interest and of not a little importance, but taking ringing associations generally, there are very few who make a point of electing by turn their principal members to the posts of honour. Usually we find that a man elected to a presidency or a mastership remains for life or until he cares to resign, and in very few of the organisations is it a recognised plan to change those officials annually. There are advantages and disadvantages in an annual change, but on the whole, we think, a constitution which enables an association to show its appreciation of long and valued service to a member by electing him to a position of honour has much to recommend it. The College Youths have made it a practice to appoint a new master, more or less annually—war-time conditions, of course, have made the present circumstances exceptional—and the Hertfordshire Association has for a long while been in the habit of having a new president each year.

One of the advantages is that there is encouragement given to every member to interest himself in the affairs of the organisation in order that he may eventually reach the honoured position as head of his association; and another, and perhaps more important, is that new blood is generally a great asset. Where it is a rule that a man should retire after a certain term, no one takes it amiss when he goes out of office, and the friendly rivalry that sometimes exists between the members in securing the election of the man most fitted for, or most deserving, the honour, often adds to the general interest in the affairs of an association. On the other hand, when the society has a really energetic, capable man at the head of affairs it is a pity to lose him for a man, no less interested perhaps, but less able. There are several names we could mention of men, occupying the foremost position in their respective associations, whose departure from office would be a really serious loss, not only to their society, but to the Exercise. Sometimes, too, it may be wise to retain an individual in office on account of his influence—possibly not a democratic policy, but nevertheless occasionally good tactics. Where, however, there are good grounds for not adopting the principle of an annual change in the presidency or mastership, there is no reason why associations should not make provision in their constitution for honouring their most valued members, by creating for them *ex-officio* places in the government of their organisations.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS write with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. KDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH).

On Saturday, August 24, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL Treble	RICHARD V. BUCKLAND ... 5
GEORGE H. GOTTERIDGE ... 2	† JAMES BLACKMORE ... 6
FRANK J. BOREHAM ... 3	WILLIAM T. HORNE ... 7
* ARTHUR G. MASON ... 4	WILLIAM HENLEY ... Tenor

Composed by FRANK HOPGOOD.
Conducted by W. T. HORNE.

A peal of welcome for Sergt. Buckland, R.N.A.S., who was home on 'marriage leave.' The team afterwards took tea at 'Windsor End' with the Bride and Bridegroom. Pte. William Welling was also expected to take part in this attempt. Local arrangements were kindly undertaken by Mr. Blackmore.

* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, August 31, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CASSYON,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

JOHN JAGGER Treble	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 5
JOHN BASS 2	JESSE SCREEN ... 6
JOSEPH PIGOTT 3	WILLIAM FISHER ... 7
WILLIAM SHORT 4	BENJAMIN COUGH ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to those fallen in the war. W. Short was proposed a member of the Dudley Guild before starting. It was Mr. J. Pigott's 150th peal.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, August 31, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

ROBERT ALLRED Treble	GEORGE PINCOTT ... 5
HARRY ALLRED 2	JOHN POTTER ... 6
HENRY SMITH 3	WILLIAM PENNINGTON ... 7
THOMAS LINGARD 4	JOHN EDGE ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS LINGARD.

This peal was rung to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the first peal of Grandsire Triples, and also as a welcome of the new Curate of this Parish, Mr. Bridge.

The ringers of 1 and 2 belong to Tyldesley, 3 to Leigh, 4 and 8 to Pendlebury, 5 and 7 to Bolton, and 6 to Walkden.

SIX BELL PEAL.

STANTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN BRANCH).

On Saturday, August 24, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Consisting of 42 six-scores of Plain Bob and Grandsires.

* ALBERT PARKER Treble	JAMES HEMMING ... 4
FREDERICK JOHNSON ... 2	GEORGE ASHLEY ... 5
HENRY J. PHIPPS ... 3	JOHN WIGGINS ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HEMMING.

Rung to celebrate the dedication of a Screen and Rood, erected in Stanton Church by Mr. P. S. Stott, of Stanton Court, to the memory of his son, 2nd Lieut. P. N. Stott.

* First peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 31, 1918, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
At 97, EDENBRIDGE ROAD, BUSH HILL PARK,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6008 CHANGES;

WILBY J. HAZELL ... 1-2 | E. MADRICE ATKINS ... 5-6
MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... 3-4 | WALTER PERKINS ... 7-8

Composed and Conducted by E. M. ATKINS.
Umpire: JAMES PARKER.

WEST HAM SOCIETY.**EXCURSION TO LOUGHTON.**

One of the most pleasing of excursions it has been my privilege to attend took place on Saturday, Aug. 17th, at Loughton, whither the West Ham Society journeyed for their annual half-day's outing. Its success depended, for the most part, on the unsparing efforts of Messrs Wm. Doran and James Rann, the former being West Ham's secretary, and the latter secretary of the Loughton branch of the Essex Association. 'Jimmy Rann,' as we familiarly style him, has no rival in the art of securing everything wanted for the comfort and pleasure of his ringing companions, possessing a charm of natural wit and dry humour, and, in his pleadings for the use of the tower and bells, seldom fails in his suit, and I have no doubt, had 'Jimmy' been appointed emissary to West Ham Rectory, he would have succeeded in getting the Rector to accept the honour of president, and taking the chair on this happy occasion. 'Jimmy's' brief might be in this style: 'Now, look ye 'ere, Rector, we've only Mr. Doran to fill your place if you don't come, and there's my pony and trap outside waiting, so we're not going to let you off like this. Jump up, sir, at once, and you'll enjoy the ride to Loughton, I'll guarantee, if we meet with no bad luck on the road.' And so it came to pass we had no clerical representative present, Mr. Doran not having the persuasive powers of Jimmy Rann. But our veteran, William Doran, filled the chair exceedingly well, and I think his wife, son and daughter present must have felt proud of him at the head of the table, as he explained his balance sheet, and the prospects of getting his peal of ten made unobtainable.

The tea was tastefully arranged in the Schoolroom by Mrs. Moule and several friends, and remembering the privations ruling just now, we were amazed to see so many 'tasties' on the tables. Among the company were the veterans, Messrs. Waghorn and Margotson, the 'Merry Andrew' Tom Scarlett, the facetious Harry Torble, the gifted Edgar Wightman, and other members of the Exercise.

Ringing commenced soon after three o'clock, touches of Grandsire, Bob Major, Stedman and Double Norwich, all being brought home. The ringing after tea was not quite so good, owing to some of the more ambitious of the party attempting Superlative, which no doubt accounted for the following conversation overheard in the main road: First voice: 'What's the cause of all this bell ringing to-day? Is there a wedding about, or new victory on the front?' Second voice: 'Neither. It's only a lot of cacophonous fellows, calling themselves the Essex Association of Change Ringers, and they can't ring so well as our local men.' It may be explained that the local band are stony-tongued, which method satisfies the uninitiated and ignorant; hence their hold of the tower since the inauguration of this charming peal of eight. 'The scientific ringers are only tolerated on very rare occasions; but

Where ignorance is bliss, let us not take amiss

The gibes on our art or our fame;

Let them try if they will to exhibit their skill,

And experience will put them to shame.

Notwithstanding such unfair criticism, we were all evidently pleased with ourselves when the time for departure came. The course of events had been most smooth and enjoyable, and no one regretted their trip.

Those sweet Loughton bells are still ringing in my ears with the old tale of joy and sadness. They recall the past and inspire the future. They remind us of those whom we shall no more find in their accustomed places, of the sorrow that is passing, and glad tidings of the end of strife among the nations. 'Yes,' saith the bells,

Men may come and men may go.

But we, the bells, ring on for ever.

G. F. M.

KELSALE, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, June 2nd, for morning service, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect to the Rev. George Dawson Davies, for many years Rector of Kelsale Church, who died on May 27th. 720 Changes of Bob Major: W. Fleming 1, W. Drew 2, P. Mayes 3, J. Avis 4, H. Phillips 5, G. Hardy 6, F. Thompson 7, F. Watling, senr. (conductor), 8. Also 576 Oxford Treble Bob Major by the same band. For evening service, 1152 Kent Treble Bob Major: W. Fleming 1, Norman Bailey (Leiston) 2, J. Avis 3, W. Drew (conductor) 4, H. Phillips 5, F. Smith (Leiston) 6, G. Hardy 7, F. Watling 8.

LADIES' GUILD AT STOKE POGES.

Last Saturday week the historic and interesting Church of Stoke Poges was invaded by the ladies who were holding a friendly meeting of their Guild there. At 3 p.m. sharp the bells were going to Grandsire Doubles by a mixed band (as the ladies always welcome and look to the assistance of the gentlemen), and soon afterwards they were able themselves to ring 120 Grandsire Doubles. Following this, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob were indulged in, and also some call changes and rounds for those not yet advanced enough for change ringing. By 5 p.m. there were upwards of 25 in the tower, but everyone missed the presence of the hon. secretary, Miss E. K. Parker (who was taking part in a peal, in honour of the wedding of one of the Guild members, which took place at Edmonton on that day). Canon Barnett visited the tower, and expressed a wish to see the bells rung, and a capital 120 was brought round as a service touch.

A short but very impressive service was then held, and Canon Barnett made some fitting remarks on ringers and their duties, noting how Gray, the famous poet, made mention of the bells.

Tea next demanded attention, and steps were turned to Stoke Place, the residence of Mrs. Howard Vyse, who had kindly offered the use of the Orangery, and all things necessary. Twenty-five sat down to a sumptuous repast, kindly given by Mrs. Howard Vyse and Canon and Mrs. Barnett. For the time being war was forgotten, as even sugar made its appearance on the table. During the tea, the Canon made a suggestion that the 'locals' should 'drink the health' of all the visitors, which was done.

Being a friendly meeting, there was no business to transact, but there was the pleasure of proposing six new members. Evidently the Bucks. ladies are coming on in great numbers, and perhaps at a not far distant date it will be possible to record a quarter-peal rung by a ladies' band in the county.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. F. I. Hairs, in the absence of the secretary, to Mrs. Howard Vyse, Canon and Mrs. Barnett, and all those who had so kindly helped to make the meeting such a success, including Mr. Bateman (the local foreman) for his kindness in having the bells in readiness, and making the necessary arrangements for the tea.

Afterwards an enjoyable visit was paid to the beautiful grounds of Stoke Place. The evening had passed so quickly and pleasantly that there was no time to return to the tower, so the handbells were brought into action, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung by four ladies. All the visitors had come by cycle, and at 9 p.m. a move was made for home, everybody agreeing that though the meeting was smaller than was anticipated it had nevertheless been most enjoyable.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**WINCHESTER DISTRICT MEETING.**

A meeting of the members of the Winchester district was held at Twyford on Saturday last, members from Bagshot, Curdridge, Dibden, North Stoneham, Wickham, Southampton, and Swindon, started the bells about 3 p.m. At the last moment it was found possible to arrange for tea in the Parish Hall, and thanks are due to Mr. Day for providing a very excellent one.

In the absence of the Vicar, who regretted being unable to be present owing to being away from home that afternoon, Mr. G. Williams (general secretary of the Guild) presided. The absence of one who has been a great supporter of these meetings and who has generally been present at them, was very much missed, viz., Mr. Henry White, of Basingstoke, one of the most enthusiastic ringers, who, we regret to say, is now lying seriously ill. Everyone was deeply grieved to hear this news, and a vote of sincere sympathy with him was passed, on the motion of his old friend, Mr. G. Williams.

A vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. George, was passed to the Vicar (the Rev. — Morris) for the use of the bells, which were available again after tea, but owing to several members having some considerable distance to go on bicycles, they were not rung during the evening.

ST. GILES' SOCIETY, READING.

On Saturday, August 17th, members of the St. Giles' Society, Reading, held their annual outing. Taking an early train to Goring, they were met by Mr. J. Bower, foreman of the Goring band, and ascending the ancient Norman steeple without delay, rang touches of Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Miss D. Batten, a young lady member, calling her first 120 in the latter method. Crossing the river to the adjacent tower of Stratley—also six bells—they repeated the performance, striking well, though the 'go' of the bells was by no means equal to that of the peal at Goring. Next they entrained for Wallingford, where there is a fine square stone and flint mediæval tower, and a noble peal of eight bells. The visitors enjoyed a substantial repast at the Green Tree, and then proceeded to the steeple, where they were met by the Vicar (the Rev. H. P. Bowen), and were soon 'tapping off' touches of Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Kent Treble Bob, the Rev. H. P. Bowen ringing the tenor for the Triples. The striking, especially of the Major, was good, the conductors being Messrs. A. W. Osborne and A. Wiggins. An acceptable 'cup of tea' with 'trimmings' and train home, finished a most enjoyable day.

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LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—When Mr. Trollope had written about a hundred of his articles in 'Bell News,' I started to analyse them carefully, with a view to a complete understanding of his argument, but after a laborious study of the first forty (!) I failed to extract anything but words—endless words; and, not being able to afford such waste of time, I gave up the quest in utter despair. I, therefore, claim that in order to understand Mr. Trollope I have done all that could reasonably be expected of anyone. Will he kindly quote the words in which I curtly declined his offer of explanations? With his present letter before them I confidently leave your readers to judge between Mr. Trollope and myself.—Yours, etc.,

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

DEATH OF A LONDON RINGER.

FRED. J. HARDY KILLED IN ACTION.

News has just come to hand, through the Geneva Red Cross, that Mr. Frederick J. Hardy has been killed in action.

His name appeared in the German lists published in Berlin, his discharge being sent in by the officer in charge of the tombs. His grave is in the Vaulx Vranquart region. The deceased saw service in the East as well as in France.

Mr. Hardy was a most highly esteemed member of the College Youths and of the London County and other Associations. An excellent ringer, his loss is deeply deplored by all who knew him. He was one of the most promising of the younger generation of London ringers, and, when he joined the army in the early days of the war, had already rung a large number of peals, including Surprise methods.

PRISONER OF WAR.

A week or two ago we were able to announce that Rifleman J. Armstrong, of Southgate, Master of the N. and L. District of the Middlesex Association, was a prisoner of war in Germany. We have now received a postcard from him, dated July 24th, in which he says:—

'I was taken prisoner on March 24th, and with the exception of the first ten days, have been in hospital all the time, so you can guess I'm getting a bit fed up. Kidney trouble is my complaint, but I am glad to say I am getting on pretty well. My address is: R 28859 Rifleman J. Armstrong, 11th K.R.R.C., Lazarus, Prisoners of War Camp, Darnstadt, Germany. I shall be very glad to hear from anybody who cares to write to me, as correspondence of any kind is very welcome. Kind remembrances to all. I hope to ring another John peal yet.'

LETTERS FROM AMERICA.

WAR'S EFFECT ON BOSTON GUILD.

Two letters from Boston, U.S.A., have recently reached the Hon. Secretary of the Middlesex Association, Dr. A. H. Nicholls, who is personally known to many London ringers, writes:—

'Although this horrid war has attracted to the ranks some of our ringers we still have remaining a sufficient number to ring a peal for the victory which we feel assured will be attained in the coming year, our people united and determined.

'It is encouraging that the ladies are manning the ropes in such numbers. Mrs. Shurtleff, who invariably meets with our band, would delight to be with them, and she is not restricted to a light bell. Indeed it is a great deprivation that the war deprives us of the pleasure of keeping in closer touch with our English confreres, but you can be assured that our interest in the art will not abate. Meanwhile we hold in affectionate remembrance the bellfry friends whose acquaintance we were privileged to make when in England.'

Mr. Richard Newton, formerly of Manchester, says: 'There are only three of the original Englishmen left who came here by invitation, the others have all joined up. I myself am too old, but am doing my bit out here in helping to raise money for St. George's Relief Fund. Our Empire Day festival last year for this fund realised 300 dollars; this year 2,000. Six of our ringers belong to Cabot Lodge of the Society of the Sons and Daughters of St. George, who were responsible for all arrangements for this festival.'

Mr. Newton goes on to say that he himself and the members of his lodge did nearly all the work, and his contribution in sales of tickets was 272. He wishes to be remembered to all old friends.

UPHILL BELLS.

The bells of Uphill, Somerset, having been rehung, the first 720 of Bob Minor rung upon them since the work was completed, was recently accomplished by a band of Weston-super-Mare and Bristol ringers: W. Tanner 1, J. Thomas (Bristol) 2, W. Munday 3, J. Blackmore 4, E. Parker 5, W. Nicholson (Bristol), conductor, 6.

LONDON.—On Sunday, June 9th, at St. Giles', Camberwell, S.E., for evening service, 1259 of Grandsire Caters: H. F. Flowers 1, T. H. Taffender 2, F. G. Symonds 3, G. R. Fardon (conductor) 4, A. J. Neale 5, A. W. Darlington 6, M. Fennell 7, A. H. Peck 8, L. Rodmel 9, R. Sanders 10.

DEATH OF A VETERAN RINGER.

AN ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The death of Mr. Joseph Barrow, of Long Eaton, on August 18th severs another link with the ringers of a generation ago. It might with confidence be said that he was one of the pioneers of change ringing in Derbyshire.

The deceased, who was 71 years of age, came to Long Eaton from Leicester over fifty years ago, commencing work with the Midland Railway Company at the age of 17 years. He was an engine driver of many years' standing, and continued at work up to about two months ago, having nearly completed 55 years service with the company.

He took a very active part in the augmentation of the bells at Long Eaton, when the number was increased from three to six, and subsequently, when the octave was completed, he was elected Master of the bellry, which office he worthily filled for the period of 16 years, during which time he rang and conducted eight peals.

He was one of the founders of the Midland Counties Association, when that society was formed 38 years ago, and in the early days of the Association was one of its most enthusiastic workers. He was also a life member of the Yorkshire and the Central Northants Associations.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, August 21st, when the deceased was carried to the grave by four local ringers, viz., Messrs. J. Ward, G. Bradley, J. Bailey and R. Drage. The National Union of Railwaymen, of which Mr. Barrow was a member, was represented by Messrs. J. Bray and J. Stevens. The bells of the Parish Church were rung muffled on the following Sunday, as a tribute of respect to his memory. R.I.P.

WYCOMBE RINGERS' EXCURSIONS.

In continuation of the series of ringing meetings, arranged by the Wycombe Society, to sustain interest in Church bell ringing, and to enable those towers whose numbers have been depleted owing to war exigencies, to obtain practice, interesting and useful gatherings have resulted. On August 10th, Woburn was the venue selected; while on August 17th, West Wycombe was visited. On the same day, in honour of the wedding, at the Wycombe Parish Church, of Sergt. Richard Buckland, of the Royal Air Force (a member of the Beaconsfield belfry), who was home on leave from France, Wycombe bells were rung in the early afternoon, and in the evening a couple of courses of Stedman Cinques were brought round.

On Saturday week the local ringers and friends visited some neighbouring churches. Reaching All Saints' Church, Little Kimble, soon after one o'clock, a look round this very ancient building proved interesting and enjoyable, the ancient font and frescoes being admired. St. Paul's, Ellesborough, was the rendezvous for the next visit, a church of the Norman and Perpendicular style of architecture. The altar-tomb, a fine monument to the memory of Mrs. Margaret Dodds, the beautifully carved reading desk and pulpit, the chaste stained glass windows, etc., all came in for encomiums of admiration. The party were somewhat disappointed in not being able to ring the pretty little peal of six bells here, owing to a damaged wheel and lack of a full length bellrope; but the bells were 'chimed' for a few minutes by the visitors, who were pleased with their fine tone. The following quaint inscription hangs in the ringing chamber:—

If any man to ring comes here,
He must ring well, with hand and ear;
And if a bell he overthrows,
Four pence he pays before he goes.
Or if he ring with spur or hat,
Four pence, be sure, he pays for that.
And if you either swear or curse,
One shilling, sir; pull out your purse;
Pay to the Sexton what you forfeit.
Or else, kind sir, your coat pays for it.

After a climb to the top of the tower, from which a magnificent panorama of Bucks scenery was obtained, a move was made to St. Nicholas, at Great Kimble, a church in the Early English style, and famous among other things, for its associations with the great patriot, John Hampden; and a tour of the sacred edifice proved full of interest. A 'tap round' on the six bells was first enjoyed, and after several other short touches the party adjourned to the 'Bear and Cross' for a war-time tea. Returning to the church, further ringing was indulged in. The ringers were much touched at the gratitude of an elderly lady, who met the visitors as they were leaving, and after thanking them, observed: 'You have charmed us all up to-day.' The final tower to be visited was that of St. Dunstan's, Monks Risborough, a fine building, with square embattled tower, deriving its name from the Monks of St. Dunstan, of Canterbury, who held possession of the same. Archbishop Potter was a former Rector of this parish. There is a brass, bearing the date 1431, in memory of Rev. Robert Blundell, a former curate. This church possesses a ring of six bells. Several touches were performed, and after lowering the bells a quiet stroll to the station brought the 'homing course' in sight; and 'stand' was called at Wycombe after an interesting and useful outing. G. T.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT NORTHAMPTON.

The quarterly meeting of the Northampton District was held at Northampton on Saturday last, between 30 and 40 being present from St. Peter's, St. Edmund's, St. Giles', and All Saints', Northampton; Moulton, Cogenhoe, Weston Favell, Flore, Weedon, Isham, Finedon, and Earls Barton. The only peal of ten in the county—St. Giles'—was available from 3 to 4 p.m., and Kent Treble Bob Royal, Stedman Cagers and Grandsire Triples were the methods rung. After 4 p.m., St. Peter's (8) were kept busy in various methods, including Double Norwich and Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples.

Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. E. V. Martin), and afterwards tea was served in St. Peter's Rooms. The Rector, having to attend another meeting, apologised for having to leave so early, and expressed his regret at not being able to provide food for them, but hoped they would come again when the war was over, and he would not ask them then to bring their own food.—Mr. F. Wilford proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, for conducting the service, and providing the tea. — This was seconded by the District Secretary.—Mr. J. George, Birmingham, also supported the motion, saying how pleased he was to see the unity existing between the clergy and ringers. He also expressed his pleasure at seeing some lady ringers present, and hoped they would make good ringers. He had been teaching some ladies at Bishop Ryder's Church, and they were making good progress.—The Rector suitably replied.

The Vice-President, Mr. F. Hopper, presided over the meeting, supported by Mr. F. Wilford (general secretary), Mr. W. Wilson, secretary, Kettering District; Mr. J. George and Mr. C. Herbert, Woburn.

Cogenhoe was chosen for a special meeting on October 12th, and Weston Favell for the next quarterly meeting. New ringing members were elected, and the election of Mr. F. W. Thornton, Greenwich, as a life member, was confirmed. — Five shillings was collected for the Belfry Repair Fund.

The Vice-President, on behalf of the members, extended a hearty welcome to the visitors who had favoured the meeting with their presence, coupling with it Gunner A. J. Mawby, R.F.A., a Northampton ringer, on leave from France.—The General Secretary, speaking in support, said what a lot of good it did to have members of different Associations at those meetings helping each other along. — Mr. J. George, in reply, thanked the members for their welcome, and hoped he would be able to attend the meeting at Cogenhoe.—Mr. C. Herbert expressed his pleasure at being present, and remarked that ringers seemed much more enthusiastic in Northampton than in his Association.—Gunner Mawby also thanked his brother ringers for their welcome, and hoped he would soon be with them permanently.—The meeting also expressed their pleasure at the recovery of the Editor of the 'Ringing World,' and hoped he would soon be restored to perfect health again.

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DISTRICT.

A well-attended meeting was held at Waldron on Saturday week, the following towers being represented: St. Peter's, Brighton; Shoreham, Little Horsted, Uckfield, Mayfield, All Saints' and Christ Church, Eastbourne, etc. Letters of regret for non-attendance were received from Messrs. H. R. Bulcher (general hon. secretary), A. Piper, G. Penfold, W. Franks and A. D. Stone.

The members were welcomed by the Rector (Rev. Canon Humble-Crofts), the Misses Humble-Crofts and Mr. E. Jennings, the leader of the local band. Good practice was obtained during the afternoon and evening in the four standard methods, the Misses Humble-Crofts taking part in touches of Grandsire Triples.

Through the kindness of the Rector, the company partook of a bountiful tea at the Star Hotel, to which full justice was done.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, providing such a splendid repast, and arranging the service.—A similar vote was also accorded to Mr. Jennings for his kind assistance in fixing up the meeting.

AIRMEN RAID TRING.

Three airmen, stationed at Halton Camp, had the pleasure of joining some of the local ringers at Tring in a touch of 742 Grandsire Triples rung for Sunday evening service on August 25th, the band standing as follows: F. Reeve, junr. (longest touch) 1, F. Reeve 2, Instructor F. W. Perrens, R.A.F., 3, T. Wright 4, Second Air-Mechanic R. N. Runham, R.A.F., 5, Corpl. W. H. Pasmore, R.A.F. (conductor) 6, H. Heley 7, E. Noyce (longest touch) 8. Another airman was prevented from joining in the above owing to the wet weather.

If there are any other ringers stationed in or near Halton Camp, will they please communicate with Corpl. W. H. Pasmore, Hut 10 A Lines, Halton Camp West, or make their way to Tring, where the bells are rung for services each Sunday at 10.15 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.?

ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNNER.

The Master of the London County Association (Mr. T. H. Taffender) is now serving with the anti-aircraft guns, and is stationed at Godstone, Surrey.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—A combined practice will be held at the Parish Church, Windsor, on Saturday, Sept. 7th, from 6.30 till 8 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—T. S. Smith.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Stanmore on Saturday, September 7. Ringing from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Stanmore can be reached by train from Harrow, L. & N. W. Ry., by tram to Cannons Park and by bus from Cricklewood. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the Guild will be held at St. Luke's, Blakenhall, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, Sept. 7th. The bells will be available from 3 o'clock; service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the Vicar, who will also preside at the business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Almondsbury, Glos., on Saturday, Sept. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow. Members and friends cordially invited.—N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown Branch.—Combined Practice Meetings have been arranged as under: Sept. 7th, Otlands Park (Near Walton Station), 6 p.m.; Sept. 14, Ottershaw, 5.30 p.m.; Sept. 21, Yateley, 5.30 p.m.; Sept. 28th, Walton-on-Thames (St. Mary's), 6 p.m. Members and other Ringers are cordially invited.—F. J. Shepherd, Dist. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Sellindge, near Hythe, on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Iron Acton on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m.—W. Stafford, Hon. Branch Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol, E.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Llanbradach on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available all the afternoon and evening; meeting at 4.30. Tea will be provided. Evensong at 7.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Thrapston District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Thrapston on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock; service at 4.30; meeting to follow.—F. Stubbs, District Sec., Bridge Street, Raunds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock; service at 5.30; meeting at 6.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Secs.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, September 14th, at Doncaster, St. George's. Bells (8) will be at the disposal of the visitors from 3.30 till 5 o'clock, and from 5.30 till dusk. The fine light peal of 6 at Arksey (tenor 9 c.t.) are also at the service of the visitors. The business meeting will be held at 5.30 p.m.—Frank Willey, 110, Petre Street, Sheffield, Sec. *pro tem.*

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Idle on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting and 8-bell contest will take place at Brighouse on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Draw for order of ringing at 2.45. No refreshments provided.—W. Frith, Sec., 5, Lufton Street, Birkby, Huddersfield.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next and last meeting of this summer series will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Twelve bells available from 3 o'clock.—Sam. Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Ashton-under-Lyne Parish Church on Sept. 14th. Bells available at 4 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting will be held at St. Ann's, Highgate, on Saturday, 14th September, from 4.30 to 8 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637.)—Meetings will be held at the 'Coffee Pot,' Warwick Lane, E.C., on the 19th for handbell practice, and on the 10th and 24th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Clent on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells available from 3 o'clock; service in the Church at 5; business meeting in the Schools after the service. Election of officers takes place at this meeting. Tea, at 1/2 per head, can be provided for all those who will let me know on or before Wednesday, Sept. 18th.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Sec., 11, St. Edward's Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Isham, near Kettering, on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Ringing from 3 o'clock; short service at 5, followed by tea. Will all who intend being present kindly communicate with Mr. Walter Wilson, The Pines, Isham?—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 40, Rockmount Road, Upper Norwood, S.E.19.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Rochdale on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Further particulars by circular.—W. H. Shaker, 106, Bank Street, Clayton, Manchester, and J. H. Banks, 462, Helmsshore Road, Helmsshore, Hon. Secs.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The address of Mr. A. L. Coleman, the new Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association, is High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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HANDBELLS, 19, two octaves in C, and 4 half-tone bells; good order; boxed and carriage paid; £6 10s. About 100 odd copies of 'Bell News,' what offer?—Write 'Bells,' 'Ringing World' Office.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

CUBITT TOWN.—At Christ Church, for morning service, on Sunday, June 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: C. T. Clark 1. A. Beer 2. T. H. Hawkins (conductor) 3. F. W. Thornton 4. I. G. Shade 5. H. Hoskins 6. T. Jakeman 7. Pte. C. E. Ebberson (A.S.O.), Fakenham, 8. For morning service, on August 11th, 1008 Grandsire Triples: C. T. Clark 1. T. H. Hawkins 2. I. G. Shade (conductor) 3. H. Hoskins 4. Pte. C. E. Ebberson (A.S.O.) 5. Q.-M.-S. H. W. Clark, R.E. 6. T. Jakeman 7. D. Hodgson 8.—On Wednesday, August 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: C. T. Clark 1. G. H. Daynes 2. I. G. Shade (conductor) 3. J. Lamb 4. T. H. Hawkins 5. H. Hoskins 6. T. Jakeman 7. D. Hodgson 8. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Q.-M.-S. Harold W. Clark (son of the ringer of the treble) to Miss Ethel Kate Peckham, youngest daughter of Mr. J. A. Peckham, of Cubitt Town, the ringers wishing the happy couple every success and happiness.

HAMMERSMITH.—At St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, June 9th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: M. Jacobs 1. W. Stevens 2. H. Barrett 3. H. Cook 4. Pte. R. Mackrill. B.R. 5. C. Hunt 6. F. Skevington (conductor) 7. H. Dyas 8.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Sunday, June 9th, at Malvern Villas, New Road, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), on handbells: H. Bragg 1-2. E. Shepherd (conductor) 3-4. C. Bragg 5-6. First quarter-peal by C. Bragg, who is 13 years of age.

FARNHAM ROYAL, RUCKS.—On Sunday, June 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, by: W. H. Fussell, J. J. Parker (conductor), Miss Nora A. Williams (first quarter-peal), W. Smith, J. Elderfield, W. Henley, J. Bovington.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Sunday, June 16th, for morning service, at All Saints' Church, 305 Grandsire Caters: H. G. Naish 1. J. Howes 2. A. W. Davis 3. W. E. Judd 4. A. V. Selby 5. A. Diserens 6. W. E. Garrard (conductor) 7. C. Slade 8. Major J. H. B. Hesse 9. J. N. Frossell 10; also 610 Stedman Caters: F. Davis 1. J. Howes (conductor) 2. W. E. Judd 3. A. W. Davis 4. J. N. Frossell 5. A. Diserens 6. Major J. H. B. Hesse 7. A. V. Selby 8. W. E. Garrard 9. C. Slade 10.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church, on June 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1280 changes), in 51 mins.: J. Shaw 1. A. J. Smith 2. J. Rookwood 3. B. Wilson 4. Harry Wood 5. T. Kendall 6. A. King (conductor) 7. F. Hunt 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and ringer of the 5th. First quarter in the method by ringers of 2nd and 5th.

ACTON.—On Sunday, June 16th, at St. Mary's Church, Acton, for afternoon ringing, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major: A. W. Davis 1. W. Lawrence 2. Robt. Holloway 3. G. Iles 4. G. Vickery 5. A. Harding 6. F. Skevington (conductor) 7. C. Hunt 8.

SHREWSBURY.—On Sunday evening, June 16th, at St. Chad's Church, 352 Bob Major, 96 Kent Treble Bob Major and 84 Stedman Triples: G. Scarratt 1. G. Byolin 2. W. Brooks 3. G. Jones 4. W. Stockdale 5. A. Fullick 6. Pto. G. Burrows 7. C. R. Lilley (conductor) 8. 305 Grandsire Caters: G. Byolin 1. W. Brooks 2. G. Scarratt 3. L. Weatherby 4. W. Stockdale 5. G. Jones 6. C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7. G. Burrows 8. A. Fullick 9. H. Jones 10. Rung after an attempt for a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Thursday, June 20th, prior to Confirmation service at the Parish Church, Stedman Triples was rung, by: C. Tricker 1. W. Lawrence 2. C. Edwards (Heston) 3. H. W. Lidbetter 4. T. Beadle 5. E. Gladman 6. S. Carter (conductor) 7. H. C. Chandler 8. Owing to one of the band being unavoidably detained, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung previously, W. Lawrence conducting.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Sunday, June 16th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes): T. H. Taffender 1. A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor) 2. J. Trappitt 3. C. Dean 4. R. Pyke 5. A. J. Plowman 6. C. W. Grimwood 7. M. Fensom 8. L. Rodwell 9. N. Brissett 10. In-course throughout; 5th and 6th behind the 9th in the first half; with the 6th in 5th's in the hand-stroke, home position in the second half.

DAITON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on June 23rd, for morning service, 608 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1. Miss Lindsay 2. Miss Gilchrist 3. T. Watson 4. J. Huddleston 5. T. Stuart 6. W. H. Dennison 7. J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

SLOUGH.—Oxford Guild.—On Sunday, June 23rd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 49 mins.: Mrs. E. Hairs 1. T. S. Smith 2. Miss Gladys Bateman 3. W. H. Fussell 4. G. T. Leader 5. J. J. Parker 6. W. Hoxley (conductor) 7. F. Purdus 8.

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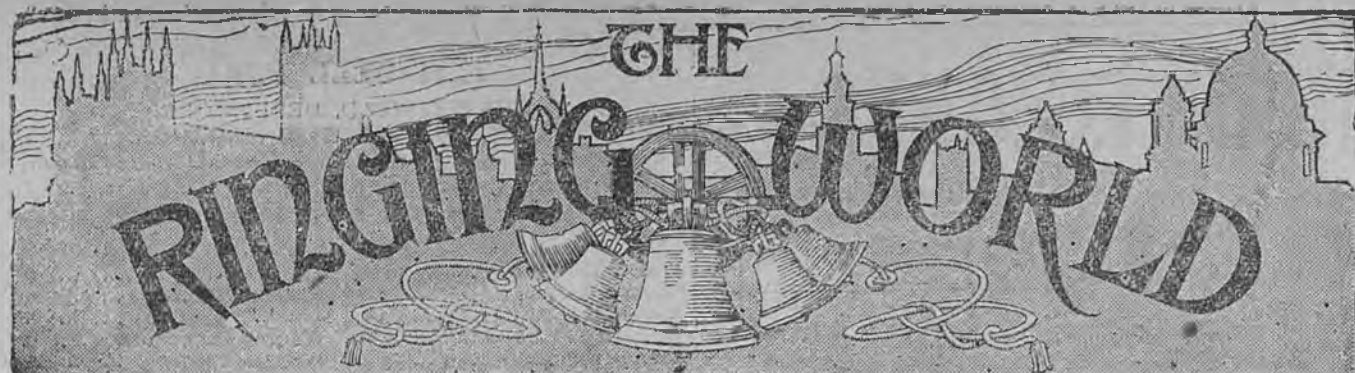


J. COMBER, Goldsmith and Jeweller,

TELEPHONE: 171 WOKING.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1919
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE.

In our article a fortnight ago, dealing with the steps that might be taken in reorganising ringing, so that when the war is over it may regain its former position with the least delay, we urged the importance of getting to work without loss of time, and we are glad to learn that there are districts in which action is being, or is about to be, taken. In the Yorktown district of the Winchester Guild the acting secretary has issued a circular to all towers, the result of which should be the collection of much instructive information. This will form the basis upon which action can be taken. Where help is required to re-establish a band, such assistance will, as far as possible, be forthcoming, and the promotion of ringing in the individual towers is to be supplemented by combined practices so that as much ground as possible can be covered, and no opportunity of rekindling enthusiasm left unutilised.

The practical way in which the task has been tackled in the Yorktown area might well be followed by other districts throughout the country where nothing has yet been done in the direction of 'reconstruction.' There is everywhere much leeway to make up, and this will not yet be accomplished by leaving the question to look after itself. The war is not yet over, but work of this description cannot be done hurriedly—it takes time—and those Associations who leave it entirely till the days of peace may regret their inaction when they find themselves much behind those who take time by the forelock.

As we have said before, we believe the soundest plan for a quick recovery after the war is to strengthen the bands in the belfries now by inducing all those who are under-manned to raise their numbers to something near the normal, so that when those at present with the forces return to their homes they will find the bells to welcome them, and in the majority of towers a band only awaiting their help to regain the old position with little further loss of time. By the encouragement and help which they can give now the Associations can do a great deal, and in the long run it will benefit them and the Exercise at large. Indeed, it is to the wider result that we must look. It is not merely whether an effort to help some isolated tower is worth while in itself; but whether the Church and the Art is to reap the advantage which will be gained by every belfry that is raised to a state of efficiency. The lack of enterprise which is sometimes to be seen among certain ringing organisations is likely to operate adversely in this matter of revival, unless members everywhere take up the question and insist on a move being made. At the same time it must be remembered that it is a subject which requires something more than talk—it requires action; an action by the rank and file as well as by officials.

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I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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TEN BELL PEAL.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 7, 1918, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

ALBERT H. WARD Treble	*THOMAS RILEY 6
WILLIAM LAMBERT 2	SAMUEL WESLEY 7
JOHN FLINT 3	JAMEL GEORGE 8
WILLIAM T. PEGLAR 4	WALTER ALLWOOD 9
ARTHUR KNIGHTS 5	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

* First peal on ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, September 7, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

*HARRY OVERTON Treble	ERNEST WEATHERBY 5
*THOMAS W. PEAKE 2	JOSEPH BROADLEY 6
CHARLES R. LILLEY 3	RICHARD T. HOLDING 7
GEORGE H. CRAWLEY 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES Tenor

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

The above was rung after meeting short for Kent Treble Bob, Mr. Peake standing in at the last minute and ringing his first peal of Major. The peal was arranged specially to oblige Mr. J. E. Sykes of Huddersfield and Mr. Broadley of Bradford, Yorks. The ringers of 1, 4 and 7 hail from Crewe, 2 and 5 are local men, and 3 from St. Chad's, Shrewsbury.

* First peal of Bob Major.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ARMLEY, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, August 30, 1918, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. W. MOORHOUSE,
10, MITFORD ROAD, ARMLEY,†

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

MALCOLM MOORHOUSE ... 1—2	JOHN W. MOORHOUSE ... 5—6
PERCY J. JOHNSON ... 3—4	GERALD MOORHOUSE ... 7—8

Composed by C. A. RIDGEWAY, of Leek, Staffs.

Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON.

First peal in the method on handbells by the ringer of 5—6, and first peal by the ringers of 1—2 and 7—8, who are aged 13 and 14 years respectively. The two boys deserve great credit for the very able manner in which they rang an excellent peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, September 3, 1918, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes

IN ST. MARTIN'S BELFRY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 size in E flat.

JOSEPH PIGOTT 1—2	*GEORGE F. SWANN 5—6
JAMES E. GROVES 3—4	†MORRIS J. MORRIS 7—8

Conducted by MORRIS J. MORRIS.

Referee: JAMES GEORGE.

* First peal of Grandsire 'in hand.'

† First peal on handbells as conductor.

SELBY.—On Sunday, June 23rd, for evening service, at the Abbey. 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins., by: A. Hall 1, F. Cryer 2, E. Storr 3, W. Hinton 4, E. Rickitt 5, Sergt. E. Morris (Leicester), conductor, 6, H. Fairlam 7, G. Rippon 8.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, a nice September afternoon, the members of the North and East District of the Middlesex Association were privileged once again to visit Stanmore, where a warm welcome is always assured. The church, with its many beautiful memorials, and the churchyard, now so splendidly kept by the new sexton, Mr. G. Hughes, attract the eye of a visitor to this unique spot in Middlesex. The tower itself contains a nice ring of six bells, with plenty of room for two trebles (which we hear are likely to be added after the war).

Ringers attended the meeting from Aldenham, Barnet, Harrow, Isleworth, Stanmore, Walthamstow and Willesden, and the bells were kept in constant use in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles. Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

A short intercession service was held in the church, conducted by the Rev. F. Payler Woodward (priest-in-charge), who also gave a helpful address, taking for his text St. Matthew xxii, 21, "Render therefore unto Caesar," etc. The hymns sung were "All people that on earth do dwell" and "Jesu, Lover of my Soul."

An adjournment was afterwards made to the Institute, where a capital tea was served. There was very little business to be done, other than the reading of the minutes and two letters. It was announced that the next meeting would be at Croydon on Sept. 21st.

Hearty votes of thanks were accorded all who had made the meeting so enjoyable, including the Churchwardens, the Organist, Mr. Heading, Mr. Hughes, and to Mrs. Barnes for arranging the tea.

The tower was again visited until 8.30, while a tune or two on the handbells by Messrs. Frank Hall and O. Twist was much appreciated.

5088 TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

BY H. PRICE, FISKERTON, NOTES.

23456	M	B	W	H
52436			1	
26435	1			2
45362	1		1	2
54263		—	1	2
43265	2	—	1	2
35264	2	—	1	2
26354			1	1
36524	1	—		1
25634	1	—		2
24536	2			1
32546			1	
23645	2			2
25346	2			1
42356			1	
24653	2			2
23456	2			1

The 6th extent, wrong, and six course ends at home without the 2nd

HOME ON LEAVE.

BLETCHLEY RINGER PROMOTED.

On Sunday, August 25th, the ringers of St. Mary's, Bletchley, had the pleasure of welcoming two of their old members, who were both home on leave from France, viz., Second Lieut. S. King and Sapper H. F. Morris, both of the Railway Operating Corps. It was most fortunate that both should be home together and to commemorate the event, coupled with the promotion of Lieut. S. King, which took place a few before he came home on leave, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung for evening service by Second Lieut. S. King, R.E., 1: H. Sear, 2: Spr. H. F. Morris, R.E., 3: A. Crane (first quarter of Grandsire inside), 4: W. Sear (conductor), 5: E. Marks, 6: F. Whitehead, 7: F. Stanton, 8: Lieut. S. King, who joined the Railway Section of the Royal Engineers, was employed in the Locomotive Department at Bletchley and his promotion has been somewhat rapid. A Meritorious Conduct Medal goes with his promotion, and his brother ringers wished him further success on his return to France, whither he was going on the following day.

On Sunday, September 1st, a quarter peal of Stedman Triples was rung as a farewell touch to Sapper H. F. Morris, his brother ringers wishing him a safe return. Those taking part in the quarter peal were A. Crane 1, J. Mead 2, F. Stanton 3, Spr. H. F. Morris, R.E., 4, W. Sear 5, F. Hedges 6, H. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8.

St. Mary's tower now has seven members serving in France, two in training, while one has made the supreme sacrifice.

On Monday, September 2nd, at the Parish Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, a half peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal was rung on the occasion of a visit of Charles Broadbent, one of the Parish Church ringers, who was over on leave from France, and who returned on the following Wednesday: B. Morgan 1, J. Broadbent 2, C. Bower 3, T. Jakeman 4, Chas. Broadbent 5, John Leigh 6, J. Mellor 7, A. Adams 8, S. Wood (conductor) 9, B. Thorp 10.

At St. John's Church, Peterborough, for evening service, on Sept. 1st, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung for Cpl. H. Beechey, who was home on leave from the Front: H. Coles 1, T. Vaughan 2, S. Wright 3, Cpl. H. Beechey, M.T., A.S.C., 4, W. G. Cross 5, W. Jarvis 6, F. Cooke (conductor) 7, T. Howling 8.

Pte. F. Jones, of Caerphilly, who is serving with the Welsh Fus-

liers, being home on leave, 462 Grandsire Triples was rung on Sunday evening at St. Martin's Church, Caerphilly, by Miss Doris Coles 1, W. Pike 2, J. Jones 3, G. Cooke (conductor) 4, D. Stephens 5, Pte. P. Jones 6, F. Boucher 7, W. Williams 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

TIPTON.—On Saturday, June 22nd, members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford and the Dudley Guild met at the Parish Church (St. Martin) to attempt a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major in honour of Mr. Alfred Rowley's half-century and of his sailor son's marriage (which took place at the above church in the morning part); also on the eve of the C.E.M.S. service, but after ringing nearly two hours it unfortunately came to grief. The band being: B. Gough, W. Rock Small, C. Wallater, T. Cattell, A. Greenfield, W. A. Cooper, A. Rowley (conductor), and James George. Afterward, all adjourned to the Church House, where they were joined by a much-esteemed and respected friend, Mr. John Smith, and sat down to a fine country-style spread of pre-war days, and to which full justice was done. Afterwards, Mr. Small said a few words of congratulation to Mr. Rowley on his attainment of the half-century; also his son, who has been in several sea engagements: Messrs. Smith and J. George heartily endorsing Mr. Small's remarks.

LAVENHAM.—On Saturday, June 22nd, the anniversary was held, ringing commenced at 2 o'clock. The methods rung were: Grandsire and Stedman, Bob Major, Double Norwich, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major. The visiting ringers were: H. English, Coddanham; T. E. Slater, Glomsford; C. Crapnell, Ipswich; W. Head, Little Walsingham, Suffolk; T. Fitzjohn, Thetford; C. Edwards, Swaffham, Norfolk; A. Shuffelbotham, Braintree; E. Beckwith, Great Coggeshall; J. Sadler, Great Tey; J. Penning, Saffron Walden; D. Elliott, Little Henny; S. Hale, B. Pettit, Sible Hedingham, Essex; F. G. Symonds, Tufnell Park, London; A. Mason, Harrow, Middlesex. The first touch of Grandsire Triples was rung, with the tenor clapper half-muffled, as a mark of respect and deep regret of the loss of two of the local company, Pte. Geo. Lambert and Lance-Corpl. Thos. Pryke, both in Suffolk Regiments, the former on March 2nd, 1916, the latter June 22nd, 1917, since the war began. Lavenham Tower has lost 13 of its members, who have joined the colours.

HORNCHURCH.—On Sunday, June 22nd, at St. Andrew's Church for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: F. Rainbird 1, G. B. Pye (conductor) 2, E. Butler 3, G. Jaye 4, J. Dale 5, H. Dawkins 6, W. Watson 7, D. Phillips 8. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. H. Dale, who has been compelled, owing to ill-health, to relinquish the living.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Sunday, June 23rd, for evening service, at St. George-the-Martyr's Church, Southwark, 1280 Treble Bob Major, in 45 mins.: R. Sanders 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, W. J. Eldred 3, E. F. Pike 4, A. J. Neale 5, M. Fensom 6, G. R. Fardon 7, L. Rodmel 8.—On Sunday, June 30th, for evening service, at St. John-the-Divine, Vassal Road, Brixton, 1280 Treble Bob Major, in 47 mins.: F. C. Newman 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, A. J. Neale 3, E. F. Pike 4, G. R. Fardon 5, L. Rodmel 6, M. Fensom 7, R. Sanders 8.

DEANE, BOLTON.—The Lancashire Association.—On Sunday, June 23rd, for evening service, for the annual sermons, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 41 mins.: T. Peers, J. Lowe (Pendleton), T. Barlow (Deane), H. Chapman (Pendleton), J. Welsby (Walkden), W. Pennington (Bolton), J. Potter (conductor), Walkden; A. Tupper (tenor).

WARFIELD, BERKS.—A friendly gathering of ringers took place at Warfield on Saturday, June 29th, the following members of the Oxford Guild being present: Rev. G. F. Coleridge, R.D. (Crowthorne), W. T. Horne (High Wycombe), J. Moth (Sandhurst), Miss Pibworth and W. Bradley (Twyford), W. Fuller (Wargrave). Two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung as follow: W. T. Horne 1, Rev. G. F. Coleridge 2, J. Moth 3, Miss Pibworth 4, W. Fuller (conductor) 5, W. Bradley 6. The company also rung two six-scores of Stedman Doubles: G. F. Coleridge (conductor) 1, Miss Pibworth 2, W. T. Horne 3, J. Moth 4, W. Fuller 5, W. Bradley 6. The bells were then rung down, and, having thanked the Vicar, the party started home.

WHITTLESEA, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.—Peterborough and District Association.—On Saturday, June 29th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes) was rung by the following members: J. Jutson 1, S. Wright 2, H. Hoare 3, T. Tebbutt (conductor) 4, W. Cross 5, G. Smith 6, P. Vaughan 7, A. Neal 8.

ISLEWORTH.—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, June 30th, for morning service, 1260 Stedman Triples: W. Lidbetter 1, W. E. Judd 2, T. Bandle 3, A. W. Davis 4, E. F. Cole 5, A. V. Selby 6, W. E. Gerrard (conductor) 7, A. Sheard 8.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—Lancashire Association.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, June 30th, for evening service, 672 Bob Major: T. Watson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, J. Huddleston 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, T. Peers 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFS.—On Sunday, June 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., at Christ Church, rung as a farewell to the Rev. C. H. Barker, who leaves for the front: John Jagger 1, Rev. C. H. Barker 2, C. Dance 3, S. Asbury 4, J. Walker 5, J. Screen (conductor) 6, R. Hall 7, F. Troth 8.

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THE PROPER SUCCESSION OF ROWS.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Sir Arthur Heywood more than once in his writings laid it down that it is an axiom of change ringing that every bell that can must change its position at each blow; and other authorities have gone further and hold that no method is legitimate, or, at any rate, correctly constructed, unless at each succeeding row the maximum number of bells change places in pairs. Or, as it is alternatively put, unless the proper succession of the nature of the rows is kept. What that means is as follows: Supposing you are ringing Triples; you have seven bells, three pairs and an odd bell. You start with 1234567, and from it by changing 1 and 2, 3 and 4, 5 and 6 you get 2143657, the odd bell (the seventh) making the place. Again, from 2143657 you produce a fresh row, still by changing three pairs; and so on throughout. All your changes will be triple changes, and consequently the nature of the rows will be regularly one in-course and one out-of-course.

But if instead of following 1234567 with 2143657 or 2143576 or 2135476 or 1325476, you followed it with 1324657, thus—

1234567

1324657—

you have now only two pairs changing and three bells making places, that is, you have a double change. The result is that instead of the rows running alternately odd and even, you have an even row followed by an even row.

On an odd number of bells you have at every change a certain number of pairs and one bell left over. Thus, in five bell ringing you can get continuous double changes, seven bells, continuous triple changes, nine bells, continuous cater changes, and eleven bells continuous cinque changes. This succession, say many authorities, should not be departed from, and on the whole the custom of the Exercise for two hundred years has agreed with them.

When you come to even numbers of bells, the matter is not quite so clear, but to get the regular succession you have to work as follows: You start with 12345678. Here you have four pairs and no odd bell, so you change them all, which will give 21436587.

You have still four pairs, but if you change these four you come back at once to the row you started from, which obviously will not do. So what you do is to change three pairs only, letting two bells make places. This will give you 24163857 or 24135678, or one of eight other rows. At the next change you can change all your four pairs again. So you get alternately one row produced by changing the maximum number of pairs, and one by changing one less than the maximum number, and the nature of your rows will be alternately two even and two odd throughout. In even bell methods produced like this you will have no places at hand-stroke, and always two at back-stroke, no more and no less, counting the whole pulls before and behind as places.

That is the standard to which some would try and make all methods conform. The men who hold this view know what they are talking about, but before we accept their authority we want to see what it means. If other things were equal, a method which keeps this rule would be a better method than one which breaks it, and so far as methods on the plain principle are concerned the rule is a good rule, though not, I think, an essential rule. But when you come to Treble Bob, the other things cannot be equal, and for a few very simple reasons which I will not enter into here, a method which breaks the rule is far more likely to be a good method than one which keeps it.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

WESTERN DISTRICT.

A very pleasant company assembled on Saturday last at the picturesque village of Almondsbury, Glos, which is situated about six miles from Bristol. The pretty church spire contains a beautiful ring of eight bells, with a tenor of 22 cwt. Shortly after 5 o'clock the bells were raised, and some Grandsire and Stedman Triples rung: seven ladies taking part in one touch of Grandsire Triples. At 4 p.m. a short service was held, the Rev. E. Packer officiating, after which Mrs. Wood very kindly entertained the party, numbering about 25, to an excellent tea at the Vicarage. The gentlemen then made a move to the Belfry, while the ladies held a short business meeting, at which Mrs. Wood took the chair.

Miss Gillingham stated that this was the third meeting which had been held in the Western District, and as it was intended to continue to hold quarterly meetings, suggested that a president and secretary be elected. The meeting being in favour of this course, Mrs. Briggs, of Paulton, was unanimously elected president, and Miss Gillingham, of Portishead, hon. secretary. Five new members were elected from Almondsbury, including Mrs. Wood and Miss M. Wood, one from Bristol, viz., Mrs. John Thomas, and four from Isham, Northants.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Philip's, Bristol. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Wood for her great kindness in entertaining the ringers and making the afternoon so enjoyable.—Thanks are also due to the gentlemen ringers for their ever-willing assistance. They included Messrs. F. K. Howell, of Thorubury, Messrs. R. J. Wilkins, H. H. Tucker, and H. T. Howell, of Bristol, Mr. John Thomas, and Messrs. W. Gillingham, Nisbet, and Goldstone, of Portishead.

A BEGINNER'S DAY AT WINCHESTER.**A LADY'S IMPRESSIONS OF A GUILD ANNUAL MEETING.**

The longed-for day broke bright and clear, and we were up with the lark and off to catch the 6.28 a.m. train. The company of ringers increased from time to time, and soon there were many happy parties in the Winchester train. At Farnham it was joined by our Bishop, who got into a carriage full of ringers. He was soon in conversation with his fellow travellers, who begged him to come to our meeting in the afternoon, which he promised, if possible, to do. A very goodly company turned out at Winchester. We were a party of beginners from our own particular tower, and this was our first sight of the old Cathedral City.

We made for the Cathedral at once, sternly refusing to be delayed by many of the novel and attractive sights around us, and arrived just in good time for Matins. I will not attempt to describe our joy in the wondrous beauty of every sort, to the ear as well as to the eye, which we found ourselves surrounded, for that would be beyond my power. Suffice it to say, that we felt just drenched with it.

Directly after Matins we were taken up to the tower by Mr. Elkins, and as there were only a few ringers there at that early hour, we were allowed to ring a few rounds to our great delight. In spite of our pride and pleasure, however, some of us were not sorry to hear the word 'stand,' and to give up our ropes to our betters. We found the bells rather difficult to manage. We were next taken to see the bells in motion. This was a new experience to some of us, and none of us had ever seen it to such advantage before, and we found it a most beautiful and impressive sight. This was followed by a visit to the top of the tower, where we were greeted by a good stiff breeze. Many special objects of interest were pointed out, and after admiring the glorious view, we came down and went to see the sights of the city individually, including King Alfred's Statue, Winchester College, the beautiful Butter Cross, the museum, and wonderful old-world houses, and picturesque corners too numerous to mention. After this we were quite ready for the excellent lunch at Dumper's.

The next item on the programme and not the least important, was the annual meeting of the Guild at St. Maurice's Hall, which was rather over our heads, and all we could do was to listen respectfully. Very many of the members who regularly attend this annual meeting sent apologies for being unable to be present, mostly owing in one way or another to the war. Much regret was expressed by a letter from the Rev. C. E. Matthews, the Master, at his unavoidable absence.

A pleasant diversion was made by the arrival of the Bishop, who found himself able to spare us time for a short visit. He was greeted with hearty applause, and told us that he had that day learnt more of ringing than ever before, and he had also discovered to his great surprise and pleasure that there was still one thing which could bring people together, even in war-time. It was a noteworthy fact which he would bear in mind. He made the Guild very welcome to Winchester in a kindly little speech, and said what a pleasure it was to hear the bells, which were too seldom rung in these days, and, ending by saying he must not interrupt the meeting any longer, he retired amid further applause. The meeting broke up soon after, ten of the expert members hastening to the Cathedral to ring Stedman Caters before evensong, among them being the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who had just been admitted to the Guild, but who was evidently an old and valued friend.

The service was largely attended by members of the Guild, and was followed by the ringers' tea, in St. Maurice's Hall, an event marked by meetings of many old friends. After tea we went up into the tower once more, and were fortunate enough to get a few more rounds. Then we were obliged very reluctantly to wend our way back to the station. We went up to the old gate of the city through the ancient High Street, still to the sound of the glorious old bells, through great crowds of our new American Allies, who were to be seen here in large numbers.

So ended a veritable joy-day, happy memories of which will sweeten many a day of drudgery to come. The most outstanding memories, however, will always be, not of the outward glories of this historic city, marvellous as they are, but of the warm and living interest and of the valuable help and advice so spontaneously and ungrudgingly bestowed on their weaker brethren by all the members of this great Guild, not excepting even the most gifted exponents of their ancient and beautiful art, and one humble beginner, at any rate, only wishes they could know all the delight and encouragement their kindness has called forth. Surely these things cannot fail to bear much fruit in the time to come.

STEDMAN CINQUES 'IN HAND.'

Pte. M. Hibbert, who is now at Hinswell Camp, Catterick, Yorks, writes with reference to the recent peal of Stedman Cinques rung "in hand" by six members of St. Martin's Guild Sunday service band:—Before the war, at Oxhey, Herts, under the conductorship of Mr. George N. Price, the Sunday service band rang a number of peals of Cinques "in hand," also peals of Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise on tower bells, as well as ringing Cambridge, Superlative, London, Bristol and Cumberland Surprise Major. As the tower does not contain 12 bells, a peal of Cinques, of course, could not be rung on them.

RECONSTRUCTION.**A MOVE IN THE WINCHESTER GUILD.**

The question of "reconstruction" is being taken up in a practical way in the Yorktown District of the Winchester Guild, where the acting Hon. Sec. (Mr. F. J. Shepherd) has circularised the towers to gain information, with the two-fold object of (1) ascertaining whether each tower is up to its proper ringing standard, and to advise and assist where such is not the case; (2) obtaining a roll of honour of Guild members who have fallen, with a view to some suitable memorial being provided. The questions asked include the following:—Number of male ringers over 18 years of age; number under 18; number of lady ringers; how many ringers have been called up for active service; particulars of those who have paid the supreme sacrifice; details as to Sunday and practice ringing; whether new hands are being taught; what methods are being rung; and whether assistance is required from the Guild in the way of instruction. Combined practices have already been arranged under the "reconstruction" programme, while, change ringing being at a somewhat low ebb at Walton-on-Thames, eight members of the Guild paid a visit to St. Mary's Church on Sunday, September 1st, and rang a well-struck quarter peal of Grandsire Triples for evening service: S. H. Marshall 1, D. A. Rowe 2, A. Diserens 3, C. Raddon 4, F. Shepherd, senr. (conductor) 5, R. Lathbury 6, F. J. Shepherd 7, B. Wickens 8. As announced in the "Ringing World" a combined practice of the Guild will be held at Walton-on-Thames on September 28th.

A combined practice was held at Otlands Park on Saturday last, and was very successful, a large number of ringers attending from London, Kingston, Guildford, Hersham, Chertsey, Walton and Cranleigh, in addition to the local band. The capital ring of eight was set going at 6 p.m., and various Major and Triple methods were rung, with courses of Grandsire Triples, in which some of the local band were able to ring Triples open for the first time. The proceedings terminated just before 8 p.m. with a well-struck touch of Stedman by A. G. Mason (London) 1, J. J. Jones (Guildford) 2, F. Shepherd, senr. (Hersham) 3, D. A. Rowe (Weybridge) 4, C. Raddon 5, A. Woodrow (Hersham) 6, F. J. Shepherd (conductor) 7, B. Whittington (Cranleigh) 8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**VICE-PRESIDENT'S TERM OF OFFICE.**

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch took place on Saturday week at Whitworth Parish Church, and it was well attended by representatives from Whitworth, Middleton, Milnrow, Newhey, Oldham, Glodwick, Heywood, Helmsboro, Christ Church and St. Saviour's, Bacup. During the afternoon touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major were rung.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. S. Stott (of Oldham), and it was decided that the next meeting should take place at Newhey on Saturday, October 5th.

Some discussion took place as to the length of the term of office of the Vice-President of the Association, and the universal opinion of the meeting appeared to be that it should be held for not longer than twelve months.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the tower and bells; also to the local ringers for having everything in readiness.

After the meeting several ringers from the Rossendale Branch arrived and ringing was resumed for over an hour. The opinion was expressed by several members that it was one of the most successful meetings they had had the pleasure of attending.

DEATH OF AN ECKINGTON VETETAN.

At the advanced age of 82 years, Mr. William Price died at Eckington on August 29th, and thus is severed the last link with a past generation of Eckington ringers. Mr. Price joined the local company upwards of 50 years ago, and all the members of the band of that time have now passed away. He rang his first peal in 1864 at Beighton, in seven Treble Minor methods. The Yorkshire reporter credits Mr. Price with 25 peals on the six and eight bells, and there are also a number of peals in the Eckington records to his credit before the Association was formed. Mr. Price was a devoted Sunday service ringer, and by his regularity and punctuality set a splendid example. His last touch on the bells was rung June 30th of this year, when he rang Kent Treble Bob. In his younger days he was a good cricketer.

The funeral took place at Eckington on Sunday week. The first part of the Service was held in the Parish Church, and six of the ringers acted as bearers. A touch on the hand bells was rung at the graveside, where about 20 ringers assembled from Chesterfield, Killamarsh, Staveley and Norton to pay their last respects to an esteemed colleague. Mr. A. Knights afterwards conducted several long touches of Kent Treble Bob with the bells half muffled.

FALSE PEAL.

Mr. J. E. Groves writes that he regrets that the peal of Stedman Cinques published by him in our issue of July 12th, is false.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown Branch.—Combined Practice Meetings have been arranged as under: Sept. 14, Ottershaw, 5.30 p.m.; Sept. 21, Yateley, 5.30 p.m.; Sept. 28th, Walton-on-Thames (St. Mary's), 6 p.m. Members and other Ringers are cordially invited.—F. J. Shepherd, Dist. Sec. *pro tem*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Sellindge, near Hythe, on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Iron Acton on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m.—W. Stafford, Hon. Branch Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol, E.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Llanbradach on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available all the afternoon and evening; meeting at 4.30. Tea will be provided. Evensong at 7.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Thrapston District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Thrapston on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock; service at 4.30; meeting to follow.—F. Stubbs, District Sec., Bridge Street, Raunds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock; service at 5.30; meeting at 6.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Secs.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, September 14th, at Doncaster, St. George's. Bells (8) will be at the disposal of the visitors from 3.30 till 5 o'clock, and from 5.30 till dusk. The fine light peal of 6 at Arksey (tenor 9 cwt.) are also at the service of the visitors. The business meeting will be held at 5.30 p.m.—Frank Willey, 110, Petre Street, Sheffield, Sec. *pro tem*.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Idle on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting and 8-bell contest will take place at Brighouse on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Draw for order of ringing at 2.45. *No refreshments provided.*—W. Frith, Sec., 5, Lutton Street, Birkby, Huddersfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Ashton-under-Lyne Parish Church on Sept. 14th. Bells available at 4 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting will be held at St. Ann's, Highgate, on Saturday, 14th September, from 4.30 to 8 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next and last meeting of this summer series will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Twelve bells available from 3 o'clock.—Sam. Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637.)—Meetings will be held at the 'Coffee Pot,' Warwick Lane, E.C., on the 19th for handbell practice, and on the 24th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Annual district meeting will be held at Sittingbourne on Saturday, September 21st. Will those who wish to attend, let me know not later than Wednesday, Sept. 18th?—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. District Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—An interim meeting of the above will be held at Mersham on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Ringing (8 bells) to commence at 3 o'clock. All ringing friends will be heartily welcomed.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting for combined practice will be held at Puttenham monthly, commencing on Saturday, Sept. 21st, at 5.30 p.m., continuing until further notice on the third Saturday in each month. All ringers, especially those wishing to make progress in the rudiments of change-ringing, are urged to attend these meetings.—A. C. Hazelden, Ringing Master, Joseph's Road, Guildford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Croydon (by kind permission of the Rev. A. T. Reeve) on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells available from 3 to 7.15 p.m.; service 5.30; tea and business meeting 7.30, at the Wilton Carriage Works (Mr. H. E. Wills). It is essential that those intending to be present should advise me *not later* than Sept. 17th. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Easton-in-Gordano on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells available at 3 o'clock; Divine service at 4.30; tea in the Schoolroom at 5.30, business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Clent on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells available from 3 o'clock; service in the Church at 5; business meeting in the Schools after the service. Election of officers takes place at this meeting. Tea, at 1/2 per head, can be provided for all those who will let me know on or before Wednesday, Sept. 18th.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Sec., 11, St. Edward's Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Isham, near Kettering, on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Ringing from 3 o'clock; short service at 5, followed by tea. Will all who intend being present kindly communicate with Mr. Walter Wilson, The Pines, Isham?—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 40, Rockmount Road, Upper Norwood, S.E.19.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Rochdale on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Further particulars by circular.—W. H. Shuker, 106, Bank

Street, Clayton, Manchester, and J. H. Banks, 462, Helms-shore Road, Helms-shore, Hon. Secs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells available from 2 p.m.; tea (1/6 each) 5 p.m., at Radford's Café, Bath Street, followed by general meeting in the Parish Room, North Street. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. E. W. Beads-moore, 1, Avenue Road, not later than Sept. 25th?—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Fulham, on Saturday, Sept. 28th, commencing at 4 p.m.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at St. Giles', Cripplegate, Saturday, September 28th. Bells available 3 p.m. till dusk; meeting at headquarters afterwards.—James Parker, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*).

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Harpenden on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Nash, Hon. District Sec., North Mymms, Hatfield.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Kings-winford on Saturday, September 28th. Bells available at 3 o'clock; short service in Church, with an address, at 5.15; tea (if possible) 1/-, in the Parish Room at 6, those intending to be present please notify me not later than the 24th inst. Reports will be ready for distribution. Motor 'bus leaves Wolverhampton High Level Station at 2 and 3 o'clock.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The address of Mr. A. L. Coleman, the new Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association, is High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE.

HANDBELLS, 19, two octaves in C, and 4 half-tone bells; good order; boxed and carriage paid; £6 10s. About 100 odd copies of 'Bell News,' what offer?—Write 'Bells,' 'Ringing World' Office.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, having started a fund to help forward the above memorial, appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, June 30th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 47 mins.: Ernest Carter 1. G. Alder 2. Miss Gladys Bateman 3. J. J. Parker (conductor) 4. W. Bateman 5. W. H. Fussell 6. Wm. Henley 7. Richard Lane 8. Rung on the 35th anniversary of the steeplekeeper's marriage.

WALTON, LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday, June 30th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: H. Harrison 1. J. W. Bell 2. T. Gilmour 3. Sapper E. J. Brooks (Kidderminster) 4. J. Martin 5. H. Martin (conductor) 6.

CRANLEIGH, SURREY.—On July 1st, in honour of Dominion Day, 420 Grandsire Triples: Ida Charman 1. W. Streeter 2. Mrs. R. Whittington 3. R. Whittington 4. A. Charman 5. Sergt. R. Carrier, C.R.A. 6. W. Charman 7. E. Werner 8.

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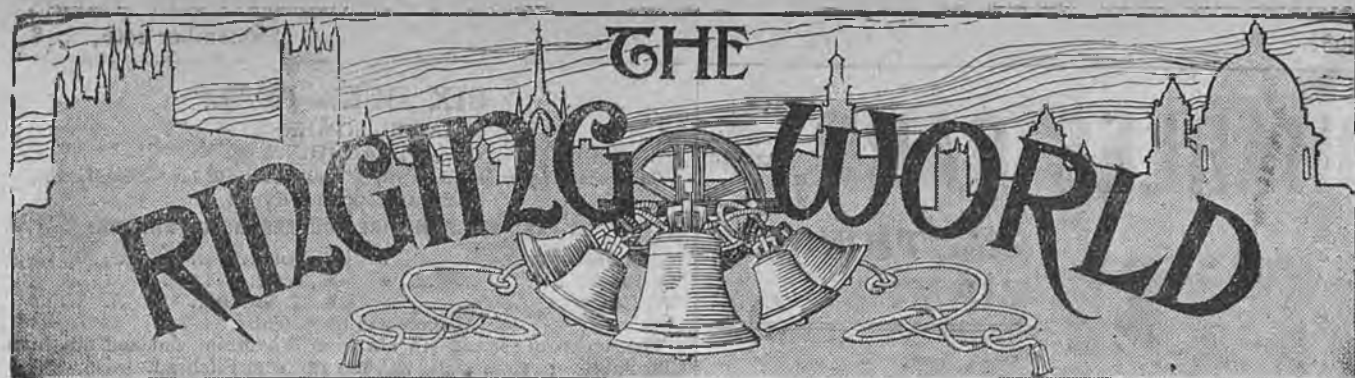
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Senior (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK.

THE 'LEAD ENDS' DISCUSSION.

The discussion on the subject of 'Lead Ends' and the kindred matter of Legitimate Methods is far from exhausted, although up to the moment only the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and Mr. Trollope have taken part in it. The revival of the controversy—for it has been debated at length at other times and in other places—came about through the publication of Mr. Davies' pamphlet, which is directed at destroying the findings of the Legitimate Methods Committee, as accepted by the Council many years ago. To many present members of the Exercise the Legitimate Methods report is practically unknown, except in the one important particular that it is laid down that every 'legitimate' method—which, after all, only means every 'regular' method, for there is nothing at present either legal or illegal, in the ordinary sense of the term, about the construction of methods—must have Bob Major lead ends. The Committee's findings embodied in the report do not say why these are necessary, and the article by Mr. Trollope, which appears elsewhere in this issue, explains why the arguments, as well as the conclusions, were not forthcoming. The three persons upon whom the drafting of the report finally rested were unable to agree among themselves as to the best form of explanation, for they appear (or at least the Rev. H. Law James and Mr. Trollope appear) to have reached their conclusions by a different process of reasoning.

We have no recollection as to whether, or to what extent, this diversion of opinion was placed before the Council when that body was asked to adopt the report, but we have asked Mr. Trollope to now give the Exercise the reasons which guided him to the conclusion that the only legitimate lead ends were those which belong to Bob Major. In asking him to do this while he is actively engaged in the fighting line in France, with all the distractions by which thoughtful writing under such conditions is handicapped, and also without opportunity of reference to the mass of material which he has accumulated on the subject, is to ask him to undertake a task of unusual difficulty, for the subject is an involved one which requires the quietude of a study to be adequately dealt with. However, Mr. Trollope has kindly promised to do what he can, and the article this week, setting out what was done originally by the Committee, is the preliminary.

If Mr. Trollope is able to place his reasonings before the Exercise in a way that will put the Exercise in possession of such facts as will enable the members to form a considered judgment for themselves, he will have done a good service. At present, it must be admitted, the average ringer finds it difficult to follow a controversy, in which two experts take opposing views, without knowing, in the case of one at any rate, the basis upon which is built the conclusions that he supports.

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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS write with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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Kindly ask us to Inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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SIX BELL PEAL.

HALSE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
On Sunday, September 15, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

*A. C. HARVEY 1	F. POLE 4
*G. JONES 2	A. TOUT 5
*W. CLAPP 3	A. C. SMITH 6

Conducted by A. TOUT.

The ringers of 1st and 5th are from Milverton, 2nd and 6th from Chipstable, 3rd from Halse and the 4th from Fitzhead.

* First peal and first attempt.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, September 12, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
IN ST. MARTIN'S BELFRY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 size in B flat.

JOSEPH PIGOTT 1-2	ALBERT WALKER 5-6
JAMES E. GROVES 3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN 7-8
MORRIS J. MORRIS 9-10	

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER. Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.
Referee: JAMES GEORGE.

THE LAST MAN GONE.

'Perhaps no belfry in Leicester,' says the Vicar, writing in the 'Parish Magazine' of St. John the Divine, Leicester, 'has shown more patriotic spirit than that of St. John's. When war broke out, one by one the ringers joined up. At the end of 1916, six of the men had gone overseas, four were left, and four young lady ringers. Still they joined up, and when Mr. F. Howe (who in addition to singing in the choir can handle a rope) went a month ago, only the skipper of the ship was left! On Wednesday, August 7th, Mr. W. Willson, steeple-keeper, answered the call and joined the Royal Air Force—and the last man had gone. The ship will not sink, however, for fortunately our lady ringers are all Mr. Willson's daughters who can ring, chime and play hymns when required.'

Mr. W. Willson, we may add, was '50 not out' while at Blandford Camp, Dorset. He is at present stationed at the Aerodrome, Tadcaster, Yorkshire.

PETERBOROUGH RINGERS AT CHATTERIS.

On Saturday last, five members of St. Mary's, Peterborough (F. Rollingson, G. Barker, W. Waldron, Kathleen Jutson, and J. J. Jutson), with T. Tebbutt (Northampton), Jessie Pulett (March), paid a visit to Chatteris, Cambs. The company were met at the church by members of the local band, Messrs. Abrams, Chreshlay, Miss Abrams, and Mr. Edwins. The bells, a musical ring of six, were soon going to a good touch of Kent Treble Bob. Subsequently, Oxford, Woodbine, Double Court and Plain Bob were rung, after which one of the local men suggested Stedman Doubles, saying they had tried for years, but the first 120 had yet to be rung on the bells. So followed several six-score of Stedman. The first on the bells was rung by Kathleen Jutson. A. Abrams, G. Barker, J. Pulett, T. Tebbutt and J. J. Jutson. The party had a very pleasant afternoon and evening, and were indebted to Mr. Abrams for the arrangements, including tea, etc. Credit is due to the local men for the manner in which the belfry is kept, it being well lighted and ventilated, with matted floor, a heating stove in the centre, and rush-bottomed chairs. The walls are covered with peal boards relating peals rung during the last fifteen years.

A ROUND OF VISITS.

The Milton-next-Gravesend band have paid the following visits to neighbouring towers:—

Cobham, on Sunday, July 21st, where they rang 720 Plain Bob for morning service.

Christ Church, Erith, on Sunday, July 28th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob (1280 changes) was rung for morning service. Mr. T. Groombridge, senr., and Mr. T. Groombridge, junr., assisted in this quarter-peal, which was conducted by the former.

Thorne.—On Sunday, August 21st, for morning service, 720 Grand-sire Minor and 720 Kent Treble Bob was brought round.

Higham.—On Sunday, Sept. 8th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob and 720 Grand-sire Minor. At each of these places, with the exception of Christ Church, Erith, the church bells are now never rung, owing to the ringers being absent in the service of their country. The following took part in the visits: Fred. Hayes, H. Argent, G. Jones, G. Morrad, J. Avis, C. Waterman, George Hayes, H. Holden, Guy Ambrose, and Fred. Mitchell, R.A.F.

FALLEN IN THE WAR.

Official news has been received that Regt.-Sergt.-Major Tucker, of Caerphilly, and a member of the Llandaff Diocesan Association, was killed in France on Sunday, Sept. 8th.

He was a splendid type of a man, being of most genial disposition, and the sad news is deeply regretted by all his fellow ringers.

It will be remembered that his picture appeared in the 'Ringing World' of August 10th, 1917; at that time he had been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

A SUNDAY'S VISIT TO NORFOLK TOWERS.

A BISHOP'S THANKS.

On Sunday, Sept. 8th, the Fakenham ringers (Norwich Diocesan Association) had a special ringing Sunday in their district. The party met at Fakenham Church at ten o'clock, and rang before morning service. A waggonette was then in readiness, and after a drive of seven miles reached South Creake Church, where the beautiful peal of five heavy bells were started, and touches were rung for an hour, followed by an inspection of the bells and frames which badly need overhauling. Great difficulty was found in handling the bells, the frame on inspection showing signs of shoring with crude trimmed timbers. Next the party journeyed to North Creake Church, a favourite tower with the ringers, but found that the bells had not been raised since they were last there. Two 720's were rung, and then the company made a further journey of seven miles, through a pleasant wooded district, to Wells-next-the-Sea, which was reached at 4.30 p.m. Ringing at once commenced for the evening service, which is held at six o'clock. The company were met by an old famed Norfolk ringer, of 40 years ago, James Skinner, one of the former St. Peter Mancroft ringers. He had done very little ringing in recent years, but he soon made his mind up for a touch of Grandsire Triples, which more than delighted him. Afterwards, other touches, including Bob Major, were rung. At the evening service the preacher was the Bishop of Thetford, who, in the course of his sermon, remarked on the skilful and scientific way the bells had been rung for service. He had listened to them as he approached the church, and said it was a treat to hear them rung, as most churches had lost all the ringers for war services.

The day was somewhat stormy, and, having ten miles to travel, the ringers, after service, started for home, which was reached at 9 p.m. Various touches of Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire and Plain Bob were rung during the day, being conducted by Mr. W. E. Bason, and the arrangements were made by Mr. C. S. Tuthill, captain of the Fakenham company. The members wish to thank the clergy and officers in charge for the use of the bells.

On the following Thursday a nice congratulatory letter was received by Mr. Tuthill from the Bishop of Thetford, who after service had heard of the trip. He said the ringers had done a hard day's work, and he could hardly imagine them getting the four churches in and travelling so far in so short a time.

THE LLANDAFF ASSOCIATION.

SUGGESTED MEMORIAL FOR THOSE FALLEN IN THE WAR.

A quarterly meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at Llanbradach on Saturday last, and was very well attended. The bells were available all the afternoon and evening, full advantage being taken to use them, the methods rung including Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tea, very kindly provided by the local men, was served in the Parish Hall, fifty sitting down. The business meeting followed, presided over by the Vicar of the Parish (the Rev. Edwin Edwards), who at the outset remarked that one of the association members, Regimental-Sergt.-Major S. Tucker, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was killed in France on the preceding Sunday, and as a last tribute of respect he asked all to stand in silence for a few moments, which was accordingly done.

Instructors' reports were read, Mr. Cook, of Caerphilly, promising to continue instruction at Bedwas.

Mr. Walter Bossett, of Llanelly, was elected a new member, and the place for the next quarterly meeting of the Llandaff Archdeaconry was left over until the annual meeting, which is to be held at Llandaff on December 26th.—The next Monmouth Archdeaconry quarterly meeting will be held at Malherne, near Chepstow, on October 26th.

Mr. Frank Stephens, Llanbradach, gave notice that he would at the annual meeting move that something be done at the conclusion of the war by this association in the way of a memorial to those fallen in the war.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. W. Jones) and Mr. J. E. Sykes made an appeal to the members to increase the sale of 'The Ringing World' by taking more copies, and paid a tribute to the Editor for what, under great difficulties through his recent illness, he had done to present the paper to the ringing fraternity week by week without fail.

After the meeting, a band was formed by Mr. Cook to go to Caerphilly and ring the bells, muffled, as a last tribute to Sergt.-Major Tucker, he being one of the members of the Caerphilly band to start change ringing when the bells were installed there.

Prior to the meeting, six members of the All Saints' band, Newport, made a special call at Bedwas for the purpose of giving Mr. J. E. Sykes, of Huddersfield, his first pull on those bells. The meeting was a great success, and the best thanks are due to the local ringers at Llanbradach for their efforts.

WINCHESTER GUILD.

A combined practice meeting was held at Ottershaw on Saturday last, when, despite the somewhat inclement weather, there was a fairly good muster of ringers, including two ladies (Miss V. Shorter, of Otterlands, and Mrs. Shepherd, of Hershaw). Ringing commenced at 5.30 p.m. on the excellent peal of six (tenor 16½ cwt.), and many touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, also Plain Bob and Treble Bob, were brought round. The local hand put in an appearance during the evening, and were rather pressed to see ladies ringing and the tenor being 'turned in.' They, however, had a pull, and it is hoped they will join the Guild. The ringing was much appreciated in the village, as the bells are not rung regularly.

ANOTHER TRIP TO SOMERSET VILLAGES.

The last of the summer cycling trips to Somerset villages was made in stormy weather, on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 8th. Heathfield was the first place to be visited, and here met Messrs. A. C. Harvey, A. Tout (Milverton), G. Jones (Chipstable), W. Sealey (Bishop's Lydeard), E. Lock (Heathfield), F. Sharland, and J. Barter (Oake). Heathfield has a nice light peal of five, which have been silent for more than twelve months, and the inhabitants were pleased to again hear their musical sounds. The next place was Hill Partridge, where is another peal of five, which also have been silent for some time. Only rounds could be attempted, as the cage, which has done service for probably 200 years, is in very bad condition. After fifteen minutes' run, Bradford-on-Tone was reached. Here is a peal of six (tenor about 20 cwt.), hung in an iron frame, which were soon set going to Grandsire Doubles, and the sweet mellow tones of the back five were greatly enjoyed. The treble has been added in recent years, and its tone is sharp and piercing, and contrasts badly with the other five. In fact, it is a bad splice, and in the opinion of the visitors spoils the peal. Two miles further on is West Buckland, with another peal of six, but lighter than Bradford, and not so good in tone. After half an hour's ringing here, a start was made for Wellington to ring for evening service. At this church the party was met by the local men, and the peal of eight (tenor 22 cwt.) were kept going until service time. Owing to the wet weather only about half of those expected turned up.

WILLENHALL RINGER'S CONSPICUOUS BRAVERY.

Pte. Frank Ward, of the R.A.M.C., a ringer of St. Giles', Willenhall, Staffs., has been awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous gallantry in tending the wounded during the night of July 20th. When the award was announced his Colonel summoned him to his presence, and congratulated him upon having added to the laurels of the R.A.M.C. On two previous occasions Pte. Ward had been commended for his conduct, one being on March 21st, when a French General (General de Laquiere) wrote to his C.O. praising him for his daring during an air raid. 'He exhibited the greatest courage,' says the French General, 'and showed wonderful activity, searching the smoking debris with extreme devotedness under fire, and withdrawing the wounded and bearing them to the hospital.'

Pte. F. Ward belongs to the North Midland Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C. He is a member of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, and was one of the most promising of the younger members of the band, at St. Giles', Willenhall, where he has rung several peals of Grandsire Triples, and was making good progress with Stedman, when, at the outbreak of war, he was mobilised, as were many more ringers who were connected with the Territorial Force.

Writing in the 'Parish Magazine,' the Vicar says: 'Frank is one of the best known among the younger members of our congregation. He was educated at St. Giles' Day and Sunday Schools, and is now one of our bell ringers and a regular communicant. We are proud that one of our boys has conducted himself with such chivalry and courage in the midst of peril, and offer our heartiest congratulations to him and his family on the distinction that has been awarded him.'

The following members of St. Giles' band have joined H.M. Forces: David Appleby, R.A.M.C.; Frank Ward, R.A.M.C.; Fred. J. Ward, R.A.M.C.; S. H. Coley, Second Air-Mechanic, R.A.F.; E. Coley, South Staffords, missing; Ralph Baker, R.E., missing; Albert Ward, R.E., Railway Section; C. Davis, Employment (Artisan) Company; C. Beech, T.G.A.; H. Taylor, South Staffords; S. Evans, R.A.M.C.

DOVE LEYS TO BE SOLD.

Dove Leys, one of the charming residences of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, is to be sold, according to a daily paper. The delightful property, now in the hands of Sir Arthur's heir, Colonel Sir Percival Heywood, is beautifully situated on the Derbyshire and Staffordshire borders, with fine mansion and park lands adjoining the River Dove. A Staffordshire yeoman, who has served with distinction lately and gained the D.S.O., Sir Percival is the fourth holder of the title conferred on the Manchester banker and M.P. who led the Reform agitation in Lancashire, and succeeded the year before last on the death of his father, Sir Arthur Heywood, of Duffield Bank, Derby, and Dove Leys. The late baronet, the paragraph adds, was greatly interested in the application of light railways to agriculture, and had a model railway in the grounds at Duffield Bank.

Many ringers made the acquaintance of this railway.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

THE METHOD REPORT.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

It is not possible to draw any distinction between 'legitimate' and 'illegitimate' methods.

It is not possible to draw any sharp and definite line between good and bad methods.

It is not possible, even, to set up any absolute standard by which a method may be tested.

These are the conclusions to which I have come after some years very close study of the matter. Perhaps this may seem to some a denial of the Method Report and what it stands for, and a reversal of what I have been saying for a long time past. It is not so. It is merely a development, not a contradiction. It does not mean the denial of the Method Report, but an explanation and readjustment.

Some people, who ought to know better, seem to have the idea that the Method Committee is an irresponsible set of men who first of all invented some fads and then tried to foist them on the Exercise, in order to dictate to ringers what they should practise and what they should not, and incidentally to deprive them of many beautiful and excellent methods. There is not a shadow of truth in all this. The best way to disprove the charge is to tell briefly what really did happen.

About twenty years or so ago there was a good deal of interest taken in the Exercise in method construction, and many new methods were published in the 'Bell News,' and elsewhere. In the opinion of Sir Arthur Heywood and the Rev. Earle Bulwer these methods were not up to the standard they should have been. Some were lopsided; some would not produce good music; some would not produce enough true rows; some were old methods altered and spoilt; most of them showed that the laws of method construction were insufficiently understood. So these two gentlemen determined to bring the matter before the Council. Mr. Bulwer introduced it and made some suggestions for a definite standard of what a legitimate method should be. In the event a committee was appointed. It consisted of Messrs. Carter, Craven, Dains, Law James and myself.

Anyone who has any experience of committee work knows that usually some members take more interest and do more work than others. I was so in this case. Mr. Craven retired quite early. Mr. Carter, though he signed the report, was never very much in sympathy with his colleagues, and he, too, resigned. Mr. Dains remained a member till his death, and I used to spend hours discussing the matter with him; but I do not think I do him any injustice when I say that his knowledge and experience, great as they were, were hardly such as fitted him for this particular task; and his contribution to the actual report was small. The bulk of the work was done by Mr. James and myself, assisted by Mr. Bulwer, who, as secretary of the Council, was ex-officio a member of the committee.

It so happened, for reasons of which neither need be ashamed, that from the first there was a keen rivalry between Mr. James and myself, so that anything I said was sure to be criticised mercilessly by him, and what he said was equally severely tested by me. As a result it seemed for a long time that no agreement was possible. More than one draft report was circulated and rejected. Mr. Bulwer suggested that we should present a majority report and leave Mr. James out. Fortunately we did not do this. At last, after a long controversy, partly private and partly public, in which several outsiders took part, I drew up a statement of the results which I thought we had agreed on and published it in the form of a letter to the 'Bell News.' Mr. Bulwer wrote to me saying he could accept it as it stood, and suggested that it should be circulated as a draft report. I slightly reworded it, added a few explanatory notes, and sent it to Mr. James. He still preferred his own version, but decided to give way, provided that the definitions of 'plain lead,' 'bob lead' and 'single lead' were added. I did not, and do not, like these definitions, not because I denied or could deny the truth Mr. James wanted to express; but because I did not think them necessary, and I felt sure they would lead to misunderstanding—as the event has actually proved. However, as he had met me half-way, I could hardly do other than go the rest. The other members made no difficulty about signing; and at last, after five years, the report was presented.

I do not want to shelter myself behind a dead man's reputation, but I may point out that it was entirely due to Mr. Bulwer's suggestion that the report consists of this particular statement; and that when Mr. Davies attacks the honesty and abilities of the committee, he is not only attacking us, who are alive, but one who is dead and who had one of the finest intellects and the largest knowledge that was ever engaged in the science of ringing.

What I have said will effectually dispose of the charge that there was any underhanded conspiracy to foist a fad on the Exercise. We could hardly agree to the truth; we were not in the least likely to agree to any sham. It also explains why the report states conclusions and does not give proofs and explanations. It is simply the truth that we had reached the same result by such different roads that no agreement was possible upon proofs; and also that we did not know enough at that time to give an explanation which would have done any real good. One other point. Though there never was any intention or attempt to dictate to ringers what they shall ring, yet the Report does say definitely that such and such classes of methods are not legitimate and, by implication, not fit to ring. The explanation is easy. The Council definitely told us to go and draw up a statement of what

a legitimate method is. We did what we were told to do. If there is any dictation that is the Council's fault, not ours. And indeed all those people who cry out upon us for 'narrowing the range of composition,' depriving the Exercise of many beautiful and perfect methods,' and so forth, have done the same thing themselves.

Every standard you set up must in some way or other restrict composition. All our critics have their own standards, and their real quarrel with us is that we did not adopt those particular standards. Mr. Davies, for instance, who wastes so much sham indignation about the wrong we have done the Exercise, does himself the same thing. The only difference is that our standard is a reasonable and a good one, while his is an unreasonable and thoroughly bad one. Fortunately this statement can be tested in a quite efficient way. I do not make assertions and reach conclusions in this matter without first putting them to a searching test. I made a list of all the methods in which peals have been rung since ringing was. I may have missed one or two but not more. I divided them into three groups. The first group contains the ten standard methods. The second, those methods which although not standard have still been rung at different times in different places by different bands. The third, those methods which have been practised by one band only.

Alongside these I marked whether the method were legitimate or not, according to the Report, and also according to some other standards put forward by Mr. Davies and other men. I took those methods in which peals had been rung because that seemed the fairest way of getting at those methods which the Exercise, as a whole, had throughout its history found useful. If I had taken all the methods as yet worked out, the number would have been enormously increased, and would have consisted mainly of methods written out by Mr. James and myself assuredly within the limits of the Method Report standard. The evidence is strongest from the first group, less but still important from the second group, and practically negligible from the third group.

The result of this test is surprising and entirely vindicates the Method Report. According to it, all the ten standard methods are legitimate, but Mr. Davies rules out as illegitimate no fewer than four. (This is the man who charges the committee of trying to deprive the Exercise of many beautiful and perfect methods.) In the second group all the standards condemn such things as Rob Triples and Grandsire Major, but while the report rules out Canterbury Pleasure and Union Triples, Mr. Davies bans Forward, Albion, New Cumberland, Gloucester Surprise (one version), New Cambridge, and others. Mr. Davies leads his readers to suppose that the report condemns Stedman. There is not a word of truth in that. Whether Mr. James' ideas of that method are right or wrong, they were expressed subsequently to the publication of the report, and are not to be found there either directly or by implication. So much for the charge that the Report deprives the Exercise of any method of real value.

But I never looked on the Report as the final goal. It was a milestone on the way; a great advance on what had gone before. The committee's real task was to first understand and then explain the laws on which methods are founded, and that task I have kept before me for now twenty years. After the Method Report was presented, the committee took other work in hand. The classification report was drawn up and presented; the six-bell methods worked out and published; and the eight-bell methods largely worked out. Mr. James did practically the whole of this. I was at that time working hard at the Treble Bob peal collection, but I shortly returned to the original problem. There arose the Stedman controversy on which, as usual, I found myself in opposition to Mr. James. Then the question of how properly to extend a method. And arising out of these many other problems about such things as coursing order, principles, bobs, and others. My plan of working was first to collect facts and examine methods, and then to construct a theory which I thought would cover and explain them. When I had tested it I wrote it out and sent it either to Mr. James or another person for criticism. This criticism led to further statements, and so I gradually got a very large mass of evidence and opinion on the many points that arose. I also wrote a long analysis of Surprise Methods for Mr. William Snowden, and had the benefit of his criticism and help.

All this work was mainly tentative, but as I got further I began to see clearer, and at last I reached that point where I not only knew, but I knew that I knew. I then dropped working by theories and correspondence, and took in hand the task of constructing the science of change ringing as an abstract science from the very beginning.

The task is not so easy as it seems. I had got a mass of facts and opinions. Their main value was to show how little real proof there is behind most of the statements so confidently made. How theories, so good and fair to look on, at first break up when subjected to real tests! I had got plenty of facts; plenty of experience; plenty of opinions, my own and others. My first job was to take the whole lot and drop it overboard. That is the hardest thing of all to do. But it had to be done. All these facts and opinions will come in very useful later on. Now I had got to start with a perfectly open mind. I had to be willing, in fact, to learn.

I had to find, first of all, the very simplest things without which ringing does not exist. These I call the irreducible minima, or the fundamentals, and these alone I was entitled to assume as proved. I then took the simple axiom or ordinary abstract science, and with their aid constructed the science of ringing by pure abstract logical reasoning.

The result was that, broadly speaking, the Method Report was fully justified. But it also appears clearly that a recasting of its wording is necessary, and the time has about come when that can be done.

In the Field, September 8th, 1918.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Nine-tenths of Mr. Trollope's letter in your issue of September 13th (p. 292) are occupied with matter that is a virtual repetition of what has already been said by me in 'Lead Ends.' Not till his last paragraph does he reach his own lines. It is in this that there occur words to which I wish to draw special attention. They are these—'For a very few simple reasons which I will not enter into here.' This is Mr. Trollope all over. I challenge him to give these reasons, and I challenge him to give them at once in plain black and white. It is quite Mr. Trollope's usual course to imply reasons without giving them, then to write reams of parenthetical, if not of irrelevant, matter, and then with an air of superior wisdom to dub as 'ignorant' anyone who presumes to call his conclusions into question. I ask your readers to keep a careful look-out for these reasons. I hope that I may be wrong, but I much doubt if they will be forthcoming.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL.

In spite of a very wet day, the meeting of the Sheffield District Society at the Cathedral on Saturday, proved an attractive one, some 50 ringers attending from Barnsley, Beighton, Chesterfield, Handsworth, Ilkeston, Killamarsh, Market Drayton, North Wingfield, Norton, Rammoor, Rotherham, Worksop, and Sheffield Cathedral, the Rev. W. P. Wright (Vicar of St. Silas) and the Rev. J. R. Lee Nichols (Vicar of Rammoor) also taking part in the ringing. The bells were raised about 3.30, and continued in use until past seven o'clock, with touches of Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Grandsire and Stedman, from Triples up to Cinques, with varying success, the weight of metal and (to some of the visitors) the long draught of rope being a little difficulty which wants practice to overcome.

The Vicar of Sheffield (the Ven. Archdeacon H. Gresford Jones) paid a visit to the tower and said he was pleased to see so many visitors, who were enthusiastic enough to come there and help 'carry on' in these difficult times, especially considering the weather conditions and travelling facilities. He also expressed the hope, now that the outlook was so much brighter, that we should soon see better times and peaceful days.

The President (Mr. J. P. Tarlton) presided over a brief business meeting, when the agenda was quickly disposed of.

After the big bells were done with, the handbells were requisitioned, and some of the rust rubbed off, but a good deal of practice will be required before getting back to the pre-war standard. Then 'Good-night,' and a long one was said, for the Society does not meet again until next March. However, there was much in the meeting that was encouraging to those who are left at home to keep 'carrying on.'

S. T.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

MEETING AT BLAKENHALL.

A quarterly meeting of the above Guild was held at Blakenhall (Staffs), on Saturday, Sept. 7th, when a good number of members attended from Bradley, Bilston, Blakenhall, Coseley, Dudley, Tipton, Old Hill, Smethwick, Wolverhampton, Wollaston, etc. The bells (8) were at the disposal of the ringers from three o'clock, and the Guild service was said in church at five p.m., conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. G. Berridge), who also gave a very interesting address. At the close of the service, an adjournment was made to the Schoolroom, where a bountiful tea was awaiting those present.

The business meeting followed, presided over by the Vicar, who gave the members a hearty welcome to his church. He was supported by the Ringing Master (Mr. H. Mason). Several new members were elected, including, as an honorary member, the Vicar, who thanked the meeting for the honour conferred on him.

The Ringing Master made special reference to the band who rang the peal of Stedman Triples at Chaddesley Corbett a week previously, and they were heartily congratulated on their performance.

The next quarterly meeting was proposed to be held at Smethwick Old Church, on November 30th.

At the close of the meeting, a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Mason, and seconded by Mr. W. R. Small, to the Vicar for conducting the service in church and presiding at the meeting, for the use of the schoolroom, tower and bells; to the donors of the tea, to the ladies who so kindly undertook to prepare and serve the tea, and looked after the comfort of those present. The members also wish to thank sincerely Mr. Bradney, Mr. D. Jones and Mr. Dawkes for their great kindness in making the necessary arrangements for so successful a meeting.

A verse of the National Anthem brought another successful gathering to a close.

OXTON, BIRKENHEAD.—On Sunday, June 30th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Samuel 1. W. Battle 2. H. Luckin (conductor) 3. J. Owens 4. W. Hughes 5. J. Evans 6. S. Barnes 7. J. Turner 8.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637.)—A meeting will be held at the 'Coffee Pot,' Warwick Lane, E.C., on Sept. 24th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Annual district meeting will be held at Sittingbourne on Saturday, Sept. 21st.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. District Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—An interim meeting of the above will be held at Mersham on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Ringing (8 bells) to commence at 3 o'clock. All ringing friends will be heartily welcomed.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Croydon (by kind permission of the Rev. A. T. Reeve) on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells available from 3 to 7.15 p.m.; service 5.30; tea and business meeting 7.30, at the Wilton Carriage Works (Mr. H. E. Wills). All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Easton-in-Gordano on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells available at 3 o'clock; Divine service at 4.30; tea in the Schoolroom at 5.30, business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Clent on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Bells available from 3 o'clock; service in the Church at 5; business meeting in the Schools after the service. Election of officers takes place at this meeting. Tea, at 1/2 per head, can be provided for all those who will let me know on or before Wednesday, Sept. 18th.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Sec., 11, St. Edward's Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Isham, near Kettering, on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Ringing from 3 o'clock; short service at 5, followed by tea. Will all who intend being present kindly communicate with Mr. Walter Wilson, The Pines, Isham?—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 40, Rockmount Road, Upper Norwood, S.E.19.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Rochdale on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Further particulars by circular.—W. H. Shaker, 106, Bank Street, Clayton, Manchester, and J. H. Banks, 462, Helmsore Road, Helmsore, Hon. Secs.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—Combined practice meetings have been arranged as follows:—Yateley, Sept. 21st, 5.30 p.m.; Walton-on-Thames, Sept. 28th, 5.30 p.m.; Yorktown, October 19th, 4 p.m. The quarterly meeting will be held at Horsell (Woking) on October 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Cups of tea (no sugar) will be served in the Parish Room at 5.30 p.m., but any eatables required must be brought. All ringers will be welcomed at these meetings.—F. J. Sheppard, District Sec. (*pro tem.*), 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells available from 2 p.m.; tea (1/6 each) 5 p.m., at Radford's Café, Bath Street, followed by general meeting in the Parish Room, North Street. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. E. W. Beads-moore, 1, Avenue Road, not later than Sept. 25th?—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Fulham, on Saturday, Sept. 28th, commencing at 4 p.m.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at St. Giles', Cripplegate, Saturday, September 28th. Bells available 3 p.m. till dusk; meeting at headquarters afterwards.—James Parker, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*).

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Harpenden on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Nash, Hon. District Sec., North Mymms, Hatfield.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Kings-winch on Saturday, September 28th. Bells available at 3 o'clock; short service in Church, with an address, at 5.15; tea (if possible) 1/-, in the Parish Room at 6, those intending to be present please notify me not later than the 24th inst. Reports will be ready for distribution. Motor 'bus leaves Wolverhampton High Level Station at 2 and 3 o'clock.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leigh Parish Church on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells from 4 to 8; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting will be held at Hunslet on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells from 2.30 p.m.; business meeting in the Parish Hall at 7 p.m.—W. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of the above District will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, Sept. 28th. By kind permission, the bells at St. Giles' and at All Saints' Churches will be available for ringing from 1 to 7 p.m. Tea will be provided for those only who give notice to Mr. A. Walker, 7, Southfield Avenue, Pontefract, not later than Wednesday, Sept. 25th, 1/10 per head.—W. Hinton, District Sec., 5, Volta Street, Selby.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingborough District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Doddington on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells (5) available at 3 o'clock; tea at 5 o'clock; meeting to follow.—W. Perkins, District Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Glastonbury on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Service in the Parish Church at 4 p.m.; meeting to follow in the Vestry. Tea at Barrett Bros., High Street, at 6.30 p.m. The bells at St. John's (8) and St. Benedictus (6) available during the afternoon and evening.—E. E. Burgiss, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.— Guildford District.—Next meeting will be held at Ashted on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Eight bells, available from 3 p.m. Service at 5.30. Tea at 6; 9d. to members, 1/6 to visitors.—J. J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—(Estab. 1755.)—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Cathedral (St. Philip's) Saturday, October 5th. Bells available from 4 o'clock. Through the generosity of Dr. Malins, tea will be provided for those *only* who advise me *not later than October 2nd* of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Newbury on Saturday, October 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock till dusk; business meeting at 6. Subscriptions for 1918-19 are now due.—S. K. Driver, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at Speldhurst on Saturday, October 5th. Tower open at 4; service at 5. Half travelling expenses up to, but not exceeding, 2/- each will be paid to members attending. All members intending to be present are requested to notify the District Sec. not later than Tuesday, October 1st.—W. Salter, Hon. District Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The address of Mr. A. L. Coleman, the new Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association, is High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, having started a fund to help forward the above memorial, appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.—At St. Thomas' Parish Church, on Thursday, May 16th, 1918, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: J. Simmonds 1, W. Chambers 2, Gnr. S. Harrison, R.G.A., Bolderstone (first quarter-peal in the method), 3, W. Scott 4, H. Phillips 5, W. Johnson 6, W. Upton (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, J. Leal 8.—On Sunday, August 25th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins.: J. Simmonds 1, W. Chambers 2, Gnr. J. Burles (Milton-next-Gravesend) 3, W. Upton 4, A. Callaway 5, W. Johnson 6, H. Jennings (conductor) 7, J. Leal 8.

ESSEX.—Stebbing Branch.—On Saturday, June 29th, being the occasion of the silver wedding of the Vicar of the parish, the Rev. W. W. Judges, and Mrs. Judges, a 720 of Oxford Treble and 720 of Double Court were rung on the bells of St. Mary's Church in the afternoon. At 5 p.m. the ringers and their wives, with the churchwardens, sidesmen and their wives and several other friends, were kindly entertained to tea in the Vicarage grounds. After tea the company strolled round the spacious garden, which was full of excellent produce. After this the ringers returned again to the tower, and rang a well-struck 720 of Double Oxford. Those who took part were as follows (conducted by E. Claydon and A. Shufflebotham): Messrs. A. Barker, J. T. Barker, H. P. Emery, E. Hynds and E. Claydon, of the local company, Messrs. A. Shufflebotham, Braintree, and H. Redgewell, Rayne, very kindly coming over to assist the local company for the event before the party left the Vicarage.—Mr. H. Ruffel, the Vicar's warden, thanked the Vicar and Mr. Judges for their kindness in asking them to tea on the occasion of their silver wedding, and wished them every happiness in the years that were to come.

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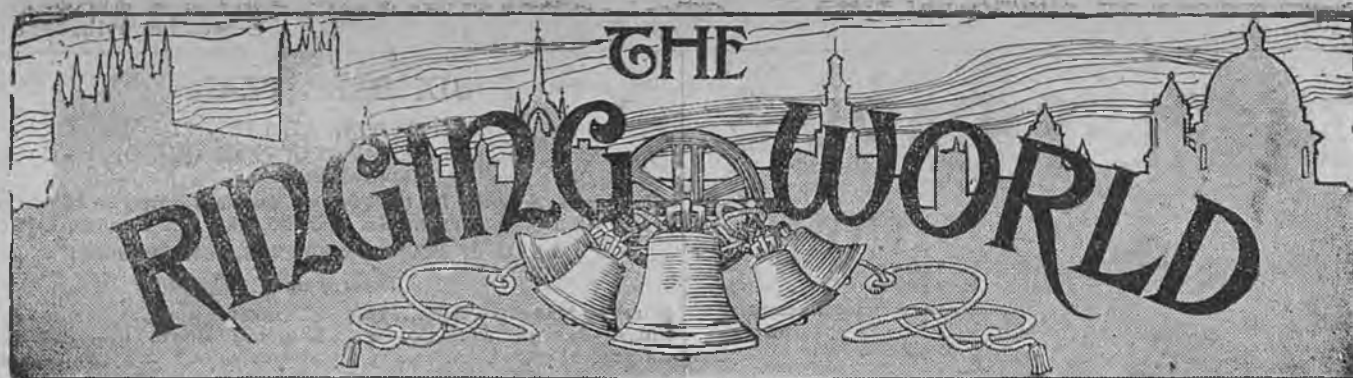


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WOLFRUM CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BLOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

A VOLUNTARY LEVY.

At their annual meeting, last Saturday, the Lancashire Association came to a decision which it is probable others may care to follow, and that was to ask the life members to pay a shilling a year to help cover the subscriptions lost by so many of the ordinary subscribing members being away on war service. Most, if not all, of the ringing associations are foregoing the contributions of those ringers who are with the fighting forces of the Crown, and the result is that many of them are hardly hit financially, for the lost subscriptions amount in the aggregate to many pounds. Consequently, in several cases, associations have only been able to make ends meet by the most rigid economy. In the past, when funds have been on the down-grade, it has usually been by a special effort to draw in new honorary members that ringing organisations have sought to replenish the coffers; but the present does not seem to be a time when new honorary members are easily obtainable or even when old ones can readily be induced to keep up their contributions. There are very few among the associations who have not had to report a falling off of honorary members' subscriptions during the war. This is not altogether surprising, for, taken as a whole, we should think that those who support ringing organisations as honorary members are not of the class who are making money out of the war.

The Lancashire Association now intend to go to a new source, and we imagine there are few of the life members who will decline to contribute the modest shilling a year for which they are to be asked. We do not know whether the appeal is to be extended to the non-resident life members, but we imagine these will be included, and those who have had the opportunity of enjoying the Association's hospitality will doubtless be glad to give a helping hand.

A method of making up the contributions of those who are away on active service, which we think has not yet been attempted by ringing societies, is that of a voluntary levy. In most cases the individual contribution of the ordinary member is very low—the annual subscription in many associations is only a shilling—and there is always an objection to raising the amount. It would be an easy matter, however, to calculate the sum by which a society is out of pocket on account of the absence of those on service, and this amount, if spread over the remaining members, would probably represent not more than a penny or twopence, or at the outside threepence per head. A scheme to raise this deficit by a voluntary levy would, we believe, be readily accepted, and it would keep the income of the associations up to their pre-war standard. At any rate, the idea might be worth trying in those associations where the loss of contributions is affecting the efficient working of the organisation.

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MODERN WORK.**

*Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford*

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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SIX BELL PEAL.

HILPERTON, WILTSHIRE.

**THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
(DEVIZES BRANCH.)**

*On Tuesday, September 10, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 7 cwt.

WILFRED MARKS... .. Treble	REGINALD AMOR 4
SIDNEY PEPLER 2	SAMUEL J. HECTOR 5
CHARLES DOEL 3	ALBERT AMOR Tenor

Conducted by S. J. HECTOR.

The peal was rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Aileen Kemp, daughter of the Churchwarden (who has always taken a keen interest in the bells) and Captain Dupont, R.A.M.C. All the ringers except the Conductor are in their "teens." The ringers of treble and 4th are not yet fourteen.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE SOLIHULL GUILD.

*On Sunday, September 22, 1918, in One Hour and Fifty Minutes,
AT MALVERN VILLAS, NEW ROAD,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PTE. V. RIGG 1-2	EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 3-4
HARRY BRAGG 5-6	

Conducted by EDGAR C. SHEPHERD.

Witnesses: C. BRAGG, D. MATKIN.

Arranged for Pte. V. Rigg, H.C.Y., this being his first peal.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION

*On Saturday, September 21, 1918, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE RECTORY,*

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;

J. EDWARD CHAPMAN 1-2	MISS E. K. PARKER 5-6
E. MAURICE ATKINS 3-4	CECIL CHAPMAN 7-8

Arranged by the REV. E. BANKES JAMES.

Conducted by E. M. ATKINS.

Umpire: J. BRUCE WILLIAMSON.

Witnesses: MRS. ATKINS, MISS ATKINS, MISS BRUCE, MISS B. MCKRELL, MISS MAUDSON and the REV. E. J. ATKINS.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A combined practice meeting of the Yorktown district was held at Yateley on Saturday, ringers attending from Hawley, Eversham, Weybridge and Sandhurst. The bells were set going at 5.30 p.m., and Miss B. Stilwell (daughter of the Guild President) took part in the various touches, whilst the party of Hawley ladies (who have been instructed by Mr. B. Hawkins) had their first ringing away from their own tower and acquitted themselves well. Comment was made on the absence of any ringers from Yorktown and Bagshot, both of which are neighbouring towers, and this points to the need of more local enthusiasm, without which Diocesan and County Associations are almost, if not entirely, powerless to make any headway.

OXHEY BAND'S PERFORMANCES.

In our issue of Sept. 13th, in giving an account of what was done before the war by the Oxhey Sunday Service band, we did not, we find, do them full justice. In addition to peals of Stedman Cinquies, they rang Double Norwich and Superlative in hand, and peals of Double Norwich, and Superlative, Bristol, London and New Cumberland Surprise on tower bells.

ABBOT'S LEIGH.—Gloucester and Bristol Association.—At Abbot's Leigh Church, on July 4th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. J. Thomas (first 720) 1, Pte. J. Thomas 2, A. T. Atherton 3, G. Bennett 4, A. Tennell 5, J. Caple (conductor) 6.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Tuesday, July 2nd, on hand-bells, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1918 changes), in 45 mins.: H. Bragg 1-2, E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 3-4, C. Bragg 5-6. Longest length by all. This is believed to be the first date touch ever rung in Solihull.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the kind invitation of Mr. H. B. Wills, and the hearty co-operation of the Vicar and members of St. Peter's Society, the members and friends of the Middlesex Association, were privileged to visit St. Peter's, Croydon, on Saturday last. The fine peal of ten bells were used to great advantage, in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters Treble Ten, Bob Major, and a course of London. There was a splendid attendance, including Messrs. A. Dean (Leatherhead), A. J. Perkins and A. J. Trappitt (Beddington), F. A. Milne and E. Roffey (Barnet), W. A. Alps (City), W. Hewett (Camberwell), C. Dean, H. Wills, W. Stales and W. S. Wise (Croydon), E. F. Pike (Brockley), R. Sanders (Stepney), A. Hubbard (Acton), L. Attawater and J. Lee (Stratford), O. Twist (Walthamstow), C. Ilave (Edmonton), G. Daynes (Greenwich) J. H. Cheesman (Greenhithe), Pte. P. Crook (Bolton), etc. A short break was made at 5.30, and all attended evensong, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. T. Reeve), who, in a few words, welcomed the Association at his church. Ringing was then continued until 7.15, when all made their way to the Wilton Carriage Works, to find a large workshop transformed into a most comfortable tea room. A splendid tea was partaken of, kindly provided by the generous host (Mr. H. E. Wills).

A short business meeting followed, the chair was taken by Mr. F. A. Milne (vice-president).—The meeting confirmed the hon. secretary's action in communicating with the family of the late Mr. J. Martin, of Harrow Weald, upon hearing of his death.

It was announced that the next meeting would be at Edmonton, on Saturday, October 12th, ringing from 3 to 6 p.m.

Pte. Peter Crook, of the Machine Gun Section, Grenadier Guards, stationed at Pirbright, and well known in the Lancashire Association, was elected a member.

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Wills for their kind hospitality, and to the members of his staff for the preparations they had made; to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and the members of the St. Peter's Society for their help.—This was seconded by the hon. secretary (Mr. W. H. Oram), and carried with acclamation.

Business over, the handbells were brought into use for the remainder of the evening, and concluded a most successful and enjoyable meeting.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ELECTION OF NORTHERN BRANCH OFFICERS.

The usual quarterly meeting of the Northern Branch took place on Saturday last at Clent. Despite the inclement weather, a fair number of ringers were present, including visitors from Newport, London, Sheffield and Burton. On a fine day it would be hard to find a more beautiful spot, and the Church of St. Leonard, nestling among the trees at the foot of the famous Clent Hills, contains a very handy ring of eight bells. The tenor, which was cast in 1743, weighs about 12½ cwt. The third is a 1718 bell, while the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh were cast in 1637—all by M. Bagley—and the treble and second were added by the famous Loughborough firm in 1902. The bells were kept going on Saturday in the standard methods until service-time, at 5 p.m.

In the absence of the Vicar, the Rev. J. H. Newley took the service, and gave an address, and Miss Thatcher presided at the organ. The preacher, on behalf of the Vicar and himself, offered a hearty welcome to the Association, and in the course of his remarks, spoke feelingly of the important part which ringers took in the work of the church. He trusted it would not be long before they had the pleasure of ringing the bells for that peace which all were looking forward to. The address was very much appreciated by all those who were fortunate enough to be present.

The business meeting was held in the schools, the Rev. J. H. Newley presiding, and about 30 members being present. Brierley Hill was selected for the next meeting, in January, 1919.

The Branch Master, Mr. S. Grove, writing from somewhere in France, said he thought the position of Master should go round, and he trusted the meeting would elect someone in his place.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for his past services, and the wish was expressed that the genial Sam would soon be amongst them again. Mr. Harry Withers was elected Branch Ringing Master, and Mr. J. Pigott the representative on the Central Committee, while Mr. E. J. Dowler was re-elected secretary and treasurer. In supporting the election of the officers, the Master (Mr. A. E. Parsons) heartily congratulated them on the work they had done for the Association in very trying times, and he could personally testify to their whole-heartedness in their work, which, he hoped, might long continue.—Mr. E. J. Dowler, in reply, said it gave him the greatest pleasure to do anything he could to further the interest and success of the Association.

One life performing and one performing member were elected, and a hearty vote of thanks was given to the Rev. J. H. Newley for arranging the service, giving the address, and for presiding at the meeting.—The reverend gentleman, in replying, said it was a great pleasure to be with them that afternoon. It was the first time he had ever taken part in a ringers' meeting, but after his experience that day he hoped it would not be the last. Tea, under the ration scheme, was

then partaken of at the Vine Hotel, those members who had thoughtfully brought their own sugar with them being in great request by those who had failed to do so.

Ringling was afterwards kept up until 8.30, when a very pleasant and enjoyable meeting was brought to a close.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DIVISION MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association was to have been held at Doncaster on Saturday week. In the words of the poet, 'The morning dawned in gloom and rain,' and the writer can vouch for it that it continued throughout the day and long into the night. A meagre muster of ringers turned up at the top of St. George's Gate, with the south side of the fine old Church of St. George full in view. It was rather late to be able to ring before evensong had been sung. And, having in mind the fact that ringing might disturb the genial old verger, Mr. Marsden, who was suffering from a paralytic stroke and lying dangerously ill in close proximity to the church (although at the same time they knew he would offer no objection to the ringing of the bells by the visitors), they decided to abandon the pleasure and made steady progress on the road and by tram to Arksey, a country village close by, with a fine old church and a grand little peal of six bells, with tenor 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs. And as they 'footed' it along the road, through a drenching rain, they heard the strains of Oxford Treble Bob and Violet rung out and brought successfully round. They were met in the tower by the respected Vicar (the Rev. A. Rhys James, M.A.), who is a ringer, and who had taken part in the ringing. He extended a sincere and hearty welcome to all the visitors from various towers.

As time was fast flying, and a fairly good number of members were present, it was deemed advisable to hold the business meeting at once, the Rev. A. R. James being voted to the chair.

A friendly discussion took place as to the advisability of holding a December meeting, on account of the short days, the difficulty of travelling, and the liability of trespassing on the D.O.E.A., and it was decided, on the motion of Mr. F. Clarke, seconded by Mr. H. Stanton, that the next meeting be held on Saturday, March 8th, 1919, at All Saints' Church, Sheffield, meeting time three o'clock.

There was no election of new members, and those who have failed to pay their subscriptions for the year just closing would do well and act wisely to forward the same to the secretary (pro tem.) to ensure their names being kept on the register of members.

A letter was read from Mrs. Brightman thanking the officers and members for their letter of condolence and sympathy in her bereavement and sorrow by the death of her son Leonard, who was doing such excellent work for the association.

On the motion of Mr. F. Willey, seconded by Mr. G. Falksworth, the best thanks were given to the local company for their invitation, and also for having made every provision for the comfort of the members. Coupled with the resolutions were thanks to the Rev. A. Rhys James for presiding, and congratulations upon having so fine a peal of six bells, which reflected great credit upon the founders.

The Vicar very heartily replied, and said, although he might not have an association meeting there again for some time, any hands of ringers would receive a hearty welcome, and, he hoped, under more favourable conditions as regards the war, which we, as Englishmen, were fighting to a finish for the cause of Christianity, Truth and Freedom, and for a universal peace for all mankind.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT HIGHGATE.

By kind permission of the authorities of St. Ann's, Highgate, a well-attended meeting of the London County Association was held there on Saturday week. Ringing commenced shortly after 4 p.m., and was carried on until 8 p.m., many touches in various methods being successfully concluded, the conducting being shared between Messrs. Alps and Frank Smith.

At the business meeting following, Mr. W. G. Matthews was elected to the chair to hold office during the absence of the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), now serving in the Anti-Aircraft Corps, stationed at Godstone, Surrey.

Mr. C. C. Mayne, of Beaconsfield, Bucks, was elected a member of the Association, and it was decided that, owing to the arrangements for a visit to St. Peter's, Croydon, being incomplete, the proposed visit should stand over until November. The October meeting will be held at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, W.C., on the second Saturday in the month, notice of which appears in another column.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for their permission to ring, and to Mr. J. E. Baker (steep-keeper) for the excellent arrangements made by him, both at the church and at the meeting.

HODDESDON.—Herts Association.—For evening service, on Sunday, July 14th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: G. Radley 1, W. Mumford 2, F. Jelf 3, S. Proctor 4, G. Maxim 5, A. C. Darnell 6, S. Knights 7, W. Cavill (conductor) 8.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Had I myself attempted to compose a letter in Mr. Trollope's name, designed to illustrate my own prognostications, I could not have attained anything like the success achieved by him in his letter on pp. 300 and 301, which your readers have only to compare with mine printed immediately after it. It more than fulfils the expectations there expressed.

Passing over the obvious irrelevance of the whole of his first column, which is a lengthy account of how the report was composed, which is emphatically not the question, the question being that of its contents after composition—passing over this, and passing over also the amazing admissions of his second column, viz., (a) the absence of any clear, settled or agreed principles on the part of the committee in formulating their report, and its consequent mere and sheer opportunism, and (b) the history of his own wonderful and protracted lucubrations and discoveries whereby in these latter days and years after the publication of the report the mystery was revealed to him, and apparently to him alone—passing over all this I desire to fix attention on one sentence, than which more is surely not required. Speaking of the report, he says: 'No agreement was possible upon proofs; and also we did not know enough at that time to give an explanation which would have done any real good.' So we have it in writing and in public from one of the committee that they actually dared to issue a report on the proof of the statements of which they could not themselves agree, and of which they were incapable of giving any reasonable explanation! Such is the truth of the position now revealed to the contemplation of the Exercise!

In your leading article you advert to the fact that Mr. Trollope is writing from the front where he is without his books and memoirs. I once more challenge him to give his 'reasons.' He says they are 'few,' and he says they are 'simple.' To bring it to as simple an issue as possible, I challenge him to tell us plainly why a lead of Grandsire is right, while a lead of Union is wrong. If he can do this anywhere at all he can do it without any books, memoirs, or papers. But can he do it? I more than doubt it. He can, and doubtless will, write reams of camouflage, but camouflage is not argument.—Yours, etc.,

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

NEWPORT PAGNELL, RUCKS.—On Sunday, June 30th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), by James George, Birmingham, in 50 mins.: W. Inwood 1, F. C. Tompkins 2, W. Mead 3, H. Sear (conductor) 4, E. Lathall 5, W. Smith 6, E. C. Lambert 7, J. Gregory 8. First quarter-peal by J. Gregory. The ringers of 3 and 4 hail from Bletchley. This was rung on the occasion of the Dedication Festival of St. Peter.

NEWCASTLE.—Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—On Sunday, June 30th, at the Cathedral, for a service, at which Dr. Gore, Bishop of Oxford, was preaching, a touch of 595 Stedman Caters: C. L. Routledge 1, A. Dalton 2, Pte. Chaplin 3, W. Sinclair 4, J. Foreman 5, B. Horton 6, A. F. Hillier 7, W. Story 8, E. E. Ferry (conductor) 9, R. Richards 10. A birthday touch for Mr. Ferry, who was congratulated by the rest of the company on his ever-youthful appearance.

ST. MARY ABBOTS, KENSINGTON.—St. Mary Abbot's Guild of Change Ringers.—On Thursday, July 4th, members of the Guild met at 1 p.m., and rang as a compliment to our American Allies five courses of Stedman Caters.

MERSTHAM.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, July 4th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: H. Morley 1, Miss Orlebar 2, E. Atkins (conductor) 3, G. Morley 4, A. Wood 5, W. Francis 6. Rung as a farewell to the ringer of the 4th, who is shortly leaving for Tunbridge Wells.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Sunday, July 7th, in 1 hr. 12 mins., a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes). Tenor 191 cwt.: W. Leeson 1, W. Meeks 2, Air-Mechanic S. Bragg 3, H. Shepherd 4, J. Withers 5, J. Eaton 6, H. Withers (conductor) 7, H. Foster 8. Rung for evening service. Composed by G. Hayward, of Bromsgrove.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on Sunday, July 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: J. Pickering 1, G. Wood 2, N. Walker 3, R. Belton 4, C. Briggs 5, H. Webb 6, H. Briggs 7, Jones 8. Composed by John Carter. Conducted by H. Briggs. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to A. Taylor who died of wounds, and was buried in this country.

PETERBOROUGH.—At St. Mary's, for service, on Sunday, July 7th, 720 Kent: * Kathleen Jutson, Herbert Waldren, William Waldren, J. J. Jutson, F. Rollinson, G. Barker. * First 720.—Also on July 14th, 360 Oxford as above. Conducted by F. Rollinson.—On July 18th, at St. John's, 210 Grandsire Triples: J. J. Jutson, Kathleen Jutson, H. Hurre, J. Wright, F. Davis, W. Jarvis, S. Vaughan, c. Taylor.—On July 21st, at St. Mary's, 360 Kent, with E. Tilley in place of J. J. Jutson.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL MEETING AT ROCHDALE.

The annual meeting of the Lancashire Association was held on Saturday at Rochdale. Permission was granted for the use of the bells at Rochdale Parish Church, and St. Albans, Balderstone, Milnrow and New Hey Churches, for which the best thanks of the Association are due. The Vicar of Rochdale (the Ven. Archdeacon Clarke) was the preacher at a special service held at 4 p.m., but the lure of the bells at other churches accounted for the rather poor muster. Owing to war conditions, the social tea in the schools had to be foregone, which broke up the party somewhat, and this caused the business meeting to be half an hour late. The President (the Rev. H. J. Elsee) took charge of the proceedings, supported by the Archdeacon, the two secretaries, the treasurer, and about 90 members.

The committee's report mentioned that branch meetings had been held with fair regularity, Sunday ringing had been carried on with difficulty in many towers, while with others it had been dropped altogether owing to the majority of the band being away. There was rather a longer peal list than last year, 17 peals having been rung, against seven in the preceding twelve months. They were 'carrying on' much better than might have been thought possible. The number of members now stood at 1,260, of which 1,006 were local ringers. Forty had been added to the list during the year, and they had lost six through death, four of whom had died serving their King and country. The treasurer's balance sheet showed that the Association had just managed to pay its way, owing to the reduction in the size of the reports. They had to record the loss of their vice-president in his term of office, and his death was followed two months later by that of his brother. The Worsley tower in particular, and the Association in general, owed much to the keen interest and hard work of the three brothers Ridyard, the last of whom had now passed away.

A few questions were asked and answered on the balance sheet, and the Archdeacon then welcomed the Association to Rochdale. He said he was sorry he could not stop with them, as his wife was ill. He had been to see if the sound of the bells had disturbed her, as the doctor had ordered her perfect quiet, but he was pleased to say that the bells had soothed her to sleep, and that she had had a longer sleep than for some time past.

The meeting expressed a hope that Mrs. Clarke might be soon restored to health again. The Archdeacon is very popular among the ringers. Although not a ringer himself, he, in carrying out his official duties, inquires after the state of the bells and belfries in his archdeaconry; and, whether owing to his care or not, it is impossible to say, most of the bells are in fair going order in his district.

The officers were re-elected, there being no opposition, but for the unexpired period of the vice-president's term of office six nominations were sent in, and after two votes had been taken, Mr. T. Redman, of Burnley, was elected by a bare majority.

Three places were put up for next year's annual meeting, and, on being put to the vote, Liverpool was chosen, getting a majority over the votes given to the other two put together.

A resolution from the committee, and also one on the same subject from Preston Branch was submitted, and after a good discussion it was resolved that life members should be asked to pay 1s. per year to help to cover the subscriptions lost by so many of the paying members being away on Government service.

The three representatives who attended the Central Council meeting gave an account of the proceedings, and spoke of some of the Council's advantages and failings. As two of the representatives had attended for the first time, their reports were really more interesting, as first impressions are generally the truest. They were thanked for their notes, and thanks were also accorded the officers for their past services, and to the Archdeacon, the organist, and others, for doing their best under the circumstances to make the meeting a success.

LIVERPOOL GUILD BRANCH.

A meeting of the Liverpool Guild Branch of the Lancashire Association was held on Saturday week at Woolton. The service was taken by the Ven. Archdeacon Howson, who gave a deeply impressive address to the ringers.

At the meeting after the service, the Rev. E. C. Collier, one of the secretaries, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Archdeacon, which was seconded by Mr. Walter Hughes, lay secretary of the Guild, and unanimously carried. The towers represented were from Woolton, Oxton, Walton, Garston, S. Nicholas, Liverpool; and the methods rung were Double Norwich, Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob. In spite of the heavy rain a large number of ringers turned up, and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent.

LONDON.—On Sunday, July 14th, at All Hallows', Barking, Great Tower Street, City, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: J. Scholes, T. H. Taffender (conductor), G. R. Fardon, E. F. Pike, E. Hall, Pte. Ebberson, R. Sanders, Pte. T. Joyce. First quarter-peal in method by Pte. Ebberson, A.S.C., who has been wounded, now returning to France; also as a welcome home on leave to Pte. T. Joyce, Farrier, R.F.A., who has been away at Salonica and Egypt for 3½ years.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

MEETING AT ERDINGTON.

On Saturday week, the Midland District of the Ladies' Guild held their monthly practice meeting at Erdington Parish Church, and although the weather outlook was gloomy and uninviting, a good number put in an appearance. The bells, a light musical ring of eight, were set going shortly before four o'clock to various short touches until service time. At 4.30 a short service was held in the church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. — Swindell), who extended to the Guild a very hearty welcome. During his discourse, he expressed pleasure at the zeal with which the ladies had taken up bell ringing, particularly since the outbreak of war, adding that in his opinion, no war was more important than that which was associated with religion. He also commented on the fact that times and belfries were very different now to the period when John Bunyan decided not to continue his ringing career.

After service, a move was made to the Church House, where an excellent tea was in readiness, over 50 members and friends sitting down.

A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the Rector for his services in the church, to Mr. Preston for providing tea and making all necessary arrangements, and to the ladies who had waited upon the visitors.

The tower was then again visited, and some good practice obtained. touches of Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples being brought round by mixed companies, whilst some of the sterner sex amused themselves with Stedman Cinques, Treble Bob Major, etc., on handbells. The bells were kept going until about eight o'clock, when the visitors began to disperse for home, the meeting having been a huge success.

A RINGING WEEK-END.

When a jovial party of four journeyed down from town on Friday night to Isham, Northants, amidst 'sounding glass and tinkling cymbals', all minds were centred on the great event of the morrow, which was the inauguration of a new centre of activity of the Ladies' Guild. Saturday morning was spent visiting various towers in the neighbourhood, viz., Burton Latimer, Cranford, Great Addington and Finedon. Ringing at Isham started punctually at three o'clock, and in the course of an hour the belfry was literally packed with ringers. Ringing went ahead merrily till the service at 4 p.m., conducted by the Rector (the Rev. E. J. Atkins). This was followed by tea in the school, provided by Mr. E. M. Atkins, at which 56 sat down, of whom 21 were lady ringers.

A short meeting was afterwards held, presided over by Miss Evelyn Steel, of Bedford, at which 15 new members were elected. After votes of thanks had been passed to all concerned in providing this singularly pleasant afternoon, ringing was continued on handbells, and in the tower till 7 p.m.

During the day the methods ranged from rounds to London Surprise, and a notable item was a touch of Bob Minor by six ladies.

The following towers were represented: Barton Seagrave, Bedford, Burton Latimer, Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks, Cranford, Edmonton, Finedon, Geddington, Irthlingborough, Isham, Kettering, Northampton (St. Giles), Oringbury, Pytchley, Raunds, and Whitwell, Isle of Wight.

After a merry dinner party, a peal was rung on handbells for the Northants Association, particulars of which appear in the peal columns of this issue.

Sunday being the local harvest festival, a 720 of Bob Minor was successfully accomplished for the eight o'clock celebration, by the following: Miss B. McKrell 1. Miss Cecil Hepburn 2. W. T. Wilson 3. Miss E. K. Parker 4. J. B. Williamson 5. E. M. Atkins (conductor) 6. This was the first 720 by the ringer of the treble, and the first on an inside bell by the ringer of the 2nd.

Another 720 of Bob Minor was rung for 10.30 service by: P. Everest 1. Miss L. Geary 2. Miss E. K. Parker 3. Lance-Corpl. A. Fourn 4. A. Blaxley 5. J. B. Williamson (conductor) 6.

In the afternoon, an expedition was made to Pytchley, where the five bells were kept going for an hour in spite of a broken stay on the 2nd. Ringing for evening service concluded the proceedings, with the exception of a 720 of Minor 'in hand' on the return journey to town on Monday morning, by three of the 'jovial four'—R.K. McK., J.B.W., E.M.A., E.K.P.

LITTLE MUNDEN RINGER KILLED.

We greatly regret to record the death of Sergt. A. Radie, of the 8th Beds Regiment, one of the Little Munden band, at the age of 23. He joined up in September, 1914, and with the exception of leave and time spent in hospital—being thrice wounded—had been at the front continuously from the first. He was transferred from France to Italy, then back to France, and after four years of service was killed in action towards the end of August. He was of a very fine disposition, and will be greatly missed by the band at Little Munden, where he was also at one time a member of the choir. The bells were rung, muffled, at both services on Sunday last as a tribute to his memory.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—Combined practice meetings have been arranged as follows:—Walton-on-Thames, Sept. 28th, 5.30 p.m.; Yorktown, October 19th, 4 p.m. The quarterly meeting will be held at Horsell (Woking) on October 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Cups of tea (no sugar) will be served in the Parish Room at 5.30 p.m., but any eatables required must be brought. All ringers will be welcomed at these meetings.—F. J. Sheppard, District Sec. (*pro tem.*), 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells available from 2 p.m.; tea (1/6 each) 5 p.m., at Radford's Cafe, Bath Street, followed by general meeting in the Parish Room, North Street.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Fulham, on Saturday, Sept. 28th, commencing at 4 p.m.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at St. Giles', Cripplegate, Saturday, September 28th. Bells available 3 p.m. till dusk; meeting at headquarters afterwards.—James Parker, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*)

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Harpenden on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Nash, Hon. District Sec., North Mymms, Hatfield.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Kingswinford on Saturday, September 28th. Bells available at 3 o'clock; short service in Church, with an address, at 5.15; tea (if possible) 1/-, in the Parish Room at 6. Reports will be ready for distribution. Motor 'bus leaves Wolverhampton High Level Station at 2 and 3 o'clock.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leigh Parish Church on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells from 4 to 8; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting will be held at Hunslet on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells from 2.30 p.m.; business meeting in the Parish Hall at 7 p.m.—W. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of the above District will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, Sept. 28th. By kind permission, the bells at St. Giles' and at All Saints' Churches will be available for ringing from 1 to 7 p.m.—W. Hinton, District Sec., 5, Volta Street, Selby.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingborough District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Doddington on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Bells (5) available at 3 o'clock; tea at 5 o'clock; meeting to follow.—W. Perkins, District Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Glastonbury on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Service in the Parish Church at 4 p.m.; meeting to follow in the Vestry. Tea at Barrett Bros., High Street, at 6.30 p.m. The bells at St. John's (8) and St. Benedictus (6) available during the afternoon and evening.—E. E. Burgiss, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Next meeting will be held at Ashted on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Eight bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5.30. Tea at 6; 9d. to members, 1/6 to visitors.—J. J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. (Estab. 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Cathedral (St. Philip's) Saturday, October 5th. Bells available from 4 o'clock. Through the generosity of Dr. Malins, tea will be provided for those only who advise me not later than October 2nd of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Newhey on Saturday, October 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock till dusk; business meeting at 6. Tea in school, 9d. each. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637).—A meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Saturday, October 5th, at 3.30 p.m. Meetings will also be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on October 3rd, 17th and 31st, and for general business on the 8th and 22nd, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at Speldhurst on Saturday, October 5th. Tower open at 4; service at 5. Half travelling expenses up to, but not exceeding, 2/- each will be paid to members attending. All members intending to be present are requested to notify the District Sec. not later than Tuesday, October 1st.—W. Salter, Hon. District Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Edmonton on Saturday, October 12th. Ringing from 3 to 6 p.m. Service 6 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Members and friends intending to be present are asked to advise me not later than October 8th. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, October 12th, at the Church of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Bloomsbury, W.C. Ringing from 4 p.m. till dusk; business meeting to follow. All ringers cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Pendlebury, on Saturday, October 12th. Bells available from 3.30 till dusk; meeting to follow.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The address of Mr. A. L. Coleman, the new Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association, is High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

CLERK AND SEXTON WANTED for country parish; ringer preferred; salary £15 and fees. A roomy house and large shop and garden, suitable for carpenter, etc., available; rent £12.—Full particulars from Rector, Martley, Worcester.

IF ANY DISCHARGED SOLDIER (or man outside military age) who understands gardening, requires a good berth well paid and a cottage, let him apply to S. T. Bunning, Esq., 'The Hollies,' Borrowash, Derbyshire.

REV. H. A. COCKEY'S MEMORIAL.

The following further subscriptions have been received toward the late Rev. H. A. Cockey's memorial fund:—

	s.	d.
Mr. G. C. Isles, Acton	2	0
Mr. Petts, Northleach	1	0
St. Phillips and St. Jacob's Tower, Bristol	13	6
St. Michael's Tower, Bristol	11	0
Mrs. R. J. Wilkins	5	0
Mr. C. Dean, Croydon	5	0
Mr. J. H. Shepherd, Swindon	10	6
St. James' Tower, Bristol	12	0
Mr. P. Came	10	6

Other subscriptions will be acknowledged from time to time.—G. Condict, 15, Westbourne Road, Easton, Bristol.

5000 STEDMAN CATERS.

BY W. HYDE INGLESANT.

Start Slow Six.				
123456789	5	16	231465	8
126453879	S1	8	145326	4 15 —
123654	—	—	614253978	1 2 3 5
124356	—	—	514382	4 15 16
421653	—	—	512463	—
423156	—	—	513264	—
426351	—	—	315462	—
624153	—	—	312564	—
623451	—	—	314265	—
621354	—	—	314562	—
134265	4	15	412365	—
135462	—	—	214563	—
132664	—	—	213465	—
132465	S5	—	215364	—
135264	—	—		
134562	—	—		
431265	—	—		
435162	—	—		
534261	—	—		
531462	—	—		
532164	—	—		
235461	—	—		

Mr. J. E. Groves, of Birmingham, has proclaimed this as being a true peal.

EALING.—An unofficial meeting was held at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on France's Flag Day, on July 12th, when twelve ringers were present (including three ladies, the Misses Williams, Fuller and Roe) from Windsor, Fulmer, Fulham, Acton, Hillingdon, and Shepherd's Bush. Grandsire, Stedman Triples, and Bob Major was rung and every touch was brought home.—On Sunday, July 14th, for the evening service, at St. Mary's Church, several touches were rung, including a 350 of Grandsire Triples, by: Miss E. Jones 1, C. Edwards 2, J. Hunnisett 3, E. Harris 4, W. Lawrence 5, E. Vickery 6, A. Harding 7, A. E. Smith 8. C. Brown (Acton) also took part. The best thanks is due to J. Walsom for making the arrangements, as the bells had not been rung since Christmas, owing to the difficulty in making up a band.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 394. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.

RINGING AND D.O.R.A.

With the shortening of the days and the return to normal Greenwich time, the hours during which ringing can be indulged in are now considerably curtailed under the Defence of the Realm Act. In previous war winters, however, there has been some relaxation of the regulations on the part of the Competent Military Authorities in those areas where the exposure to danger from raids by aircraft is not so acute as on the east and south-east coasts, and there is no reason to suppose that the same facilities will not be granted again during the coming months. Last year, when the question of permission was raised in some responsible quarters, the reply was that the relaxation of the previous year had never been suspended, and that the sanction then given still held good. It is probable that the same may be the case this year, but we strongly advise all ringers concerned to safeguard their position by communicating with the Competent Military Authority for their area before ringing during hours when lights are prohibited.

Experience in past years has shown that it is quite worth while to make application for permission to use the bells after dark, for, except in the most exposed areas, where bells are considered to be a danger by acting as a guide to enemy raiders, the Military have been ready to partially relax the regulations, and indeed, have, generally speaking, approached the matter in a sympathetic spirit. In some cases ringing has been permitted up to as late as 9 p.m., while in many districts it has been sanctioned up to an hour which enables the bells to be rung for evening service. This relaxation is a valuable concession to ringing, and enables ringers to continue to use the bells to the full for their primary purpose.

Everyone hopes that this may be the last winter when any restrictions upon the ringing of bells will be imposed. Never since the war began, have the signs of ultimate victory been so promising, and the triumph of the allied cause so near accomplishment as they are to-day. The end may not be yet, but in all fields in which the Allies are fighting success is attending our arms. But while we have never had greater reason to rejoice, this nation is taking its successes soberly, and there has been no outburst of joy-bells. Presently, however, the pent-up feelings must find expression, and then once more the bells will have their part to play. There is, then, every reason why in all the belfries of the land preparations should be made for acclaiming the day when the triumph of our arms shall have assured the peace that we are determined to have, and on that day the bells shall ring as they have never rung before.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Senior (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS WOLVERHAMPTON.
GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK.

Archdeacon, Diocese of Worcester

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CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

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Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EARLSHEATON, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 21, 1918, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5055 CHANGES.

STANHOPE RIGGS	Treble	DANIEL SENIOR	5
GEORGE HUNT	2	J. W. HUDSON	6
WILLIAM CLARK	3	E. CROWTHER	7
JOSEPH GARNETT	4	HERBERT DRANSFIELD ...	Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT DRANSFIELD.

Rung in honour of the winning of the Military Cross by Lieut. James Gludhill, one of the local ringers, and also of the Earlsheaton company's success in winning for the 14th time the Halifax Association's Cup.

The ringers of the 3rd, 6th and 7th belong to Birstall, 2nd to Horbury, 4th to Bradford and the rest to the local band.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 28, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

SYDNEY GOODALL	Treble	JOHN ROLLINSON	5
WALTER KNOTT	2	WILLIAM THOMAS	6
ALBERT ARMITAGE	3	WILLIAM E. FRITH	7
H. NUTTON	4	JAMES E. CARTER	Tenor

Composed by OBADIAH LONG.
Conducted by SYDNEY GOODALL.

The ringers of the 3rd, 5th and 7th belong to Huddersfield, of the 4th and 8th to Almondsbury, and of the rest to Liversedge.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, September 28, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5940 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

E. B. SHAW	Treble	S. HOLT	5
S. STOTT	2	J. JACQUES	6
J. HARRISON	3	H. BARLOW	7
T. K. DRIVER	4	D. RENSHAW	Tenor

Composed by J. HOLLIES.
Conducted by S. STOTT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd to commemorate his 65th birthday; also in celebration of the tenor ringer's wedding anniversary.

HANDBELL PEAL.

SURFLEET, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, September 26, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
IN THE VICARAGE LIBRARY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5940 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTAM'S FOUR-PART.

ROBERT RICHARDSON	1-2	REV. H. LAW JAMES	5-6
3RD WIR. C. GLENN, R.N. ...	3-4	REV. E. BANKES JAMES ...	7-8

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

A UNIQUE PERFORMANCE.

A touch of 188 Stedman Triples, unique in the annals of ringing, was performed at Gillingham, Kent, on Sunday, Sept. 22nd. All branches of H.M. Forces (Navy, Army and Royal Air Force) were represented, and the touch was ably conducted by a lady. The ringers were: Miss E. Goodship, V.A.D., conductor, 1. Q.-M.-S. W. A. Oave, R.E., 2. Flight-Sergt. F. A. Holden, R.A.F., 3. Sergt. O. Winner, Royal West Kent Regt., 4. Spr. T. Bartholomew, R.E., 5. Lance-Corpl. J. Kirby, R.E., 6. Corpl. E. J. Ridler, R.E., 7. G.P.O. C. Bullen, R.N., 8. Other touches were rung, in which W. Haigh, W. Easter and H. Rolls took part.

ON THE FIELD OF HONOUR.

PROMISING YOUNG RINGER'S DEATH.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild loses a promising young ringer, and the Guildford Holy Trinity Society its junior member, by the death, in France, of Pte. R. W. Melville, as a result of gas poisoning. The deceased was the only son of Mr. W. R. Melville, the present steeple-keeper at Holy Trinity, and was just over 19 years of age. He joined H.M. Forces about Easter of this year.

Pte. Melville began his ringing career at Tring, Herts, when little more than a child, moving with his parents to Haslemere, and later to Guildford, where both he and his father joined the Holy Trinity Society. His first and only peal, one of Grandsire Triples, was rung at Chiddingfold on December 26th, 1917.

Members of both the Guildford Societies, with Mr. J. J. Jones, district secretary, representing the Winchester Diocesan Guild, met in strong force at Holy Trinity on Wednesday of last week to honour the boy's memory in the usual way. Various touches of Grandsire Triples were rung with half-muffled bells, in which everyone attending had an opportunity of taking part, and the ringing concluded with a beautiful 504 Stedman Triples in very slow time by the following: W. M. Jelley 1, J. J. Jones 2, S. Radford 3, T. W. Radford 4, H. Harris 5, M. Smither 6, C. Hazelden (conductor) 7, J. T. Scott 8. Other ringers present included Mrs. Hazelden, Mr. F. Radford, and Mr. F. E. Duwe.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of the St. Albans district was held at Harpenden on Saturday last, when there were present 25 members from various towers, including three ladies from the local band. The bells were set going to various methods during the afternoon and evening, the ladies taking part. Tea was kindly provided by the Rector (the Rev. K. M. Pitt), and a business meeting followed, the Rector being voted to the chair.

Mr. G. W. Carlmet (general hon. secretary) moved a vote of thanks to the Rector for his kindness in placing the bells at the disposal of the Association, and providing them with such an excellent tea, to Mr. Ben Jarman, of the local band, for the trouble he had taken to make the meeting a success, and to Mrs. Jarman and the other ladies who assisted with the tea.—This motion was warmly carried.

EARLSHEATON'S REMARKABLE RECORD.

A peal, in honour of a dual event, was rung at Earlsheaton on Saturday week. On the 14th of September, at Brighouse, Yorks, the Earlsheaton company won the Halifax and District Association's contest for the fourteenth time—a remarkable record, which stamps them as one of the best ringing companies in the North. They gained the award of the judges (Messrs. T. Kendal, of Shipley, and J. Ambler, of Halifax), with only 139 faults; Almondsbury being second with 263 faults, and Birstall third with 280 faults. Well might Earlsheaton celebrate their victory with a peal, in which ringers from other towers joined them. The competition touch was 884 Kent Treble Bob Major.

The second event in honour of which the peal was rung was the gaining of the Military Cross by one of the band who is serving overseas—Lieut. James Gludhill.

TWO PEALS OF 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS.

BY JAMES GEORGE, BIRMINGHAM.

23456789		Repeat the 12 courses as from	
42356978	7 in and out at 3	A substituting	
34256	9 in 3	9 in 3 for 8 in 2	
23456	9 in 3	produces	
43652	8-9	32465978	
24356	9 in 3 S	B 23465879	
35426	8 in 3 S	42365	
62534	8 in 2	54263	
A 43265	8 in 2	35462	
24365	9 in 3	23564	
52463	9 in 3 S	52364	
35284	9 in 3 S	45263	
43562	9 in 3 S	34562	
54362	9 in 3	53462	
25463	9 in 3 S	45362	
32564	9 in 3 S	24563	
53264	9 in 3	32465	
25364	9 in 3	Repeat the 12 course as from	
42563	9 in 3 S	B. substituting 8 in 3 for	
34265	9 in 3 S	1. 3. 4, produces 32547698.	

This peal has the 6th extent behind the 9th in the titlums, and behind the 8th in the handstroke home position.

The second peal is obtained by calling the first 19 courses the same as in the foregoing; then calling the 12 courses, beginning at B; next 12 courses as from A, with 1, 3, 4, substituted for 8 in 2, and afterwards 12 courses as from B.

This peal has the 6th extent alternatively behind the 9th and 8th in the titlums and handstroke home positions.

The course ends in both peals are the same, with the exception of the necessary transpositions of 7, 8, 9.

WYCOMBE RINGERS' EXCURSIONS.

Some successful and useful ringing meetings have again been carried out by the members of the High Wycombe band. On August 31st a visit was paid to the little church of Chalfont St. Peter, which has a ring of six bells. A large number of campanologists responded to the invitation, and there was some good ringing, in which several ladies and members of H.M. Forces took part. The methods rung included Stedman, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Canterbury Pleasure. A stroll round the village, pleasant reminiscences, and the meeting of old friends were much enjoyed.

For Sept. 14th, the towers of Denham Church and St. Andrew's, Uxbridge, were available. Heavy rainstorms and gales throughout the morning made the Wycombe secretary anxious as to whether he would meet his first 'frost,' but his fears were allayed, for on reaching the old-world village of Denham, a merry band was soon made up, and a touch of Grandsire Triples was the first item. Several more touches were gone through, and after a look at the famous yew tree, with its parted trunk (through which the party walked), and a visit to the grave of the victims of the Denham murder, an adjournment was made for tea. The meal over, a move was made for St. Andrew's, a tower which also possesses eight bells. Here, there was a large muster, and a well-struck touch of Stedman was first rung, followed by Oxford Bob and other methods, every touch being brought home. In one 'flourish' five lady ringers and a gunner in the R.F.A. took part. The lowering of the bells in peal brought the visit to a conclusion.

On the following day, for evensong, at Wycombe Church, there was a large attendance of visitors, and a quarter-peal of Cinqnes on the twelve bells was attempted, but unfortunately came to grief. However, some good ringing was accomplished.

The Chalfont ringers were so gratified with the visit to their tower that, like Oliver Twist, they wanted more; so arrangements were made to meet at Beaconsfield on Saturday, Sept. 21st. A profitable time was spent, various methods being performed.

On Saturday last, Wycombe tower was available, and a good number took advantage of a brilliant September afternoon to make the journey, ringers being present from Fulmer, Farnham Royal, Hillingdon, Iwer Heath, Great Missenden, West Wycombe, etc. Some capital touches were rung, Grandsire, Stedman and Kent Treble Bob being amongst the number, and a very interesting meeting was thus spent.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last the second quarterly meeting of the year was held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Ringing commenced shortly after two o'clock, and, although the visitors were not numerous, enthusiasm was not lacking, and the bells were kept going until about 7.30, with the exception of the time occupied by the tea and meeting.

Members were present from the following places: Burton, Cotgrave, Derby, Loughborough, Nottingham and Uxeter. A very good tea had been arranged by the local members at Radford's Cafe, and, justice having been done to the good things provided, a short business meeting was held. Mr. John W. Taylor taking the chair, supported by the Rev. H. E. Sawyer, Vicar of Ashby, and others.

Four new members were elected, and a vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells. In replying to the latter, the Vicar said it gave him great pleasure to welcome the Association to Ashby, and remarked that it was ten years since their last visit. He hoped such a long time would not elapse before the next.

A vote of thanks to the local ringers for the excellent arrangements made concluded the meeting.

5040 BOB MAJOR.

The following peal has been arranged from the original nine course block by the Rev. E. Banks James:—

23456	W	M	H
42356	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—
25348	—	—	—
32546	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—
24536	—	—	—
52436	—	—	—
46235	S	—	—
23465	—	—	—

Four times repeated with bob for single, and adding a single at M in the third course of the 4th part.

The above is a method of reducing the ordinary six part peal into a five part, the second single shunting the ringing from the 4th to the 5th part, thereby cutting out a part.

Rung 'in hand' at Isham on Saturday, Sept. 21st, 1918, conducted by E. M. Atkins.

STISTED, ESSEX.—On Sunday, July 7th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: A. Shufflebotham, E. Hynds, E. Beckwith, E. Claydon, H. Ridgewell, H. F. Cooper. Also 360 Double Court, with F. Bradley 3, E. Beckwith 5, E. Radley tenor, the rest as before, conducted by A. Shufflebotham and E. Radley.—The Rector (the Rev. J. T. Hodgson) wish to thank the visiting ringers, and offers a hearty welcome to all who come to Stisted.

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 15 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on four of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

DEATH OF MR. HENRY WHITE.

A LOSS TO THE WINCHESTER GUILD.

With much regret we have to record the death of Mr. Henry White, of Basingstoke, who passed away at the end of last week, after a long illness, patiently borne.

By Mr. White's death the Exercise in general, and the Winchester Diocesan Guild in particular, loses a most enthusiastic member, who through a long period of years expended much time and energy in advancing the art. Mr. White was a skilled ringer, and his long peal list ranges through the whole gamut of methods from Grandsire to London Surprise. He was also an able conductor and instructor, and many a man owes his start on the campanological ladder to Mr. White's tuition and help.

The deceased has held various offices under the Winchester Guild, and at the time of his death was an auditor, and one of the Guild's representatives on the Central Council.

The funeral took place at Basingstoke on Tuesday, and the warmest sympathy of the Exercise will go out to the members of the bereaved family, two of whom were the first lady tower bell ringers in the country, Miss Alice White being the first president of the Ladies' Guild.

The funeral service took place at St. Michael's Church, and was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. C. E. Matthews (Master of the Winchester Guild) reading the lesson. The family mourners wore the widow, three daughters and a son-in-law. Mr. White's own son having had to return to the front a few days before his father's death. Among the many ringers present were the Rev. C. D. P. Davies (Deane), hon. secretary of the Central Council; Rev. F. G. Hume (Oakley), hon. sec. of the Basingstoke District of the Winchester Guild; Messrs. W. Newell and C. Giles (Reading), J. J. Jones (Guildford), J. W. Elkins and W. Andrews (Winchester), etc. The funeral was also attended by a large body of Odd Fellows, with which Mr. White had been for many years actively identified. The bells of St. Michael's Church were rung half-muffled before and after the service to touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples.

We hope to give a fuller sketch of Mr. White's ringing career next week.

A LETTER FROM BOSTON.

From Boston, U.S.A. Mr. Richard Newton, late of Manchester, writes to let all his ringing friends know that he is still 'on top,' and trying to do his 'bit,' although over 3,000 miles away. He adds his best wishes to the 'Ringing World,' the Editor, and all friends in the old country. Referring to the Empire Day Festival, which was attended by over 3,000 people, and by which 1,850 dollars were raised for the Prince of Wales' Fund for Widows of British Sailors and Soldiers, the Massachusetts Comfort Kits for soldiers, and the Sons of St. George Hospital Bed Association funds, Mr. Newton says he again topped the ticket sellers by disposing of 270 at 50 cents (2s.) each, which, he points out, meant some talking. All these tickets were sold in the bank where he is employed. Every year Mr. Newton has taken a very active share in organising the festival, and there has usually been some handbell ringing, but this year that was not possible, as only three of the ringers are left. No tower bell ringing has been done for over twelve months. In the festival programme 83 children took part, and Mr. Newton bought 84 English pennies, had a hole drilled in each, and a piece of red, white and blue ribbon tied to it. Each child and the instructor was presented with one of these pennies, which greatly pleased them. Mr. Newton adds, 'All America is in the war to the finish, and everyone here is working at top notch, with the full determination to clean up Kaiser Bill and Co.'

RINGING AT EIGHTY-THREE.

At Barnwood, Gloucester, on Friday, Sept. 20th, Mr. H. Mitchell, who is 83 years of age, rang the tenor to a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in which the following took part: Mrs. R. J. Wilkins 1, R. J. Wilkins 2, J. Austin (conductor) 3, C. Dyson 4, J. Gillett 5, T. Newman 6, E. Davis 7, H. Mitchell 8. This quarter was arranged in order that Mr. A. Waite and Mr. Mitchell might take part in the longest length rung by Mrs. Wilkins, but Mr. Waite being unwell was unable to ring. Mr. Waite and Mr. Mitchell took part in Mr. Wilkins' first 720, rung at the same church in 1885.

At St. Michael's Church, Gloucester, for Sunday service, Sept. 22nd 504 Stedman Triples: Mrs. Wilkins 1, R. J. Wilkins 2, F. E. Hart 3, J. Austin (conductor) 4, E. Davis 5, J. Gillett 6, T. Williams 7, T. Whiting 8.

At Painswick, on the occasion of the Painswick Feast, 500 Stedman Caters: Mrs. Wilkins 1, J. Austin (conductor) 2, C. H. Gordon 3, F. K. Howell 4, J. Gillett 5, H. T. Howell 6, A. Wright 7, E. Davis 8, Ex-Sergt. Williams 9. — Orchard 10.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET. — On Wednesday, July 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., Miss Alice Orasso 1, E. Goldstone 2, Miss A. Stokes 3, Miss N. Gillingham (conductor) 4, W. Watts 5, J. Nisbet 6, W. Gillingham 7, A. Watts 8. First quarter-peal by ringers of the treble. This ringing was arranged for Mr. Alfred Watts, who left the band seven years ago to go to Canada, and has now returned attired in khaki.

'LEAD ENDS.'

To the Editor.

Sir,—I shall be glad if you can find space for the following notes on the above subject.

The Plain Bob lead ends are set up by the Central Council as the standard of excellence, and it is necessary to see clearly what they are. To this end, the reader is invited to prick the plain course of Bob Minor, though Minimus will do just as well, going off with rounds as Stedman made it to go on, and ending with 124365. This merely means that the lead ends become the lead heads, but no change in the terminology is suggested, as it makes no difference in practice. The course having been pricked it will be seen on inspection that every lead is a hunting cycle, and the heads, or ends as they are always called, are the cycle heads. This is proved by every bell, the tenor as well as the treble, striking twelve blows in each lead. Six in hunting up, and six in hunting down, two blows being struck by every bell in each place. The method has another peculiarity, about which nothing need be said, as it does not concern the present issue. Although it has always and very properly had its own distinctive name, Grand sire is Plain Bob on odd numbers, and the leads of the plain course of Grandsire are hunting cycles. But, Mr. Davies' assertion to the contrary notwithstanding, the go off must be from rounds, as it always has and always will be.

Now, seeing that the Plain Bob lead ends differ so greatly from other lead ends, it is reasonable to suppose that they are more valuable. The supposition is correct, and to see how the various lead ends compare with one another, I have taken the trouble to get out all the Triple methods with two hunts. There are 63, and an analysis is appended.

Lead Ends.	Methods.	Symmetrical Methods.
(1) 253746 etc.	21	11
(2) 253674 etc.	8	3
(3) 256473 etc.	5	3
(4) 256734 etc.	8	None
(5) 257436 etc.	14	4
(6) 257643 etc.	7	3

Set (1) is, of course, the cyclical set. It will be seen that it affords many more methods as well as many more symmetrical methods than any other set, and it may be pointed out that the much-lauded Union belongs to a set (4) which affords no symmetrical methods at all. The preference, therefore, that ringers in all generations have instinctively shown for methods with Plain Bob lead ends is justified, and Mr. Davies' assertion that all lead ends are of equal value is disproved.

The Central Council very properly insists upon symmetry. Several of your contributors have contended for symmetry with great ability, and much more convincingly than the Plain Bob lead ends have ever been contended for; for which, as Mr. Davies very justly complains, no sufficient reason has ever been adduced, though words without end have been used in the attempt. But, speaking of symmetry, nothing in the nature of proof has at any time been forthcoming, or, indeed, can be. It is a principle in design that things must not only be right, but that they must look right, and nothing lopsided can be pleasing to the eye. Mr. Davies calls Union a beautiful method; I call it an ugly method. Mr. Davies is willingly ignorant of the weighty arguments that have been urged in the advocacy of symmetry.

These are the controversial restrictions recommended by the Legitimate Methods Committee, and adopted by the Central Council. Mr. Davies, who in agreement with the responsible authorities recognises that something must be done to limit the number of methods, would abolish both restrictions and substitute another in their stead. He would insist upon the regular succession of odd and even rows, which, and what is very surprising as coming from him, rules out Duffield. There is much to be said both for and against. I am satisfied that the committee carefully considered the matter, and that they acted wisely in not recommending the restriction. Only one reason need be given: the recommendation would have been thrown out. There are not many campanological lawyers in the Central Council, but there are many men of sound common sense, and they would not be parties to telling the Treble Bob men that while they may ring Oxford, they may not ring Kent.

The following, having no direct connection with the issue, properly come as footnotes.

Surfleet belongs to a set (5) which affords four symmetrical methods, and had Mr. Davies taken one of these and named it Surfleet, apart from the necessity of wholesome rules for hunting the number of methods, it being sound in construction, no objection to it would have lain; though only one treble-dominated Triples method is really required, and that only by bands unable to ring Stedman.

In Mr. Davies' peal of Surfleet the Holt single is used. The Holt single degrades Triples to Singles, and in using it Mr. Davies is condemned out of his own mouth, especially as it does not turn the course of the bells. Mr. Davies, though he justly condemns what the Holt single does, always seems to have had a fondness for it.

Stedman is a perfectly symmetrical method, and saving for the ridiculously unnecessary go off and the unshaken notions of one of your contributors, necessarily so; for unlike all other methods whatsoever, Plain Bob on even numbers alone excepted, the hunting cycle

is never broken. But for this purpose the sub-division must be considered as the unit, and the axis of symmetry is in the middle.—Yours truly,
GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As an occasional contributor and permanent subscriber to your valuable journal, I feel I should be doing some service in commenting upon the discussion now taking place on the pros and cons of 'lead ends.' I don't propose entering into the various phases of 'lead ends,' or to engage in the controversy, but I should be speaking for at least nine-tenths of the ringing Exercise when I say such criticism is not healthy, and is scarcely worth the enormous space to court the average ringers' interest. Some of the things which are said are somewhat striking below the belt. The tone adopted scarcely reaches that high standard which one is accustomed to meet with when up against men who have devoted valuable time and money to the advantages ringers now enjoy. Readers have to judge both authors and composers, and are capable of enjoying a heated argument when it is confined to the point in question, but having to read items next door to personalities under a cloak is scarcely comprehensible when having to judge both sides of a question.

Ringers have had a great innings in the past when compared with the present time, and it is to be hoped we shall soon emerge into normal times and better things.

Might I suggest for the future, in order to reach a fundamental basis for the average ringer to understand, that such technical discussions should have personalities eliminated. This will appeal to ringers. I am sure, when we consider the appointments to deal with technical matters are confined to about three or four members of the Exercise at most. Such procedure would broaden interest and court good, intelligent argument for or against.

In spite of any defects in human nature, for no one is infallible, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies holds much by way of ringers' gratitude for the ability and industry he has expended on problems for ringers' benefit.
H.

A DORSET EXCURSION.

On Saturday last, the Wyke Regis band paid their annual visit to the pretty village of Upwey, which is situated in a beautiful valley in the Dorset Downs, at the foot of Rigwey Hill, where the River Wey rises, being formed by one of the largest springs in England, known world-wide as the 'Wishing Well.' The church stands close by, and is an ancient and picturesque edifice, containing ancient oak, and a carved pulpit of the time of Charles I. The tower at the west end contains a light peal of six bells in G. The soldier ringers in the district (who are always welcome) turned up in good force, but some who had to remain on duty were disappointed. Having arrived in good time, the party were met by their old friend, Mr. T. Page, and the bells were raised in peal, and set going to 120 Grandsire Doubles to give the local schoolmaster (Mr. G. Smith) his first 120 on the tenor. This was followed by 720 Bob Minor by the following: T. Page 1, Pte. S. V. Crabbe, Dorset Regt. (Ilminster) 2, Lance-Corpl. B. Williams, Dorset Regt. (Bournemouth) 3, C. H. Jennings 4, L. W. Wiffen (conductor) 5, A. J. Rose 6. Tea (not rationed) followed at the Strawberry Gardens. As of old, thoughts went out to 'brother strings' who had visited Upwey in the past, and were now serving on all the fronts of the great war, two never to return (Fred J. Hardy, of the Colchester Youths, who was with the party last year, and 'Joe' Painter, of Dorchester), and whose loss is deeply deplored. Sincere sympathy was also expressed with Miss Alice White (who has also been one of the party in the past) in the death of her father, one of the most enthusiastic of ringers in the South. Touches of Treble Bob and Bob Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung, T. Wellman, A.I.F. (Sedney), and Mr. F. Smith, Dorset Regt. (London), taking part in the latter method.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The September meeting of the Western District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Idle on the 14th of the month, and despite the wet and disagreeable weather about 30 members attended. The following towers were represented: Bolton, Bradford, Bramley, Calverley, Guiseley, Huddersley, Holbeck, Kildwick, Lightcliffe, Northowram, Silsden, Shipley, Tong, and the local company. The bells, a fine new peal of eight, with tenor 15½ cwt., were well utilised in touches of Kent, Oxford and Grandsire. The visitors sat down to tea in the Schools at 5 p.m., and the usual business meeting followed. Mr. G. Bolland presiding.

The place for the December meeting was discussed, and Huddersley St. Chad's was the tower chosen.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar, wardens and local ringers was pronounced by Mr. P. J. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Lawson, and acknowledged by one of the local ringers.

The handbells were afterwards brought into use, touches of Grandsire, Oxford and Kent being successfully brought round. The tower was again visited, further ringing bringing to a close a good meeting, in which several of the younger members had a good grounding in different methods.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—Combined practice meeting Yorktown, October 19th, 4 p.m. The quarterly meeting will be held at Horsell (Woking) on October 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; service 5 p.m. Cups of tea (no sugar) will be served in the Parish Room at 5.30 p.m., but any eatables required must be brought. All ringers will be welcomed at these meetings.—F. J. Sheppard, District Sec. (*pro tem.*), 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—(Estab. 1755.)—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Cathedral (St. Philip's) Saturday, October 5th. Bells available from 4 o'clock.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Newhey on Saturday, October 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock till dusk; business meeting at 6. Tea in school, 9d. each. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637.)—A meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Saturday, October 5th, at 3.30 p.m. Meetings will also be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on October 17th and 31st, and for general business on the 8th and 22nd, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at Speldhurst on Saturday, October 5th. Tower open at 4; service at 5. Half travelling expenses up to, but not exceeding, 2/- each will be paid to members attending.—W. Salter, Hon. District Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—The half-yearly business meeting of the above will be held at the Old Church, Smethwick, on Saturday, October 12th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock; service in the church at 4.30; tea at 5.15 (for those who notify me not later than Thursday, October 10th), followed by the business meeting. It is hoped all members will make a special effort to be present. Gentlemen cordially invited.—S. Pigott, 41, Cemetery Road, Smethwick.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Edmonton on Saturday, October 12th. Ringing from 3 to 6 p.m. Service 6 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Members and friends intending to be present are asked to advise me not later than October 8th. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, October 12th, at the Church of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Bloomsbury, W.C. Ringing from 4 p.m. till dusk; business meeting to follow. All ringers cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Pendlebury, on Saturday, October 12th. Bells available from 3.30 till dusk; meeting to follow.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Southam on Saturday, October 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock; service at 4.30; tea (2/- each) can be arranged for those who notify me not later than October 14th; business meeting after tea.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at St. John's (Lewisham High Road) on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m.; service and address by the Rev. W. F. Jepson (Vicar) at 6 p.m.; business meeting to follow.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The address of Mr. A. L. Coleman, the new Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association, is High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

CLERK AND SEXTON WANTED for country parish; ringer preferred; salary £15 and fees. A roomy house and large shop and garden, suitable for carpenter, etc., available; rent £12.—Full particulars from Rector, Martley, Worcester.

BRAINTREE'S ANCIENT CHURCH.

At Braintree, on Sunday last, the 719th anniversary of the foundation of the Parish Church, dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel, was celebrated by special ringing. For the early celebration of Holy Communion 1260 Grandsire Triples was rung, by: W. Sadler 1, C. H. Howard 2, H. E. Hammond 3, G. Melbourne 4, W. H. Dyson 5, E. F. Slade 6, G. Lindridge (conductor) 7, W. H. Hammond 8. For Matins, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major: C. H. Howard (conductor) 1, W. Sadler 2, H. E. Hammond 3, G. Melbourne 4, W. H. Dyson 5, F. Rudkin 6, W. H. Hammond 7, E. F. Slade 8. For evensong, 882 Grandsire Triples: W. Sadler 1, G. Lindridge 2, H. E. Hammond 3, G. Melbourne 4, W. H. Dyson 5, E. Hales 6, C. Howard (conductor) 7, W. H. Hammond 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

STREATHAM.—On Saturday, 13th July, members of the towers of Emmanuel and St. Leonard's, Streatham, visited Reigate, by the invitation of Mr. Lorkings, until recently a member of Emmanuel, when, with the aid of home members, several touches in both eight and ten bells were rung, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, etc. Whatever skill was wanting on the visitors' part was made up by the enthusiasm of the whole party. The visiting ancient juveniles had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Lorkings ring a tenor perfectly to a touch of 430 Grandsire Triples, a notable performance for an ancient of Mr. Lorkings' years. After ringing, Mr. Lorkings entertained the visitors and home members to tea at Somersfield Cottage, where, with the aid of the ladies of Mr. Lorkings' household, a most enjoyable evening was spent.

TAUNTON.—At St. James' Church, on July 13th, Mr. J. Maddock arranged a practice to oblige Second-Lieut. B. M. Targett (Middlesex Regt.), who hails from King's Lynn, 1168 changes of Bob Major was rung by the following: W. White, S. Wyatt, Second-Lieut. B. M. Targett, B. Lloyd, A. Wyatt, J. Maddock, F. Millard, J. Hunt (conductor). A touch of Grandsire, conducted by J. Maddock, in which E. E. Burgess and another took part. Also two courses of Bob Major. A Tour ringing the treble. At the conclusion, Lieut. Targett thanked Mr. J. Maddock, and also those who helped to make the practice possible.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.—On Sunday, July 14th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: B. Putmore 1, H. Wallace 2, E. Williams 3, Pte. A. Phillips, R.W.F., 4, N. Patmore 5, G. H. Lucas (Walthamstow), conductor, 6.—On Sunday, July 21st, for evening service, 360 Oxford Bob: W. H. Lawrence 1—2, S. Game 3, B. Patmore 4, H. Wallace 5, F. Williams (conductor) 6. Also two 120's Grandsire Doubles, with R. Jones and S. Carter treble.—On Sunday, Sept. 14th, for evening service, 360 Grandsire Doubles: W. H. Lawrence (conductor) 1—2, S. Game 3, F. Williams 4, Pte. A. Phillips, R. Fusiliers, 5, R. Jones 6.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Sunday, July 14th, with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Lieut. C. W. Selby Lowndes, 336 Grandsire Triples: H. Holderness 1, H. Sear 2, A. G. Crane 3, A. Crane 4, W. Sear (conductor) 5, E. Marks 6, F. Stanton 7, V. Sear 8. The whole pull and stand following.—On Sunday, July 24th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: H. Holderness 1, A. G. Crane 2, W. Mead 3, A. Crane 4, W. Sear (conductor) 5, E. Marks 6, F. Whitehead 7, V. Sear 8. For evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, F. Stanton 3, A. Crane 4, F. Hedges 5, E. Marks 6, H. Sear (conductor) 7, A. G. Crane 8.

FILXTON, LANCASHIRE.—On July 14th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, on the occasion of the anniversary services, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: A. Johnson 1, J. Shaw 2, G. Astbury 3, Jas. Potter 4, S. Collier 5, Lieut.-Col. S. Stott 6, J. H. Collier (conductor) 7, W. Johnson 8.

ABERAVON, SOUTH WALES.—At St. Mary's Church, for evening service, on July 14th (France's Day), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: *C. Jones 1, A. Pitman 2, *W. Herring 3, C. Frankcom 4, †E. Stitch 5, H. Perry 6, D. Frankcom 7, *F. Stone 8. * First quarter-peal and first attempt. † First on inside bell.

BRISTOL.—Church of England Men's Society.—On Monday, July 15th, at St. Nicholas' Church, Bristol, in honour of the 21st birthday of Miss Howell, elder daughter of T. H. Howell, Esq. (who until recently was senior churchwarden of St. Nicholas' Church), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes) was rung by the following: F. G. May 1, Mrs. E. J. Wilson 2, W. Lansdown 3, F. W. Wade 4, Det.-Inspector Wallace 5, A. Pearce 6, T. Harris 7, J. Richmond 8, I. Long 9, U. Braven 10. Conducted by F. G. May. First quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters by ringer of the 5th, and first quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters with a working well by Mrs. Wilson.

SHENLEY, BUCKS.—On Tuesday, July 16th, 720 Grandsire Doubles: H. Holderness 1, A. G. Crane 2, W. Bonham 3, A. Crane 4, G. Clarke 5, H. Sear (conductor) 6.

HALLOW, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, July 21st, 1918, for morning service, 1260 Grandsire Triples: O. Bowkett 1, T. Lane 2, W. Rouse 3, W. Page (conductor) 4, W. Ranford 5, G. Checketts 6, G. Jacobs 7, J. Batchelor 8. First quarter-peal by G. Jacobs.

TAUNTON.—Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—At the Church of St. James, for Divine service, on Sunday, July 21st, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) composed by Mr. C. Charge: J. Maddock 1, T. Doble 2, W. White 3, E. Lloyd 4, A. Wyatt 5, F. Millard 6, J. Hunt (conductor) 7, E. E. Burgess 8. Rung in 45 minutes.

SLOUGH.—Oxford Guild.—At St. Mary's, on Sunday, July 21st, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: W. H. Hewett (conductor) 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, Miss Gladys Bateman 3, W. G. Bedford 4, G. T. Leader 5, W. H. Fussell 6, W. Henley 7, W. Bateman 8. Mrs. F. Hairs' first quarter on tower bells in the method.

TYLDESLEY.—Lancashire Association.—On Sunday, July 21st, for morning service, 672 Bob Major: H. Watts 1, James Allred 2, J. Watts 3, B. Allred 4, W. Hindley 5, J. T. Allred 6, H. Allred 7, R. Allred (conductor) 8. Also for evening service, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins.: H. Watts 1, J. Allred 2, B. Allred 3, J. T. Allred 4, W. Hindley 5, R. Allred (conductor) 6, H. Allred 7, J. Watts 8.

CARDIFF.—Llandaff Association.—On Sunday, July 21st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: W. Bolton 1, J. Harris 2, J. Clutterbuck 3, S. Dawe (conductor) 4, W. Coombes 5, F. Chamberlain 6, A. Rowley 7, S. Barker 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the second surviving son of the conductor, Pte. Victor H. Dawe, M.T. A.S.C.

YORK.—On Sunday evening, July 21st, at St. Mary Senior, Bishop-hill, 720 Bob Minor, by: Sergt. E. Morris 1, P. Firth 2, W. Fountain 3, H. Ineson 4, E. Rickitt 5, A. C. Feamley 6. Conducted by Sergt. Ernest Morris, A.S.C. (Leicester).

PENTRE, RHONDDA.—The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On Sunday, July 21st, for evening service, at the Church of St. Peter's, 1248 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 50 mins., by the following: H. Crabbe 1, H. Page (conductor) 2, B. Davies 3, G. Wines 4, T. Hamlin 5, J. Cross 6, T. Page 7, W. Page 8. First time for his composition to be rung. Composed by Mr. Joe Sykes.

ABERAVON, SOUTH WALES.—At St. Mary's Church, on July 21st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: *F. Stone 1, A. Perry 2, C. Frankcom 3, E. Stitch 4, W. Nulton 5, H. Perry 6, A. Pitman (composer and conductor) 7, J. Wethersby 8. * First quarter-peal on treble and first attempt. Rung as a celebration of recent victories in France, this quarter-peal being one part of the peal published in this paper August 10th, 1917, in four parts.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 395. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11th, 1918.

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.

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WOLFRUM CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 6th March. 1918
Gentlemen.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, E. T. BROOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

PUNCTUALITY AND ENTHUSIASM.

Writing the other day in a Bolton paper, a correspondent laments the unpunctuality on the part of ringers in that Lancashire town. Whether or not the complaint is justified we cannot say, but the public notice which has been directed to the matter shows that, even in these days, when those who are opposed to bell ringing say there is no need for the bells because clocks are universal, there are those who look to the bells to fulfil their time-honoured duty of announcing the approach of the hour of worship. Unpunctuality is a fault that is seldom excusable, but we are afraid it is one to which a certain class of ringer is somewhat prone. Often the full value cannot be got out of the practice hour because one or more members are behind time, and it is not infrequently the case that the start of service ringing is delayed because an expected ringer turns up a few minutes late. The author of the Bolton complaint pleads for punctuality, even if the claims of war render it difficult to have all the bells rung, and this is a plea which, extended to all ringers, we would endorse. Church-goers look for the pealing of the bells at a fixed time before the service, and it should be the aim of every tower to see that the ringing begins promptly at the appointed hour.

Much of the fault lies in the negligence of a minority of lukewarm ringers, and it is a pity that these men are not imbued with a little of the enthusiasm recorded of a ringer, who is now a member of the Army, and who walked seven miles to a railway station, and travelled a distance by train, in order to ring for service at Newcastle Cathedral, returning the same night. We do not say that the keenness which prompted this action is unique—we are glad to know that it is not—but it is a pity that some small portion of this enthusiasm is not spread among that minority which is so often responsible for unpunctuality in the ringing of the bells. If it were there would be no complaints like that from Bolton. It is not easy to find a remedy for the failing which mars the service of the unpunctual ringer, when that service is voluntarily given. As a rule any system of fines quickly becomes inoperative and cannot be enforced unless the ringers are paid. The only remedy seems to be moral suasion, and if this has no effect then a company is better without the man who cannot be relied upon. The enthusiastic ringer is always the punctual ringer, and where interest in the art can be quickened there is no need to fear slackness. Ringers must remember that their Sunday service ringing is not merely a pleasure, it is a duty, and the church-going public have as much right to expect punctuality from the ringers as they have from the clergy.

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CHAS. EDMUNDS,

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TEN BELL PEAL.

TEWKESBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, October 5, 1918, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

FRED G. MAY Treble	CHARLES DYSON 6
MRS. E. J. WILSON 2	WILLIAM SHORT 7
JOHN AUSTIN 3	THOMAS NEWMAN 8
JESSE GILLET 4	ISAAC LONG 9
THOMAS BALDWIN 5	URIAH BRAVEN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRED G. MAY.

Rung on the eve of the Dedication Festival of the Abbey.
Mrs. Wilson belongs to Portishead and this was her first peal of Stedman. Messrs. Austin, Gillett, Baldwin, Newman and Dyson belong to Gloucester; W. Short to Clent; F. G. May, I. Long and U. Braven to Bristol.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, September 28, 1918, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

HARRY ARGYLE Treble	WILLIAM T. COX 5
JOSIAH MORRIS 2	ABRAHAM WILKERSON 6
WILLIAM J. SMITH 3	CHARLES H. BRIGGS 7
REV. R. P. FARROW 4	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by HARRY ARGYLE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of the late Mr. Arthur R. Aldham, who died on Saturday, Sept. 29th, 1917.

BUCKLAND, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sunday, September 15, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDFIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN PART.

H. HOLIFIELD Treble	T. BULL 5
J. MONK 2	G. HOLIFIELD 6
G. A. KING 3	R. WHITE 7
FRED WEBB 4	GORDON CAULDWELL Tenor

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

Rung on the occasion of the dedication of a stained glass window by the Bishop of Buckingham to whom the ringers were introduced after the peal by the Vicar (the Rev. R. C. L. Newhouse).

First peal on the bells. The ringer of the treble belongs to Abingdon, the ringers of the 2nd and 5th to Witney, of the 3rd and 4th to Kidlington, 6th and 7th to Appleton and tenor to Drayton.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 5, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26lbs.

ERNEST DUMPER Treble	HENRY W. WILKES 5
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2	EDWIN J. HARDING 6
ALFRED A. JONES, A.S.C. 3	WILLIAM H. GEORGE 7
JOSIAH D. HARRIS 4	WILLIAM T. TUCKER Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Henry White of Basingstoke, one of the most enthusiastic and respected members of the above Guild.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday, July 21st, for evening service, at the Church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal of Grandfire Triples: J. Woodberry 1. G. Davy 2. T. Elcox 3. K. Salter (first quarter-peal inside) 4. T. J. Salter 5. W. Short (conductor) 6. C. Beaman 7. J. Bennett 8.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, October 7, 1918, in Three Mows and Three Minutes,
IN ST. MARTIN'S BELFRY,**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;**

Tenor 17 size in B flat.

ALF. PADDON SMITH...	1-2	ALBERT WALKER	7-8
WILLIAM H. BARBER	3-4	JAMES E. GROVES	9-10
GEORGE F. SWANN	5-6	MORRIS J. MORRIS	11-12

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES.

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Referee: MR. J. GEORGE.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques in hand.

This was Mr. Barber's second touch of Stedman Cinques on handbells, his first having been rung at Christmas, 1901.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE SOLIHULL GUILD.On Sunday, October 6, 1918, in One Hour and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT MALVERN VILLAS, NEW ROAD,**A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

Consisting of Stedman, Plain Bob and Grandsire.

HARRY BRAGG	1-2	EDGAR C. SHEPHERD	3-4
CHARLES BRAGG	5-6		

Conducted by HARRY BRAGG.

Witness: D. MATKIN.

First peal as conductor.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD DISTRICT MEETING.

A meeting was held at Ashted on Saturday week, and was fairly well attended; lady ringers especially turning up in strong force. Three of them scored their first touch of Grandsire Triples, and the whole eight bells were rung by them. Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob Minor were also rung. Owing to the dearth of clergy, it was not possible to hold the usual service. Tea was held at The Rosary Tea Gardens, and at the business meeting votes of condolence were passed to the relatives of the late Mr. H. White, of Basingstoke, and Mr. R. W. Melville, of Guildford, the members rising in their places. Several present spoke of the loss sustained by the Guild by these two deaths—in the first case a gentleman greatly loved for his untiring energy and enthusiasm for ringing, and one who had done more, perhaps, than any other, from its earliest days for the Guild; in the second case, a young and enthusiastic ringer who had only been at the front for a few weeks before he paid the great forfeit. Much sympathy is extended to his parents, who are both ringers, and members of the Holy Trinity, Guildford, company.

The Ringing Master's report was received and adopted, and on his suggestion it was resolved to hold the annual meeting of the district at Guildford, on November 16th.

One new member was elected, and as 'Dora' put a stop to any more ringing, the party soon dispersed by road, rail and bus to their homes.

YORKTOWN DISTRICT.

A successful meeting of the Yorktown District was held at Horsell (Woking), on Saturday, ringers attending from Oatlands Park, Walton, Hersham, Guildford, Yorktown, Kingston, etc. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., touches of Kent Treble, Plain Bob, Stedman and Grandsire being brought round. Cups of tea were provided by the Vicar of Horsell (the Rev. N. Pares), and these being supplemented by individual rations, an enjoyable tea was made.

Mr. J. J. Jones (the genial secretary of the Guildford District) presided over the business meeting, and was supported by Messrs. G. Miles (hon. secretary), F. J. Shepherd (acting secretary), W. Shepherd (Ringing Master), and C. Hazelden (Guildford).

The official business was prefaced by the chairman's reference to the loss the Guild had sustained by the death of Mr. Henry White, of Basingstoke; also of young Melville, of Guildford, a promising young ringer, who had given his life for his country, and the meeting passed votes of condolence in silence, standing.

The following annual meetings were announced: Yorktown District, at Chertsey, on November 9th; and Guildford District, at Guildford, on November 16th; also a combined practice at Yorktown, on October 19th.

After touches on the handbells, a further move was made to the tower, where ringing was continued until 8 p.m.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

REV. H. J. ELSEE AN HONORARY CANON.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee, M.A., Vicar of St. George's, Bolton, and President of the Lancashire Association, has accepted an honorary canonry offered to him by the Bishop of Manchester. This honour has been received with great satisfaction in Bolton, where the Rev. H. J. Elsee has endeared himself to all sections of the community by long years of devoted service, and it will give equal pleasure to ringers throughout Lancashire—among whom Canon Elsee is held in such high esteem. Commenting upon the appointment, the Bolton 'Evening News' says:—

'The Vicar of St. George's has been so long in our midst that we all have come to look upon him as a thoroughly established fellow-townsmen. There will be universal pleasure at the Bishop's recognition of his long and devoted services in this part of the diocese. For more than twenty years the new Canon has been an ideal parish clergyman in one of the most crowded parts of the town. His faithfulness and helpfulness in visitation have made him a man beloved among all classes; his preaching has been of a deeply spiritual and withal intensely practical type; his administrative policy in a difficult transition period at St. George's has been marked by comprehension, tolerance, and true wisdom. The reconstructed interior of St. George's Church is to some degree a result of his far-sightedness in counsel, and the whole town is under a debt of gratitude for the part he had in that enterprise. In wider spheres Canon Elsee has discharged highly important duties. As chaplain to the local Territorial battalions, he has ever been the soldiers' friend, and hundreds of Bolton homes feel immeasurably indebted to him for his patient kindness and deep sympathy. In the growing co-operation and inter-fellowship among the churches he has been a genuine force, and it is no secret that he has won the affections of Nonconformist ministers. We earnestly hope that he may be long spared to labour in Bolton, as his adopted town, where he has thoroughly earned the prestige so finely expressed by Chaucer in those famous lines:—

This noble ensample to his shepe he yaf
That first he wrought, and afterwards he taught.
But Christes lore, and His apostles twelve,
He taught, but first he folwed it himselfe.

ROCHDALE BRANCH MEETING.

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale branch was held at Newhey Parish Church on Saturday last, and was attended by about twenty members, many of whom had brought their wives with them. The ringers present represented Newhey, Milnrow, Middleton, Heywood, Oldham, Glodwick, and Todmorden parishes. During the afternoon touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung, and at five o'clock all adjourned to the Schoolroom to participate in a 'tea party' that was being held for the benefit of the Prisoners of War fund. A remarkable feature of this party was the plentiful and varied supply of eatables which made one wonder how they could have been obtained during the present period of shortage and food rationing. However, on expressing surprise to some of the good friends assembled, it was found that members of the congregation had very generously given part of their rations in order to ensure the evening being a success. Every credit is due to the ladies of Newhey for their efforts, as it was 'some' tea, and everyone did ample justice to the spread.

Subsequently the business meeting of the branch took place in one of the classrooms, and was presided over by Mr. S. Stott (branch president). It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Moor-side, on Saturday, November 2nd, and it is earnestly hoped that every member of the Rochdale branch will keep this date open, as an exceptionally good attendance is desired, there being business of importance to transact.

A resolution was passed to the effect that for the future any member who attends the meeting at any time during the afternoon or evening shall have his attendance marked, whether he has been present during the whole of the meeting or not. This new arrangement will stand for twelve months.

The Secretary (Mr. T. K. Driver) then suggested the advisability of the Branch holding an annual general meeting in August, so that a report of the year's work and a balance sheet could be presented.—A resolution in favour of this was unanimously passed.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the tower and bells; also to the local ringers for having everything in readiness, and the business meeting concluded with a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. S. Stott for presiding.

Owing to D.O.R.A. no ringing was done after the meeting.

The secretary, we are informed, is very pleased with the promptitude with which life members are paying their yearly subscriptions, in accordance with the Association's decision to suspend Rule 6.

LOWER BEBINGTON.—Chester Diocesan Guild.—On July 23rd, at the Parish Church, G. R. Newton's date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins.: T. Golding 1, W. Edge 2, F. Jones 3, E. Counce 4, J. Martin 5, J. Dillon 6, E. Breeze (conductor) 7, H. H. Barker 8.—On August 13th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1280 changes), in 48 mins.: J. W. Bell 1, G. R. Newton 2, W. T. Robson 3, E. Counce 4, H. H. Barker 5, J. Dillon 6, J. Martin (composer and conductor) 7, T. W. Gilmour 8.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

LIEUT. HARRY WASHBROOK KILLED.

The sympathy of the whole Exercise will go out to Mr. J. W. Washbrook upon the loss of his third son, Second-Lieut. Harry Washbrook, of the King's Liverpool Regiment, who gave his life for his King and country on August 22nd while leading his men in an attack on an important position.

Lieut. Washbrook joined the ranks of the Manchester Regiment in September, 1914, and served in France in the years 1915-16. After fighting on the Somme front he was invalided home last autumn, and was granted a commission.

He was naturally proficient in the art of change ringing, and had rung many peals in standard methods. He was also an accomplished tune ringer on handbells.

After Lieut. Washbrook went to Manchester he rang ten peals with the Lancashire Association. He had also rung peals with the Chester and Stoke-on-Trent Societies, as well as with his father in Ireland.

This is the second son Mr. J. W. Washbrook has lost in the war. Sergt. W. R. Washbrook having been killed at Loos, while his eldest son, J. W. Washbrook, was maimed in the right arm at Gallipoli. Such ringers as these young men will be a great loss to the Exercise, and it will be hard to fill their places in the Lancashire and Stoke Associations.

A younger son of Mr. J. W. Washbrook, Mark Washbrook has just got a commission.

RAISING AND LOWERING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should like to make a complaint, and also suggest a reform with reference to the raising and lowering of bells. Although we have practised standard methods in change ringing all these years, there is yet no method of raising and lowering bells. In a few towers the bells are sometimes raised and lowered 'in peal.' Quite all right. But where this is not done, why not raise and lower the bells each one singly, commencing with the treble and finishing with the tenor, instead of the haphazard fashion?

The change ringing itself between the raising and lowering of the bells may be faultless as regards striking, but is absolutely marred by a bad start and finish. Ringers to-day generally aim at ringing the most musical compositions, then why not practise the most musical methods in raising and lowering bells, as it should be remembered the sound is not confined to the ringers in the belfry, but has to be inflicted on a sometimes unsympathetic public.

I should be glad to know other views on the matter, at the same time hoping ringers in charge will carry out this suggestion.—Yours, truly,
F. W. RICHARDSON.

UNPUNCTUALITY IN RINGING.

The following paragraph appeared in a recent issue of a Bolton newspaper:—

I am constantly noticing the unpunctuality of the ringing at some of our Bolton churches. Time was when we did not find it necessary to look at the clock when the bells began to ring; we knew it was 10 o'clock or six o'clock, as the case might be; but now we might as well do without them; they are certainly no use as "time markers." Bell-ringers who cannot keep time are an annoyance to the punctual churchgoer, and in most cases, when they begin to ring after the proper time, they are "tinkling" on when they should be silent. Now, ye bell ringers, even if it is war-time and your numbers are depleted, if you cannot keep up the old-time excellence of your efforts, at least begin and end your ringing punctually, and if you are supposed to indicate the time, then do it in a proper manner, and you will cease to vex the soul of the man who values punctuality.

VETERAN DERBYSHIRE RINGER.

Mr. George Ford, who rang the bells at Chapel-en-le-Frith when peace was proclaimed after the German War, is still a regular attendant at the belfry at the age of 86.

Mr. Ford became a ringer at the Church of Chapel-en-le-Frith, says the 'Manchester Daily Dispatch,' when just turned 20. He has been vice-president of the Association of Ringers covering parts of the counties of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, and is believed to have taken part in more change ringing during the last 60 years than any other man in the Midlands. More than 150 ringers have come and gone at Chapel-en-le-Frith during his long career. He is still an enthusiastic ringer, and hopes to ring the joybells when peace comes.

ENTHUSIASM!

At Newcastle Cathedral, on Sunday evening, Sept. 29th, for the festival of St. Michael and All Angels, 759 Stedman Cuters were rung by: C. L. Routledge 1, A. Dalton 2, W. Sinclair 3, J. McKeag 4, Pte. A. Saviour (Bristol) 5, B. C. Dixon 6, A. F. Hillier 7, J. E. Keen 8, R. Richards (conductor) 9, J. Foreman 10. As an instance of enthusiasm in ringing it is worthy of mention that Pte. Saviour (of Bristol) walked from Blyth to Whitley Bay, seven miles, taking train from there to Newcastle, and did the return journey the same evening.

LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—Time with me is very fully occupied, and I fear it will be impossible for me to reply to all correspondents if they multiply indefinitely. For the letter of 'H' I can only thank him. On Mr Clayton's letter I will make a few remarks, jotted down as his words suggest them.

1. I do not understand what he means by directing us to prick Bob Minor going off with rounds 'as Stedman made it to go off.' What has or had Stedman to do with Bob Minor?

2. I quite agree to the division between the leads in the Plain Bob Method, as suggested by Mr. Clayton. He places it where it is—just as I have always said, between the handstroke and backstroke leads of the treble, because it is there and nowhere else.

3. He then says that every lead is a hunting cycle. Quite so. But what of that? It is merely another way of stating that the only places made in Plain Bob are lead-linking places. This feature is peculiar to the Plain Bob Method. It is what makes the Method to be Plain Bob. It is found in no other method. Insert internal places and Plain Bob vanishes. Another and different method is then and thereby created with its own peculiar properties, lead-heads, lead-ends, and other features, and to attempt to jam any other method into the strait-jacket of Plain Bob is illogical and monstrous. To argue that because Plain Bob produces certain lead-ends, therefore all other even-bell methods ought to produce the same lead-ends, is like arguing that because the turning of a certain handle produces sausages, therefore all machines with a turning handle ought to produce sausages.

4. Concerning Grandsire, where did I say that the 'go off' was not from rounds? No one in his senses would go off from anywhere but rounds. What I did say, and say again, is that the division between the blocks (or leads) is between the treble's blow in 2nds and her handstroke blow at lead. It is there, and no amount of fanciful or other imaginary lines or divisions can make it fall anywhere else. We all know that in actual ringing, the block containing rounds has to be forcibly broken into two fragments, its last twelve rows (speaking of Triples—in Doubles 8, in Caters 16, and so on) coming first, and its first two rows coming in at the end.

5. Mr. Clayton's next paragraph is a fair specimen of the method of argument pursued by his side in the controversy. He says that it is 'reasonable to suppose' that P.B. lead-ends are more valuable. This is an attempt to evade argument and to employ 'supposition' in its place. If it is 'reasonable' I demand to be told the reason. To assert that the magic lead-ends are more prolific of methods than the others is of no argumentative value. A wasp's nest is, I believe, more prolific than a swan's nest.

6. Mr. Clayton then goes on to the question of 'symmetry,' and in this connection has recourse to Mr. Trollope's charge of ignorance, even adding to the offensiveness of it by saying that I am 'willingly ignorant.' In commenting on this paragraph of his it is only necessary to quote two of its own sentences. In one he says that I am 'willingly ignorant of the weighty arguments that have been urged in the advocacy of symmetry,' having only five lines earlier made the felicitous (and perfectly true) remark, 'But, speaking of symmetry, nothing in the nature of proof has at any time been forthcoming, or indeed can be.' I leave the appreciation of this to others!

7. Readers will kindly note Mr. Clayton's unreserved admission, that for P.B. lead-ends 'no sufficient reason has ever been adduced, though words without end have been used in the attempt.'

8. Mr. Clayton's floundering fairly reaches a bathos in saying that my rules for the regular succession of positive and negative rows rule out Duffield.

I should have thought that before venturing to make such an assertion on a matter of fact he would have had the common prudence to assure himself of the fact. After this, I should seriously advise Mr. Clayton not to say much more about 'ignorance.' I am not, nor was Sir Arthur Heywood, quite as ignorant as that.

9. In his remarks on my use of Holt's singles in the peal of Surfleet, Mr. Clayton only gets deeper into the mire. He seems to be 'ignorant' of Mr. Thompson's researches to which I refer him as also to the 'Report on Calls, 1894.'

There are still other mistakes in Mr. Clayton's letter, but this reply of mine is already longer than I wished. It is necessary, however, for the instruction of those who have not studied the subject, and who, if I were to leave the fallacies of the other side unanswered, might imagine that I found them unanswerable. Quite the reverse.

Just as I am finishing, it occurs to me that I have omitted to notice what I suppose is intended by Mr. Clayton as an attempt to answer my demand for reasons why Union is wrong. (1) He says it is ugly. I say the reverse. These are two opinions, the one as good as the other. Let them cancel each other. (2) He says it is not symmetrical. Of that he himself disposes when he truly says that nothing in the nature of proof of it has ever been forthcoming, nor indeed can be.

Will it surprise Mr. Clayton if I tell him that Grandsire is not symmetrical?—Yours, etc.,

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

'H' writes on the subject of his letter in the last issue, that in matters where there are so many technicalities involved, which concern only two or three persons, the discussions should take place first of all by direct communication, and the results of their arguments placed before the Exercise. This would dispense with unnecessary controversy, which is sometimes foreign to the point at issue.

THE LATE MR. HENRY WHITE.

CLOSE OF AN ACTIVE CAREER.

As recorded in our last issue, the death took place on Friday week of Mr. Henry White, of Basingsloke, at the age of 61 years. Although never robust in health, Mr. White was of a most cheery nature, and by his death the Winchester Diocesan Guild has sustained a heavy loss. He was one of the oldest surviving members of the Guild, which he joined in 1884, and from that time onward he was an enthusiastic and assiduous worker in the cause of change ringing. About thirty years ago he was appointed sexton of Basingsloke Parish Church, and was the first to introduce change ringing to Basingsloke, his first peal being rung there in 1885 by the St. Lawrence's (Reading) ringers and himself. He and the local ringers also introduced change ringing in many neighbouring and more distant parishes; and as a member of the Committee of the Winchester Guild, of which body he was also auditor, and as one of the representatives of the Guild on the Central Council, he was widely known and greatly esteemed.

When Lieut.-Col. J. May presented All Saints' Church with a set of nine bells he entrusted to Mr. White the whole responsibility of carrying out the necessary negotiations with Messrs. Meary and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, and it was, therefore, most fitting that honour should have been paid to Mr. White's memory by half-muffled ringing on the bells of the new church. A like tribute was paid to their departed captain by the St. Michael's ringers on the day of the funeral.

As secretary for 26 years of the Loyal Wellington Lodge of Odd-fellows Mr. White gained the fullest confidence of the brethren. He resigned this post only when he realised that his life's work was done. All who were brought into contact with him in this capacity will deeply lament the loss of so capable, trustworthy and cheerful an officer, brother and friend. Mr. White was instrumental with others in extending the work of the Manchester Unity in many places now embraced in the Reading district. He served as Provincial Grand Master of the Reading district for the year 1896. He was appointed a District Trustee in 1916, which office he continued to hold till his death; and on several occasions he had the honour of representing the district at the annual conference of the Order.

Mr. White was for many years associated in a clerical capacity with the Basingsloke Horticultural Society and with many of the village flower shows round about, his methodical assistance being greatly valued.

The funeral, as already recorded, took place on Tuesday in last week at St. Michael's Church, the service, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. D. Boustad), assisted by the Rev. J. E. Fuller (All Saints') and the Rev. C. E. Matthews (Master of the Winchester Guild), being choral. The hymn, 'God of the living, in whose eyes' was sung, and, as the cortege left the church, the organist played the air, 'O Rest in the Lord.' After the committal, the Oddfellows' special form appointed to be used at the burial of a member, was read by the Grand Master of the Reading district. In addition to those mentioned last week the following ringers were present: Mr. A. A. Hughes (Messrs. Meary and Stainbank), Mr. F. Bennett (Brighton), Messrs. J. Ballard, A. Knight and F. Wilson (who took part with Mr. White in the first peal rung by the Basingsloke ringers in 1890), Messrs. J. Ward (vice-captain), A. Burgess, G. Paice, V. Jennings, H. Horne, W. Mooney, J. Cooper, F. Knight, A. Hepworth, R. Preston, R. Flew, F. Smith, and C. Burridge, of the local band.

Among the floral tributes were wreaths from members of the Winchester District of the Diocesan Guild; members of the Basingsloke Society (the flowers being arranged in the shape of a bell); the Bramley ringers; R. T. and E. R. Hibbert and Will; Mr. and Mrs. Mooney; Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Hairs.

A half-muffled peal of Bob Major was rung on Saturday at North Stoneham as a tribute to the memory of Mr. White. It was conducted by Mr. George Williams, one of the deceased's oldest ringing friends. It is a coincidence that this peal was rung the day before the first anniversary of a peal, also rung at North Stoneham, in memory of the late Mr. J. W. Whiting, and both of them at the period of the year when in normal times a 'Hampshire week' in so many of which Messrs. Whiting and White took part, was usually in progress.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION SECRETARY'S RECORD

TOLLED THE KNELL FOR 370 DEATHS.

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, hon. secretary of the Essex Association, has resigned the living of Great Totham, Essex, which he had held for 41 years, and on Monday evening of last week he received a parting gift from the parishioners of £121 18s. 3d., and an illuminated album containing the names of subscribers, which comprised every parishioner.

In thanking the parishioners for this handsome gift, the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre said there had been 370 funerals at Great Totham during his long vicariate, and he had tolled the death bell for each person, as well as tolling the funeral bell, and that, he believed, was a record in the Church of England.

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre's services to the Essex Association will not be lost. He is going to retire to Witham, which is on the G.E. Railway, and will continue as hon. secretary of the Association.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD WORKING.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Aylesford on Saturday, October 12th. Bells available at 3 p.m.; short service at 5. Half railway fares paid up to 2/.—Stephen Hayzelden, Hon. District Sec., Lower Street, East Farleigh.

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—The half-yearly business meeting of the above will be held at the Old Church, Smethwick, on Saturday, October 12th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock; service in the church at 4.30; tea at 5.15, followed by the business meeting. It is hoped all members will make a special effort to be present. Gentlemen cordially invited.—S. Pigott, 41, Cemetery Road, Smethwick.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Edmonton on Saturday, October 12th. Ringing from 3 to 6 p.m. Service 6 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, October 12th, at the Church of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Bloomsbury, W.C. Ringing from 3 p.m. till dusk; business meeting to follow. All ringers cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Pendlebury, on Saturday, October 12th. Bells available from 3.30 till dusk; meeting to follow.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637.)—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on October 17th and 31st, and for general business on the 22nd, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Southam on Saturday, October 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock; service at 4.30; tea (2/- each) can be arranged for those who notify me not later than October 14th; business meeting after tea.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at St. John's (Lewisham High Road) on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m.; service and address by the Rev. W. F. Jepson (Vicar) at 6 p.m.; business meeting to follow.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. H. M. Eyton Jones), at St. Paul's, Bath Road, Hounslow, on Saturday, October 19th. Tower open for ringing 3 p.m. sharp. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Rickmansworth on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk; tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. A. Smith, 85, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts, and F. Edwards, 24, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts, Joint Secs. (*pro tem.*).

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above Association will be held at Chedzoy on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available 3 p.m.; service 4 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow, 5 p.m.—A. E. Moulton, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A Branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, October 19th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Stone, Isle of Oxney, Kent, on Saturday, October 19th. Bells (6) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of this Branch will be held at Ashwick (near Shepton Mallet) on Saturday, October 26th. The bells (6) will be available from 2 p.m.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., School House, Midsomer Norton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern District.—The annual District meeting will be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, October 26th. Bells available 3 o'clock; business meeting in the tower after ringing. It is hoped that members will make a special effort to attend, as this will be the final meeting at the tower until the spring.—F. W. Edwards, Writtle.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held on Saturday, October 26th, at the Church of All Saints, Fulham, S.W. Ringing from 3 p.m. till dusk.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

CLERK AND SEXTON WANTED for country parish; ringer preferred; salary £15 and fees. A roomy house and large shop and garden, suitable for carpenter, etc., available; rent £12.—Full particulars from Rector, Martley, Worcester.

THE COCKEY MEMORIAL FUND.

The following further subscriptions have been received:

	£	s.	d.
St. Stephen's Tower, Bristol	3	0	6
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association ...	5	5	0
Warmley Tower, Bristol	8	0	0
Mr. E. H. Lewis, Carlisle, Scotland	1	1	0
Mr. W. G. Nevard, Great Bentley	10	6	0
Mr. G. White, Olveston	1	0	0
Mr. I. Davis, Itherington	1	0	0
Mr. Pengell, Iron Acton	1	0	0

Other subscriptions will be acknowledged from time to time.—G. Condict, 15, Westbourne Road, Easton, Bristol.

EXCHANGE.

WANTED small back-gear treadle LATHE, about 3½ in. centres, screw-cutting preferred, in good working order, in exchange for fine peal of 12 HANDBELLS by Mears, condition good as new, tenor No. 14 in E flat.—Apply Dixon, 80, Fern Dene Road, Gateshead.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

The autumn meeting was held at Kingswinford, on Saturday week, when a goodly number of members attended. In the unavoidable absence of the Vicar (the Rev. A. H. Massiter), the Rev. W. Hemingway conducted the service, officiated at the organ, and delivered an admirable address. Through the energy of Mr. H. Morgan and friends a capital tea was provided—though it was not generally known until the day of the meeting that anything in that way could be obtained.

A vote of sympathy was passed, and requested to be forwarded to the Vicar—who had recently undergone a serious operation—accompanied with the hope that he would soon be nursed back to convalescence.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Rev. W. Hemingway for his services in church, and to Mr. H. Morgan and friends for the catering.

The bells (six), which are an interesting collection, were made good use of in the standard methods during the afternoon and evening. The dates of the bells are: Treble, M. Bagley, 1687; 2nd, J. Rudhall, 1797; 3rd, 4th and 5th, Henry Bagley, 1687; tenor, Lester and Pack, 1760 (the weight—11 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb.—being cast on the bell).

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

NEWTON LONGVILLE, BUCKS.—On Tuesday, July 23rd, for practice, touches of Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, by: H. Holderness, W. Meakl, F. Hedges, F. Whitehead, H. Sear, E. Marks, F. Stenton, A. G. Crane, E. Nichols, A. Crane. These touches were arranged for A. G. Crane, of Christ Church, Southgate.

SUCKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, July 28th, 1918, for morning service, a 1260 of Minor, in three methods: A. Tyler 1, J. Howell 2, W. Lewis 3, W. Page 4, J. Warman 5, W. Ranford (conductor) 6. First quarter-peal of Minor by W. Lewis, and first as conductor by W. Ranford.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, July 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Brown 1, C. Edwards 2, J. W. Fruin 3, W. H. Hollier 4, G. Vickery 5, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 6, A. Harding 7, W. Lawrence 8.—On Sunday, Aug. 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: O. Roote 1, C. Edwards 2, G. Harbour 3, J. H. Hunnisett 4, Robt. Holloway 5, W. H. Hollier 6, A. W. Davis (conductor) 7, C. Brown 8. Rung as a compliment to J. H. Hunnisett, who joined the colours on Wednesday, August 14th.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, July 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major, in 48 mins.: A. Cutmore 1, A. Darlington 2, A. W. Davis 3, C. H. Gutteridge 4, W. H. Hollier 5, E. G. Miles 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, G. C. Iles 8.

LONDON.—The London County Association.—On Sunday, July 28th, at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, S.E., for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: A. E. Davis, T. H. Taffender (conductor), H. N. Davis, E. Fenn, G. C. Iles, W. J. Eldred (first quarter-peal in method), W. A. Alps, E. A. Young.—On Sunday, July 28th, at St. Ann's, Highgate, N., for evening service, 1280 of Kent Treble Bob Major: F. G. Symonds, T. H. Taffender (conductor), C. E. Martin, F. Smith, W. G. Matthews, W. J. Eldred, G. R. Fardon, M. Fensom.

BROXBORNE.—Herts Association.—For evening service, on Sunday, July 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: S. Proctor (conductor) 1, W. Mumford 2, G. Maxin 3, F. Jelf 4, A. C. Darnell 5, S. Knights 6, G. Radley 7, C. W. Halfhide 8.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—The Lancashire Association.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, July 28th, for morning service, 560 Bob Major: A. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. A. Jackson was on a visit from Liverpool.

BRITH.—Kent County Association.—On Sunday, July 28th, for morning service, at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 47 mins.: J. Avis 1, G. R. Ambrose 2, H. A. Holden 3, G. Hayes 4, F. Hayes 5, F. M. Mitchell 6, T. Groombridge, junr., 7, T. Groombridge, senr. (conductor), 8. This quarter-peal, in three courses, was composed by A. J. Perkins, and rung on F. Hayes' 57th birthday.

RICHMOND, YORKS.—On Sunday, July 28th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins.: Gr. A. Bannister (1st 720 of Kent) 1, A. Morton 2, J. T. Frensham 3, Gr. W. Welling (cdr.) 4, R. J. Todd 5, Pte. M. F. E. Hibbert 6. On Sunday, August 11th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 minutes: Gr. W. Thomas (1st 720) 1, A. Morton 2, J. T. Frensham 3, Pte. M. Hibbert 4, R. J. Todd 5, Gr. W. Welling (conductor) 6. Any ringers stationed in the camps at Richmond and Catterick will be heartily welcome at St. Mary's Church, Richmond. Ringing for services on Sundays at usual times, at other times by arrangement.

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Bell Frames in Cast Iron, Steel and Oak.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 396. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

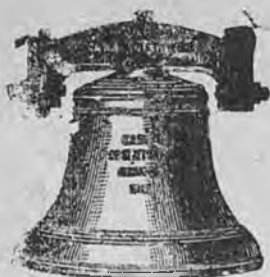
MODERN WORK

DECENTRALISATION.

There is a good deal of truth in the statements contained in the letter from Lieut. Fright, published in another column, as to the failings of the present system of organisation of many of the ringing associations. Lieut. Fright urges that reconstruction after the war will be no easy matter in many areas with the existing method of control, on account of the difficulty there is in the officials keeping in touch with all the members, particularly in the large districts. He suggests, as a remedy, the further subdivision of large and unwieldy areas. The idea is certainly one which might well have attention, for it offers a means by which the work of the associations could be extended and made decidedly more virile. It is, we think most of our readers will agree, quite an impossible thing even for district officers to keep themselves adequately in touch with the towers under their care merely by the holding of quarterly meetings in different parishes, resulting often in some particular belfry being visited perhaps once in five years, or even more seldom.

Without actually proposing the subdivision of districts, we have often advocated the combination of neighbouring towers for the purpose of combined practices and the general advancement of the art, and it is gratifying to think that the steps that have been taken to this end in various places, have resulted in keeping change-ringing alive when otherwise it might have flagged, or died. The actual setting up of these small groups as a part of the machinery of associations is what is now suggested and it could be done without in any way interfering with the present organisation. It has long been generally acknowledged that the best method of running a territorial association covering a wide area is by means of the divisional system, and to subdivide the districts is only to extend the same principle. Long before the various ringing societies included as many towers as they claim to embrace to-day, it was found necessary, in order to maintain touch with all the branches, to decentralise. Obviously, therefore, the same argument applies in the case of those large districts which exist under the auspices of the county and diocesan organisations. There seems to be much to be gained by the adoption of Lieut. Fright's suggestion. It would be the means of bringing the members of neighbouring towers together much more often, with consequent greater mutual help in ringing; it would increase interest, and doubtless add to the number of members which would eventually be secured, while the greater activity that would result would, we feel sure, prevent the secession of towers that, under present conditions, drop away because they feel that membership has no advantages.

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Dear Sirs,

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, October 12, 1918, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANCES;

*ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... Treble	WILLIAM FISHER ... 6
JOHN BASS ... 2	*JOHN EATON ... 7
WILLIAM A. COOPER ... 3	*ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 8
†CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 4	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... 9
*ALBERT E. NORMAN ... 5	JOHN BARBER ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung as a special act of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the successes of the Allied Armies in the Great War, also as a birthday compliment to Messrs. G. Hughes, Wednesbury, A. E. Parsons (Master of the Worcestershire Association) and Pte. R. Matthews who is serving with His Majesty's Forces in Egypt.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. † 100th peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DEANE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 5, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GEO. FINGOTT ... Treble	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... 5
TITUS BARLOW ... 2	PTE. PETER CROOK ... 6
JOHN WELSLY ... 3	JOHN POTTER ... 7
ROBERT DAVIES ... 4	AMOS TRIPPIER ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by J. POTTER.

Rung half-muffled in memory of R. Greenhalgh, School Organist and Chorister.

OLDSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 12, 1918, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANE'S FOUR-PART.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS J. SALTER ... Treble	CHARLES DICKENS ... 5
WILLIAM COLEY ... 2	WILLIAM SHORT ... 6
ALBERT E. PARSONS ... 3	GEORGE F. SWANN ... 7
WILLIAM BIRD ... 4	JOHN WOODBERRY ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Rung to celebrate the Allies' successes in Palestine and France, and as a birthday compliment to Private Robert Matthews, serving in Egypt, and Mr. A. E. Parsons (Master of the Association).

HANDBELL PEAL.

HINTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, October 7, 1918, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. F. J. JOHNSON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor, size 12 in F.	
MISS ELLEN M. JOHNSON ... 1-2	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... 5-6
CORPL. J. D. JOHNSON ... 3-4	JAMES HENNING ... 7-8

Conducted by CORPL. J. D. JOHNSON.

Arranged for the conductor, who was home on leave. This is the first time the band has met for twenty-two months.

PLAIN LEADS AND BOB LEADS. A STUDY OF TRIPLE METHODS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—At the Central Council Meeting, at Norwich, I stated the main facts on which the Report on Legitimate Methods was afterwards founded, and during the interval between that meeting and the issue of the report, I published all the reasons in the pages of the 'Bell News'; but that is many years ago, and, as some of the younger generation of ringers cannot possibly remember it, I will endeavour to restate the reasoning as shortly as possible.

In the old ringing books there are many methods given, but only one principle—Stedman's Principle—and we must first of all find out the difference between a method and a principle. How does Stedman's Principle differ from all the methods? In just one point: all the bells do the same work, there is no division into hunt (or hunts) and working bells.

We, therefore, call all systems of ringing in which all the bells do the same work principles, and all those in which there are one or more hunts and working bells we call methods. Obviously the plain hunting course is a principle, and from it all the methods in common use have been formed.

The simplest of these—Grandsire Bob, commonly called Grandsire, on odd numbers, and Plain Bob on even numbers. Let us study it in the form of Triples, and then compare it with other Triple methods. It has two hunts, the treble and second, and five working bells; the whole of the bells plain hunt until the treble and second come together in front, and when they change places in front 3rd's place is made instead of seventh's, and the other four bells dodge. This happens five times, and the whole has been called, for many years, a plain course, which is made up of plain leads.

What are these plain leads? Each one of them is a complete plain hunting course, which, but for the division into two hunts and five working bells, will come round at the end, making five complete plain hunting courses. Therefore, each plain lead of Grandsire considered by itself is a complete plain hunting course, thus:—

1234567 Lead End
2135476 Lead Head
2314567
3241657
3426175
4362715
4637251
6473521
6745312
7654132
7561423
5716243
5172634
1527364
1253746 Lead End
2135476 The same Lead Head as above.

But these five leads are connected together by the making of third's place and a dodge on the other four bells.

What is this third's place and this dodge?

We can find out what it is by separating the two hunts from the working bells, and we can do that by keeping the two hunts together in front, and keeping the working bells together behind thus:—

1234567 Lead End
2135476 Lead Head
1253746 L B
2157364 L H
1275634 L B
2178543 L H
1267453 L B
2164735 L H
1246375 L B
2143657 L H
1234567 L B

And, let the whole of the five working bells are plain hunting backwards, so that the five plain hunting courses are joined together to make a plain course by plain hunting the five working bells backwards, when the two hunts change places in front.

Now consider Single Court Triples:—

1234567
2143657
2416375
4261357
4623175
6432715
6347251
3674521
3765412
7356142
7531624
5713264
5172346
1527364
1253746
2135476

What do we find? The work inside the lead is not plain hunting, but the result of the lead is exactly the same as in Grandsire, and produces the very same lead ends; so that although it is not plain hunting it is equivalent to plain hunting, and so we are justified in calling it a plain lead, unless we are going to say that Grandsire is the only plain lead which exists. The same reasoning applies to Double Court Triples, Oxford Bob Triples, Double Oxford Triples, etc.

Now, assuming that these are all plain leads, let us see if we can use any one of them to do the work of a Bob; in other words, can we join three or more courses of Grandsire Triples together by using, say, a lead of Oxford Bob Triples instead of a lead of Grandsire Triples, thus:

1234567
2135476
2314567
3241576
3425167
4352617
4536271
5463721
5647312
6574132
6751423
7615243
7162534
1726543
1275634

We have produced the 2nd lead end of the plain course of Grandsire Triples, so that we are still in the same plain course, and by ringing Grandsire Triples from this lead end it will come round in three leads, and the same is true of all the other methods mentioned above.

Now consider Union Triples. The lead consists of these rows:—

1234567
2135476
2314567
3241657
3426175
4362715
4637251
6473521
6745312
7654132
7561423
5716243
5172634
1527643
1258734

The lead head is 2135476, the lead end is 1256734. Will any amount of plain hunting, forwards or backwards, carry us from 35476 to 56734? Answer: None. Plain hunting will not connect them, and, therefore, they are not plain to each other.

Can we use this lead to connect three or more courses of Grandsire Triples together? Will it do the work of a Bob? Answer: Yes.

1234567
1256734 Union
1275463 Grandsire
1247358
1234675

Twice repeated.

Therefore, this lead is not a plain lead, it is a bob lead.—Yours, etc.,
H. LAW JAMES.

RAISING AND LOWERING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—There is much, I think, to be said in favour of the suggestion made by Mr. F. W. Richardson in last week's paper. The more musical method is to let the third bell down first; then 2, 5, and 7 together, and finally 1, 4, 6, 8 in a similar way. These chords form the ending to many tunes, and the result is harmonious.

West Ealing.

WM. LAWRENCE.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—The Lancashire Association.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, August 4th, for evening service, 672 Bob Major: T. Watson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

SHILAKE, OXON.—On Sunday, Aug. 4th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: A. Sheppard 1, G. Watking (St. Luke's, Chelsea) 2, O. W. Porter 3, Miss E. Pibworth (Twynford, Berks) 4, W. Hiscock 5, W. Fuller (Wargrave, Berks) 6, G. Cleave (conductor) 7, W. Tompkins (Tring) 8. Arranged for Miss Pibworth, it being her first quarter-peal and also her first attempt.

OLDHAM.—Lancashire Association.—On Sunday, August 4th, in 45 minutes, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, on the occasion of Remembrance Day: H. Wright 1, J. Cox 2, M. Newton 3, S. Butterworth 4, W. Hodgson 5, S. Stott (conductor) 6, J. W. Taylor 7, A. Waites 8, C. H. Marsland 9, J. Garlick 10.

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THE SUB-DIVISION OF ASSOCIATIONS.

To the Editor.

Sir.—In your leading article entitled 'After the War' which has just reached me, you emphasise the need for Associations taking an active part in reconstructional work. May I submit that with the present organisation this is almost impossible. The unit of most Associations is the 'district,' which includes the towers in, on the average, about the sixth part of a county and may total as many as fifty or upwards. To represent the interests of the Association in this area there is one secretary, on whom the whole organisation devolves. The result is that he is entirely out of touch with nine-tenths of his towers: he can take no part in the ringing life of the district; he only sees those members who are able and willing to spare the time to attend district meetings, which involve a train journey for most people; and it is rare for him to get a representative from every tower even at the district annual meeting. In short, the Association can be of small use to the towers, and the towers are out of touch with the Association; and, therefore the functions of the latter become purely routine and nominal.

If Associations are to become a live factor in ringing life, it is essential that there should be a much smaller sub-division of districts—a sub-district of some half-dozen towers, within easy walking (or at the most cycling) distance of each other. Such a group could work together for the common good. It would be easy to organise joint practices and get good attendances. One tower could help another to learn and practise advanced methods. It should be possible to foster an esprit de corps, now sadly lacking in Associations; and with a little tact and organisation a scheme could be started whereby neighbouring towers could help a tower that would otherwise meet short on any particular occasion. The sub-district secretary should be able to foster a very valuable spirit of competition between local companies; and much might be done by holding weekly or fortnightly meetings, at which the secretary could, among other things, arrange and announce the results of competitions, and keep everybody informed of anything interesting happening outside their sub-district. It would be possible too, for a successful secretary to make the Association a real thing to the local clergy, by inviting them to the sub-district meetings, by getting to know them all and letting them see how the Association was helping their towers, and last, but not least, by endeavouring tactfully to act as arbitrator and peacemaker if any company should be unlucky enough to differ with their incumbent.

These smaller divisions should make ringing more interesting, and get more and better ringing done, and I think are well worthy of formation.—Yours truly,

5th S. Lancs Regt.,
B.E.F.

H. W. FREIGHT
(Second-Lieut.).

EAST TEIGNMOUTH BELLS REHUNG.

The tower of St. Michael's, East Teignmouth, Devon, contains a fine ring of eight bells, cast by Messrs. Llewellyn and James, of Bristol, in 1897. The tenor was cast from three mediæval bells, and weighs 24 cwt. They have not been rung for over three years, owing to several of the ringers joining the army, but on Sunday week their sweet sounds were again heard pealing out over land and sea. The occasion was the harvest thanksgiving, and the ringing was done by a band from St. James's, West Teignmouth. The bells were found in excellent ringing order, having been recently rehung in an iron frame, and all the bells put upon adjustable bearings by Messrs. Aggett, of Chagford.

ANOTHER TUNSTALL RINGER KILLED.

The Tunstall branch of the Stoke Archidiaconal Association have to record the death of another member of their tower, namely, Pte. J. Darlington, of the Lincolnshire Regt., who was killed in action in France on October 1st. Deceased was a keen ringer, who always did his duty in the tower. He had rung altogether about six peals in the four standard methods, he being one of a promising band of ringers. He was an enthusiastic Churchman, a Sunday School teacher, and altar server, also a secretary of the C.E.M.S.

A DEVON RESTORATION.

The fine ring of eight bells at Bradninch, East Devon, has been thoroughly overhauled by Messrs. Aggett and Sons, of Chagford. Six of them were cast by T. Billie, of Cullompton, in 1748, and two trebles added in 1903. The tenor weighs about 24 cwt. All the bells are hung on Messrs. Aggett's adjustable bearings, and the ringers are well pleased with their easy manipulation.

MR. C. WALLATER'S 100 PEALS.

Grandsire Triples 12, conducted 5; Caters 9; Cinques 1; Stedman Triples 32, conducted 4; Caters 14; Erin Triples 1; Caters 1; Boh Major 12, conducted 4; Royal 4; Kent Treble Bob Major 6; Royal 1; Oxford Treble Bob Royal 1; Double Norwich Major 5; Cambridge Surprise Major 1; total 100; conducted 13.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Members are informed that the windows in memory of the late Dean Lawrence will be dedicated at 3.15 p.m. on Thursday, November 7th, at St. Albans Abbey.

LEAD ENDS. MUSIC VERSUS CUSTOM.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It is only quite recently that I have seen Mr. Davies' pamphlet on this subject; and with your permission I should like to make a few remarks, as I feel that it will be too late to say anything when the matter is closed.

In the first place, I cannot accept Mr. Davies' fundamental statements. I want to know the reason why we are always to change as many bells as possible. On what principle is it laid down. The rule that I have always worked by is to get as much music as possible, and I do not see any objection to making two or more places in a row, as long as they are not contiguous. I have often thought that it was the result of this rule that caused Triple ringing to be so restricted. The method that I give here breaks the rule, and I should like to know whether there is any reason, save old custom, why it should not be practised. The same remark applies to place making. I utterly fail to see why a bell should not strike more than two blows in the same place, as long as no other bell makes a contiguous place. But here I must remark that I refer only to an inside place. In the method that I give the 6th lies three blows in 6th's place, but no other bell is next to her for two consecutive blows. I cannot see that it would be unpleasant to ring, and I am sure that the music is good.—Yours, etc.,

E. HANKES JAMES.

1234567	12345678
2143576	21354687
2415367	23145678
4251376	32416587
2453167	23461578
4235617	32645187
2453671	23654817
2543761	32568471
5234716	35286741
2543176	53827614
5241367	35872164
2514376	53781246
2153467	35718264
1235476	53172846
1253746	61327864
	15372846
	13527486

MR. CLAYTON'S REPLY.

Sir,—I hasten to reply to Mr. Davies' letter. In regard to Duffield, I will say at once that I was in error, and I thank Mr. Davies for correcting me. Theoretically, Duffield commences with rounds and ends with 13254768; practically, it commences with 21436587, and ends with rounds. I had not seen the method for years, and was under the belief that, as rung, the Plain Bob order of succession is departed from, but I now see that such is not the case. Nevertheless, Duffield is not an acceptable method to me, and its fault, to use the expression that Henry Dains furnished me with, is the very serious and extremely unusual one that it is only three-quarters of a method.

In regard to the leads of Plain Bob being hunting cycles, Mr. Davies says: What of that? I answer, a great deal. The hunting-cycle lead ends are the natural lead ends, and when the hunting-cycle is broken an advantage is gained by returning to it at the lead end. I submitted a proof of this, which Mr. Davies holds up to ridicule. But notwithstanding this advantage I am of opinion that the Legitimate Methods Committee was not justified in calling methods, otherwise good, illegitimate because they do not have the regulation lead ends. So doing debases them to the level of Grandsire Major and Bob Triples, and a softer word should have been used. Sparkbrook is a good method, though it is no better than other methods with Plain Bob lead ends, and the main use of the rule is to set aside many hundreds of methods which, while not bad, are certainly not wanted.

When I said that Grandsire must go off from rounds, I obviously meant that the dividing line must be drawn after the treble's whole null at lead. Grandsire is obtained from Original by 3rd's across the line precisely as Plain Bob is obtained by 2nd's across the line, and when the lines are drawn anywhere else, the leads cease to be hunting cycles. In both methods alike the places indicated are the lead-linking places, and the first 3rd's in Grandsire are the course-linking places. In saying that I have every authority on my side from Stedman ('Tintinnalogia') downwards, including Mr. Davies himself, who has a remarkable propensity for saying one thing and doing another. In view of my frank acknowledgment of error I shall be glad of Mr. Davies' further remarks.

In regard to symmetry, Mr. Davies wants proof, as he also does for the lead ends, and he asks for what he knows he cannot get. The human body is symmetrical, and everyone is satisfied with the arrangement without absurdly demanding proof. Mr. Davies must have it one way or the other, and if he is not ignorant of the arguments that have been adduced, not by myself as I would remind him, in favour of symmetry, then he must be told, to use ecclesiastical language, that he cannot endure sound doctrine. Unlike lead ends and the order of succession in which a reasonable amount of freedom is or should be allowed,

symmetry requires to be insisted upon absolutely. I do not think Mr. Davies is used to being contradicted, but I contradict him when he says that Grandsire is not symmetrical. It is true that it loses this quality when a call is made, which shows that it is radically inferior to Plain Bob.

I now have something more to say about the Holt single. In Mr. Davies' pamphlet on lead ends, he says at page 7: 'This statement would not hold true if two pairs were caused to lie still, but such a case is too monstrous to contemplate.' And yet on page 22 he uses the Holt single, which does the very thing that he so unsparingly condemns. In extenuation, he refers me to Mr. Thompson's researches, and to the 'Report on Calls 1894.' Mr. Davies' knowledge is much greater than mine, and I am sorry to say that I am ignorant of Mr. Thompson's researches, or, to be quite exact, I cannot think of anything of the kind. The 'Report on Calls' I am not ignorant of, and I reject it. The Holt single, to use Mr. Davies' own word, is a monstrosity, and its use should be sternly prohibited.

No doubt it is a far cry from lead ends to Stedman, but Mr. Davies says in his pamphlet that Stedman is an odd-bell method, which is his indirect way of saying that it is not an even-bell method. Now, Sir, if not trespassing too much on your space, and if not troubling Mr. Davies too much, I shall take it as a kindness if he will show cause why the under-noted method is not Stedman. In this method, as in Kent, there are consecutive triple changes, but that, of course, is outside the question. When the method was first published, I made it to commence with a quick eight, and I afterwards found, or someone told me, that by commencing with a slow eight, the tittums row comes up in the third eight, in addition to Queens in the first. When tapped on the piano with all the notes equal in value, charming music is produced, particularly in the eighth eight, but on tower bells the effect may not be nearly so good.

WALTHAMSTOW STEDMAN MAJOR.

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GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

SOME QUESTIONS.

Dear Sir,—We are told that fools rush in where angels fear to tread but at the risk of being included in the category of the former, I venture to intrude into the correspondence upon the above subject, because I fail to see how the Rev. C. D. P. Davies can substantiate his statement in your last issue, that the division between the leads in Grandsire is immediately before the treble's handstroke blow, while he agrees, in his letter that the division in Plain Bob is between the handstroke and backstroke lead of the treble. He admits, I suppose, that Grandsire is the application of the Plain Bob system to odd bells, and that being so, will he kindly tell us:—

(1) Why, if the 2nd's place in Plain Bob is the connecting link between the leads, the 3rd's place in Grandsire is not the connecting link in that method?

(2) If the 3rd's place is the connecting link, why should not the division between the leads be cut through that place just as it is through the 2nd's in Plain Bob?

(3) If the leads are divided between the rows in which 3rd's place appears, what is the matter with the symmetry of Grandsire?—Yours, in search of information,

D. SMITH.

LEYTONSTONE RINGERS AT CANNING TOWN

On Saturday last, six members of the Essex Association paid a visit to Holy Trinity Church, Canning Town, E., in order to ring on the peal of six bells which had not been rung for a long time. 720 Kent Treble Bob was brought round by the following: W. Riches 1, H. Gowers 2, G. Dawson 3, A. Prior 4, W. Doran 5, J. Moule (conductor) 6. Other touches were also rung.—The Vicar (the Rev. J. Rushby Smith) came into the tower, and gave the visitors a hearty welcome, and afterwards entertained the party to tea, the hospitality being greatly appreciated.

The Vicar is very keen on having a band of ringers at this church, and it is hoped something may be done to assist him in his efforts when peace comes.

The company return many thanks to the Vicar for granting permission to ring, and for his kindness in entertaining the party.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

A MEETING AT THE CATHEDRAL.

The last quarterly meeting for the current year was held by the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham at the Cathedral (St. Philip's) on Saturday week. The bells were raised about four o'clock, and as they have been previously described in detail in these columns, we will briefly remark in passing that they are a ring of ten, tenor 29 cwt. in D, the latter being a really grand bell—the only one in the tower that should escape the melting pot if ever recasting comes within reach. The other nine range from muffs to duffs. Also they badly need rehanging. With all its faults, however, it is nice to visit the place now and again, for much history has been made in the old belfry in bygone times, especially during the reign of Wm. Chut-tell, of whom many and wonderful tales are told by those who remember him. In later years, John Carter and his merry men continued the good work, but now, alas! the tower does not boast a single ringer, and the bells are never heard except on the odd occasions when the Guild meets there.

At 5.30, the bells were lowered, and members to the number of 51 adjourned to the Imperial Hotel, where they were the guests of that old friend of Birmingham ringers, Dr. Malins.

After tea, the formal business of a quarterly meeting was transacted, under the chairmanship of the Presiding Ringing Master (Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A.).

Routine matters having been disposed of, the Chairman announced that, on the suggestion of Mr. James George, and with the hearty support and goodwill of many members of the Exercise in all parts of the country, it had been decided to issue an appeal to all ringers to subscribe to a testimonial to the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' Mr. John S. Goldsmith. He spoke at length on the difficulties Mr. Goldsmith had to face in keeping the paper going at the present time, and mentioned how severely he had been handicapped by his long and serious illness. Applause greeted the reading of a letter Mr. George had received from the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, President of the Central Council, who wished God-speed to the project, and promised a subscription of three guineas. In conclusion, the alderman proposed that the sum of two guineas be voted from the Guild's funds to the testimonial, which he laughingly remarked, would not affect the personal subscriptions he hoped everyone would give.—This was seconded by Mr. Charles Dickens, a trustee, supported by Mr. A. E. Parsons, the Master of the Worcestershire Association, and others, and carried unanimously.—Mr. Parsons said he hoped every Association and ringer in the country would do their bit, so that a really substantial sum might be handed over in due course.

In proposing that a very hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Dr. Malins for so kindly entertaining the members to tea, Alderman Pritchett said that the doctor was one of the oldest and best known members of the medical profession in the city. There must be thousands of grateful people who had been his patients at one time or another and they had reason to be very proud of him.—In seconding the proposition, Mr. G. Walker reminded Dr. Malins that he had frequently been his guest, with the other members of the old St. Philip's band, on New Year's eve.—Speaking in support, Mr. A. E. Parsons claimed that he had probably known Dr. Malins longer than anyone in the room. He had known him since he was five years of age (laughter), and his (the speaker's) wife was one of the grateful patients referred to by the chairman.—C.-Q.-M.S. W. A. Cave, Mr. W. H. Godden and Mr. W. N. Lawrence, of Little Munden, also added their tributes, the last named observing that it was a pity ringers had not more friends in the country equally generous.—On being put, the vote was carried with acclamation.

On rising to reply, Dr. Malins received quite an ovation, and proceeded to say that the number of the speeches, and the nice things that had been said about him reminded him of the custom they had in Eastern countries, and especially in Greece, of holding funeral orations over the bodies of dead relatives. On one occasion, a very young child had died, and the person who was officiating apologised for making such a long oration over such a small corpse. He felt very much like that at this moment (laughter). He had quite as much pleasure in asking them to come, as they could possibly have in coming, and it was to him a real treat to hear the old bells pealing out as they had been that afternoon. He was sorry that the Food Controller could not permit him to give them something more substantial than the war-time tea they had just partaken of, but better times were coming, he hoped, before very long.

In referring to the doctor's remark, that he would have liked to have 'stood' something better in the way of food, Alderman Pritchett said he was reminded of an old story of a man whose friend had sent him a bottle of Sice Gin. In thanking him for it, he said that although he did not care much for the fruit, he was thankful for the "spirit" in which it was sent.

Among those present were Messrs. W. N. Barber, of Newcastle-on-Tyne; Harry Chapman, of Manchester; J. W. Jones, of Newport, Mon.; W. N. Lawrence, of Little Munden; C.-Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cave, of Bristol, and that hale youngster from Tinton, Mr. Wm. Rock Small. After the meeting, a bunch of Stedman Cinnos in hand was rung by Messrs. J. Pigott, A. Wilker, T. Miller, J. C. Groves, G. F. Swann, and C.-Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cave.

The annual meeting will be held, as usual, early in January.

A. P. S.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Southam on Saturday, October 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock; service at 4.30; business meeting after tea.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at St. John's (Lewisham High Road) on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m.; service and address by the Rev. W. F. Jepson (Vicar) at 6 p.m.; business meeting to follow.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. H. M. Eyton Jones), at St. Paul's, Bath Road, Hounslow, on Saturday, October 19th. Tower open for ringing 3 p.m. sharp. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Rickmansworth on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk; tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. A. Smith, 85, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts, and F. Edwards, 24, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts, Joint Secs. (*pro tem.*).

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above Association will be held at Chedzoy on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available 3 p.m.; service 4 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow, 5 p.m.—A. E. Moulton, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A Branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, October 19th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of this Branch will be held at Ashwick (near Shepton Mallet) on Saturday, October 26th. The bells (6) will be available from 2 p.m.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., School House, Midsomer Norton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held on Saturday, October 26th, at the Church of All Saints, Fulham, S.W. Ringing from 3 p.m. till dusk.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Barnet on Saturday, October 26th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Nash, Hon. District Sec., North Mymms, Hatfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Bolton, on Saturday, October 26th. Bells from 4 to 7; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual festival will be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Saturday, October 26th. The following peals of bells will be available from 12 noon till 4 p.m.: Cathedral (12), tenor 37½ cwt.; All Saints (8), tenor 19 cwt.; and St. John's (8), tenor 12½ cwt. Service at 4 p.m. in the Cathedral Lady Chapel, with address by Canon G. E. Nursom, Vicar of Newcastle. Committee meeting in Cathedral Vestry 4.45 p.m. Tea at the Douglas Hotel, Grainger Street West, at 5.30 p.m., to be followed by the general meeting. Tickets for tea 2/- to members, 3/6 to non-members; only those who notify the Secretary before Tuesday, October 22nd, can be supplied with tea.—G. T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, R.S.O., Northumberland.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern District.—The annual District meeting will be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, October 26th. Bells available 3 o'clock; business meeting in the tower after ringing. It is hoped that members will make a special effort to attend, as this will be the final meeting at the tower until the spring.—F. W. Edwards, Writtle.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Mather, near Chepstow, on Saturday, October 26th. Bells available all the afternoon and evening. Tea free, at 5.30; business meeting to follow.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and J. W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

BECKENHAM, KENT.—A meeting for practice will be held at St. George's Church on Saturday, October 26th, at 3 p.m. till dusk. All ringers cordially invited.—W. Smith.

PARISH CHURCH, HIGH WYCOMBE.—Special Service and Organ Recital on October 27th, at 3.30. Tower open for ringing 1.30 to 3.30 and after the service. Collection for Bell Fund. Visitors are asked to attend service.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on October 31st, and for general business on the 22nd, at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Moorside on Saturday, November 2nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. A good attendance is requested, business important. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., Middleton.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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OXTON, BIRKENHEAD, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday, August 11th, at St. Saviour's Church, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Samuels 1, W. Battle 2, H. Brocklebank 3, W. Hughes 4, H. Martin 5, E. Brookes (Wolverley) 6, S. F. Barnes 7, H. Ludkin (conductor) 8.—On Sunday, August 18th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Martin 1, W. Battle 2, H. Brocklebank 3, W. Hughes 4, E. Brookes 5, J. Evans 6, S. F. Barnes 7, H. Ludkin (conductor) 8.

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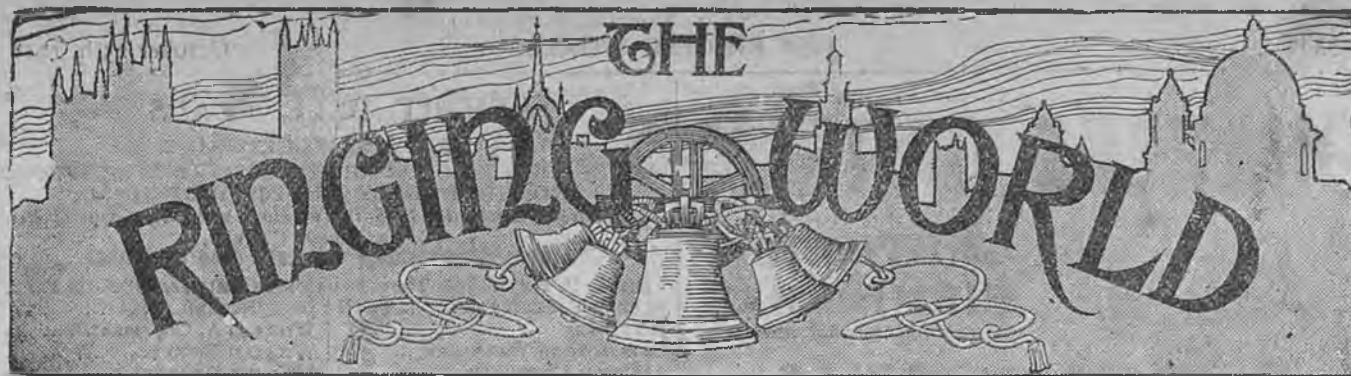
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

WHEN JOY BELLS RING.

If we in England had the same temperament as the people of Germany we should have been ringing joy bells for a month or more, almost daily. There are joy bells ringing in our hearts, but at present the steeples of our towns and villages are silent. When, however, the moment comes that we can fittingly call upon the bells to take their part in expressing the national rejoicing at the final overthrow of the enemy, the fervour of the outburst will be all the more effective after the present restraint. Exactly when that time may be no one can yet say. The day may be near, or it may be distant; the one thing that is certain is the certainty of its coming. It is for those ringers who are still left to man the ropes in the towers of this country, to make preparation for signalling the consummation of the victory which the Allies have determined shall be theirs.

We have had inquiries as to whether concerted action is to be taken in regard to peace ringing, and whether there will be any special occasion set apart for honouring the memory of those who have fallen in the war. Although no one can say when the time for rejoicing will come, it seems to us that these are questions which may well be considered by the ringing organisations. Some associations have already done something in regard to framing a scheme for peace ringing, but the whole plan would be much more telling if something in the nature of a universal procedure could be agreed upon, otherwise we shall have one parish ringing joy bells while the next parish is ringing a muffled peal for the dead. This incongruity could be avoided if only action were taken beforehand, and the proper authority through which any scheme of this kind should be promulgated is the Central Council.

Doubtless there will be, in connection with the cessation of hostilities, some official action taken by the Church for honouring the fallen heroes, and the Central Council is the right body to get into touch, when the moment arrives, with those who will have the direction of these matters. The Council is usually loath to interest itself in subjects outside its own meetings, but here will be an opportunity when it can prove to those who will act in the name of the Church that the Council represents the large body of ringers of England. We hope that they will not show any hesitancy in acting for the Exercise in this matter and will not delay until the time for securing concerted steps has passed. It may be said that at the moment all this is premature. To approach the Church Authorities at this juncture certainly would be, but the Exercise would be glad to know that when the moment does arrive the Council will be prepared to act.

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The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, October 19, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSCRIPTION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

ALBERT T. SCRIVENS Treble	JESSE SCREEN 5
JOHN BASS 2	WILLIAM A. COOPER 6
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 3	WILLIAM FISHER 7
ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 4	*ALBERT HOUGHTON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung as a thankoffering on the eve of the harvest festival, and also for the successes of the Allied armies in the great war.

* First peal of Stedman, and proposed a member of the above Society and Guild previous to starting for the peal.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 19, 1918, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At St. Peter's Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WM. RHODES Treble	WM. ARTHUR HODSON ... 5
ALBERT NORTH 2	HERBERT ROWLEY 6
GEORGE HUNT 3	*WM. B. FRITH 7
HEMINGWAY DRANSFIELD ... 4	HERBERT DRANSFIELD ... Tenor

Composed by J. FLEMING.

Conducted by W. B. FRITH.

* First peal as conductor.

The ringers of the treble and 5th belong to Birstall; 3rd and 6th to Horbury; 4th and 8th to Earlsheaton; and 7th to Huddersfield.

SIX BELL PEAL

LLANELLY, BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 12, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Elli,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

ROBERT STEPHENS Tenor	SYDNEY T. RACKMAN 4
JOHN H. RACKMAN 2	ALEXANDER A. RACKMAN ... 5
IVOR DOMAN 3	JOSEPH E. SYKES Treble

Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

This was the first peal of Minor by all the band, except the conductor, and the first peal of Minor on the bells. It is worthy of note that the tenor has been in this tower since 1440.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, October 15, 1918, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

In St. Martin's Belfry,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 size in B flat.

A. PADDON SMITH 1—2	GEORGE F. SWANN 7—8
JAMES E. GROVES 3—4	WILLIAM KENT 9—10
ALBERT WALKER 5—6	MORRIS J. MORRIS 11—12

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: Mr. J. GEORGE.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, October 16, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

At Mr. JAMES GEORGE'S OFFICE, 31, CANNON STREET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN PART.

WILLIAM KENT 1—2	MORRIS J. MORRIS 5—6
THOMAS MILLER 3—4	THOMAS KELLY 7—8

Conducted by THOMAS MILLER.

Referee: Mr. JAMES GEORGE.

This was T. Kelly's first peal of any kind, and was rung as a birthday compliment to him. The company desire to thank Mr. George for the use of his very comfortable room.

**BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.**

On Thursday, October 17, 1918, in Three Hours,

At THE CITY CAFE, BULL RING,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 size in B flat.

*JOSEPH PIGOTT 1—2	ALBERT WALKER 7—8
THOMAS RUSSAM 3—4	JAMES E. GROVES 9—10
GEORGE F. SWANN 5—6	MORRIS J. MORRIS 11—12

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES.

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: MR. J. GEORGE.

* First peal of Cinques on handbells.

This composition has duplicate course ends.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Saturday, October 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At 130, CLONMORE STREET, S.W.,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor size 12 in E flat.

*ARTHUR J. NEALE 1—2	FRANK SMITH 5—6
JOHN D. MATTHEWS 3—4	†WALTER AYRE 7—8
†Miss ELSIE MATTHEWS 9—10	

Composed by H. J. TUCKER.

Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

Witnesses: MRS. MATTHEWS and F. MATTHEWS, who heard the whole of the peal.

* First peal of Royal 'in hand.'

† First peal 'in hand.'

† First peal on ten.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

MIDLAND BRANCH MEETING.

The half-yearly business meeting of the Midland Branch of the Ladies' Guild was held at Smethwick Old Church on Saturday week. The tower contains a light easy-going peal of eight bells, without any claims to great musical qualities. The early arrival of several gentlemen from Solihull provided an opportunity for a touch on handbells, there not being enough present to use the tower bells. However, by the time a good touch of Grandsire had been brought round other visitors had arrived. The church bells were then set going to various touches by mixed companies until the service hour. Canon G. Astbury officiated at the service, and gave a very appropriate address. Adjourning to the Parish Room, a goodly tea was found in readiness, to which between 50 and 60 members and friends sat down, this being anything but a 'silent' touch.

Before the business meeting, Miss Craddock moved, and Miss Salter seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the Canon for the service in church and presiding at tea, to the organist and brother ringers for their support, and to the local company for so kindly providing tea.—The Canon, in response, said it gave him great pleasure to welcome the Guild.

That hearty Black Country veteran, Mr. Rock Small, on behalf of the sterner sex, expressed the pleasure it gave them to be allowed to attend the meeting, and expressed the hope that ladies would 'carry on' with the change ringing, as he knew of no better indoor exercise, both mental and physical.

The gentlemen were then invited to stay to the meeting, but preferred to go to the tower to utilise the bells, and others made use of the handbells in an adjoining room.

It was decided to hold the next business meeting at Packwood about the end of March, and a meeting during the interim for general practice at Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham.

One new life member and three ringing members were elected.

The tower was again visited, and some good practice obtained up to about 8.30. Six ladies distinguished themselves by ringing a six-score, and also a touch of Grandsire, with the aid of two gentlemen. Other touches were rung by mixed companies, and it was agreed that another successful and pleasant meeting had been held.

ANOTHER LINSLADE RINGER KILLED.

It is with deep regret that the ringers of St. Barnabas Church, Linslade, Bucks, have received the news that Pte. W. Watson, R.A.M.C., had been killed in France. Pte. Watson joined the St. Barnabas band in 1912, and volunteered for the R.A.M.C. early in September, 1915. After a few months' training he was sent to France where he had seen nearly three years' service. On October 14th, the following ringers rang the bells, half-muffled, in various touches: A. Seabrook, H. F. Seabrook, F. Adams, W. Duck, W. Jeffs, J. Sear, A. Vickers, A. Vickers, junr., E. Vickers and F. Vickers. Pte. Watson is the fourth Linslade ringer to be killed.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A CLIFTON REVIVAL.

On Saturday last, members and friends of the Nottingham district of the Midland Counties Association paid a return visit to Clifton. Good numbers assembled to keep the appointment, and to again enjoy the opportunity and privilege granted by the thoughtful Vicar (the Rev. Hon. W. Chetwynd), a most loyal man to ringers, and ever ready to assist in their desire to make further progress.

The visitors included that untiring enthusiast, the Rev. C. J. Sturton (Orston), Mr. W. E. White, Mr. Walter White, Mr. Thomas Squire, Miss White (Cotgrave), Miss Thompson (Nottingham), Mr. Frank Spencer (Radcliffe), Mrs. Lee, Messrs. C. F. Vickery, T. H. Kirkley, W. C. Hunt, Mrs. Woolley, Mr. W. J. Sevier (Nottingham), Mr. H. Butler (Clifton), and others. Many travelled by road on cycles, others preferred the by-ways, and crossed the river at a spot near the church, by kind permission of Mr. Henry Haynes, of Clifton. Those who approached the pretty village by way of the riverside obtained a picturesque view. The western sun shining upon the copper beeches gave a warmth to the scene, in which the church lay snug in the woodlands slanting to the river's edge, and surrounded by a wealth of autumn tints. The weather was all that could be desired, and materially added to the pleasure of the outing. The programme developed into many 'star turns.' If no long touches are to be recorded it was no less interesting to engage in such a variety of methods, including Bob Doubles, Bob Minor, Oxford Bob, Double Court and Kent Treble Bob, etc. While the bells were merrily pealing, the writer took the opportunity of wending his way down to the reaches of the Trent and squatting amongst some local anglers who were holding the lines of communication with the residents beneath the surface of the rippling waters. He put a question to one of them as to what effect bell music had upon the appetites of the tenants below and upon the nerves of anglers. This led to further conversation, and the angler said: 'It is some 40 years since I first rang at our village church. I can always remember my uncle, the sexton, teaching me to ring a bell; it seems but yesterday. If I had only permitted my enthusiasm to leave with me when I migrated I should have been a bell ringer to-day. When I hear bells I am always pleased to remain within their sound. I hear Clifton bells but rarely, although I am often in this neighbourhood. You have only six there, I believe? What a fine peal of eight they could be made into! With this the writer left the fisherman to watch, wait and dream, but not without a parting impression that the augmentation to eight bells is a consummation devoutly wished for, doubtless by the Clifton resident, certainly by the ringing fraternity, for it would be a valuable addition to the list of eight bell towers upon the books of the Midland Counties Association.

After tea, the visitors returned to the tower to complete their programme, and appended are the names of the conductors and performers: Messrs. W. E. White, Walter White, W. E. Hunt, and T. H. Kirkley; Mrs. Lee, Miss Thompson, Miss White, Rev. C. J. Sturton, Mr. Frank Spencer, Mr. Squires, Mr. C. F. Vickers, Mr. H. Butler, etc.

The thanks of the company are tendered to the Rev. Hon. W. Chetwynd for placing the bells at the disposal of the visitors, and to Mr. H. Butler for having everything in readiness.

ON LEAVE.

Service with the Grand Fleet is just as bad for ringing as being over 'the other side,' but when Sergt. J. Bennett, R.M.L.I., H.M.S. Phaeton, was on a short stay in Lincolnshire, the following ringing was arranged:—

On Saturday, October 5th, at the Vicarage, Surfleet, 'in hand' 406 Grandsire Caters, 209 Grandsire Triples, a course of Stedman Caters, Rev. H. L. James, Messrs. R. Richardson, W. Wood, F. A. Holden, J. Bennett, taking part.

On Sunday, October 6th, at Pinchbeck, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: W. Taylor 1, G. Ladd 2, T. Taylor 3, W. Wood 4, F. A. Holden 5, J. Bennett (conductor) 6.

At Donington, 720 Kent: H. Woods 1, R. Richardson 2, J. T. Staple 3, F. A. Holden (conductor) 4, W. Wood 5, J. Bennett 6.

On Monday, Oct. 7th, at Great Hale, 720 Bob Minor: C. Ward 1, W. Dickinson 2, J. A. Clarke 3, F. A. Holden 4, W. Wood 5, J. Bennett (conductor) 6.

At Heckington, 396 Stedman Triples: C. Ward 1, J. Bennett 2, J. Holmes 3, W. Dickinson 4, H. P. Nash 5, F. A. Holden (conductor) 6, W. Wood 7, J. H. Clarke 8.

A DATE TOUCH OF MANY METHODS.

At All Saints' Church, Wath-on-Deane, Yorks, on Sunday week, for evening service, a date touch of 1918 chances of Treble Bob Minor was rung in 1 hr. 7 mins., made up of the following ten methods: 118 Oxford Treble Bob, 120 each of Violet, Duke of York, and New London Pleasure, 240 each of College Exercise, London Scholars Pleasure, Roy-stone Delight, College Pleasure, City Delight, and Arnold's Victory, 720 College Treble Bob, 120 each of Tulip, Primrose, Gladstone Delight and Queen Bess, the ringers being Wm. Bramham 1, Wm. Woodcock, junr., 2, A. Panther (conductor) 3, R. J. Ricketts 4, A. Gill 5, C. Walsh 6.

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For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

MR. J. W. TAYLOR'S HEAVY LOSS.

A THIRD SON KILLED IN ACTION.

The deepest sympathy of the whole Exercise will go out to Mr. John W. Taylor, the esteemed head of the Loughborough Bell Foundry and President of the Midland Counties Association, in the loss of yet another son in the fighting in France, news having been received that Lieut. Gerard Bardsley Taylor was killed in action on September 24th. Deceased was the second son of Mr. J. W. Taylor and the late Mrs. Annie Mary Taylor, and was educated at the Shaftesbury Grammar School and University College, Nottingham. He went to Canada in 1905, but soon after the outbreak of war he enlisted in the 21st (Alberta) Battalion, and went to France in September, 1915, and was made a sergeant. In June, 1917, he obtained a commission in the Leicestershire Regiment, and was again sent to France. He only returned to France after a leave on September 13th of this year, and was attached to the 2nd Durham Light Infantry. Two of his brothers have given their lives for their country, John William having been killed on September 15th, 1916, and Arnold Bradley on July 12th, 1916. Mr. Taylor's surviving son Pryce is also in France, and his daughter has done valuable work in nursing the wounded.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.

On Saturday week, a meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Christ Church, Pendlebury, members attending from Ashton, Pendleton, Worsley, Hyde, Walkden, Miles Platting, Eccles, and Helmshore. The business meeting was presided over by the Vicar of Pendlebury (the Rev. H. J. Phillips, M.A.), who gave a hearty welcome to the ringers, recognising in them, like the choir, officers of the church. He referred to the recent appointment of the President (the Rev. H. J. Elsee) to the honorary canonry of Manchester Cathedral, and trusted he would be long spared amongst the ringing community, who rejoiced at the honour conferred upon him. He added that he hoped, ere they met again, a new era of peace will have dawned on the world.

W. Dawson, of Prestwich, and J. Hindley were elected members of the Association.—Miles Platting was chosen as the next meeting-place, the meeting to be held on November 9th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for presiding and granting the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for having things ready.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

It was a bright and cheery afternoon on Saturday last, when 25 members of the South and West District of the Middlesex Association met, by the kind permission of the Rev. H. M. Eyton Jones, to ring upon the light peal of eight at St. Paul's Church, Bath Road, Hounslow. A variety of touches was brought round, consisting of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and Kent Treble Bob. The ladies who rang were: Mrs. R. Whittington, Miss Gladys Bateman, Miss F. Gudgin, Miss Edith Jones, and Miss Nora Williams. The District Master (Mr. T. Beadle) and the hon. secretary (Messrs. H. C. Chandler and W. H. Oram) were present, and ringers came from Camberwell, Farnham Royal, Fulham, Fulmer, Harrow, Harlington, Heston, Hillingdon, Kingston, Isleworth, Shepherd's Bush, Slough, Stoke Poges, and West Ealing. Ringing ceased at six o'clock, when many of the party adjourned to partake of tea together, and a pleasant time was spent.

NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT.

The members of the North and East District held a very successful meeting at Edmonton on Saturday week. About 40 members and friends attended, amongst whom were Messrs. F. Wilford, of Northampton; C. Dean, W. Pye, G. R. Pye, T. Beadle, F. A. Milne, W. Hewett, W. A. Alps, A. Mason, J. R. Sharman, A. Turner, T. Searlett, G. B. Lucas, O. Twist, etc. Some very good touches were rung in methods, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Superlative, Bristol and Double Norwich. At the conclusion of the ringing, a short service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. C. Evill), who addressed some encouraging words to those present.

Tea was partaken of at the Church Institute, and the warmest thanks are due to Miss E. K. Parker, Mr. J. Parker, and the members of the local band for the splendid meal provided.

The business meeting followed, with the President (Mr. A. T. King) in the chair, who moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the kind welcome at Edmonton that day, to which the Vicar suitably replied.

Miss B. McKrell was elected a member of the Association.

The names of four members who had been killed in the recent fighting were read out, and a vote of condolence passed with the relatives, viz.: Messrs. J. A. Boute, of Hornsey; G. Buggs, of Romford; E. Roper, of Tottenham; and W. J. Cooper, St. Saviour's, Walthamstow.

For the place of the meeting St. Giles-in-the-Field was suggested, and the business concluded with a vote of thanks to Miss E. K. Parker and Mr. J. Parker for the excellent arrangements they had made. Handbell ringing filled the remainder of the evening.

LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

Sir.—It is as I feared. There comes an avalanche of correspondence. I have no fear of its quality, but I must own that I dread its quantity. My chief hope is that you will never be able to allow it more than a page at a time.

With Mr. E. Bankes James I am sorry that I cannot argue. Referring to page 5 of 'Lead Ends,' he will find it stated that though all rules in change ringing are in a sense arbitrary, there being no inherent necessity for them in the nature of things, yet to us some have become, from universal acceptance, fundamental. One of these is that no bell shall lie more than two consecutive blows in any one place. This Mr. James throws to the winds; and with it, so far as I can see, goes all law, order, system, and every other limiting principle. Therefore, argument between us is impossible, as we disagree on fundamentals. I can only say that if this course is pursued we are on our way back to Churchyard Bob.

With respect to Mr. Clayton's letter, I should, in passing, like to place on record the fact that I strongly dissent from his estimate of Duffield. But this question is not necessary to the present discussion, and I pass on.

Will Mr. Clayton kindly answer the following questions? Why are the hunting-cycle lead ends 'natural' to any leads except their own? When the hunting cycle is broken (i.e., when we are dealing with some methods other than Plain Bob), what advantage is gained by a return to the hunting-cycle lead end? On page 17 of 'Lead Ends' I prove that no advantage is gained; and if I can, as Mr. Clayton complains, hold up his imaginary proof of the contrary to ridicule, it follows that his proof is no proof at all.

In his next sentence, Mr. Clayton fairly takes away my breath. His change of front is marvellous and bewildering, and strongly suggests that his whole letter is written at random. Without any reserve he grants my whole contention! He says that the committee was not justified in calling certain methods illegitimate 'because they do not have the regulation lead ends.' Why did I bring forward the question in 1912 and again in 1915? Why did I spend all the time and money that I did spend in writing and publishing 'Lead Ends'? Why am I now spending valuable time in exposing Mr. Clayton's fallacies? What but this one point has been my contention for years? So far as at least concerns Mr. Clayton, my victory is complete and decisive. Though to him I really need reply no more, I must, in order that others be not misled, go on showing up the fallacies as they arise. My reply to Mr. Smith's letter, when I come to it, will be also the virtual reply to Mr. Clayton's remarks on Grandsire. Here I will only challenge Mr. Clayton to prove by any quotations from my writings that I 'say one thing and do another.' Possibly he is referring to my note at the foot of page 7 of 'Lead Ends,' which he quotes a few lines further down against my use of Holt's single. Just as if anyone with a grain of sense could not see that in that note I am speaking of a feature in the structure of a method, i.e., a feature recurring in every lead, block, or set, whereas any single of any sort in any method is not only a feature of that method, but is a positive violation of the method. His confession of the want of symmetry in Grandsire is truly beautiful, and has saved me all trouble on that score. Evidently he has never realised that a bob and a plain lead stand exactly on a par, and that if either of them is unsymmetrical the method is unsymmetrical. I should be sorry for any friend of mine that could write such a paragraph as Mr. Clayton's paragraph commencing in the 6th line of page 33. I fail to see what connection Mr. Clayton's Major method has with the question at issue. It is a bad method.

And now for Mr. Smith's letter. In one respect it is a great relief after that of Mr. Clayton. It is the letter of a genuine seeker for truth. The sad part of it is that I know that somewhere—I forget where and when—I have shown it all before. However, Sir, if you can kindly spare the space, here we go once more. In the first place I admit that in some ways Grandsire may be theoretically regarded as the odd-bell analogue of Plain Bob, but I by no means admit that it was consciously derived from Plain Bob, nor do I for a moment admit that, because certain features are found in Plain Bob, therefore, the same, or even similar, features ought to be found in Grandsire. The fact is that they are different methods, which is only another way of saying that they have, and must have, different features. Each stands by itself. And now for it.

	1234765	1724536
A	1327456	B 1275463
	3124765	2174536
	3217456	2715463
	2371546	7251643
	2735164	7526134
	7253614	5762314
	7526341	5673241
	5762431	6537421
	5674213	6354712
	6547123	3645172
	6451732	3461527
	4615372	4316257
	4163527	4132675

	1436257	1657324
O	1342875	E 1563742
	3146257	5167324
	3412675	5613742
	4321765	6531472
	4237156	6354127
	2473516	3645217
	2745361	3462571
	7254631	4326751
	7526413	4237615
	5762143	2473165
	5671234	2741358
	6517324	7214536
	6153742	7125463
	1635472	
D	1364527	
	3165472	
	3614527	
	6341257	
	6432175	
	4623715	
	4267351	
	2476531	
	2745613	
	7254163	
	7521436	
	5712346	
	5173264	

Now the following facts are incontestably true concerning these five sets of figures.

1. They are all exactly similar to each other.
2. They each form an unalterable block. Touch one single figure anywhere in any of them, and instantly it is Grandsire no longer. When once the row 1234765 has occurred the other 13 rows must follow; and similarly of the other four blocks.
3. The 3rd's place made when the treble leaves the lead is within the block, which is like a trick with the 3rd's place hard baked inside it, and it is as much and as hard baked inside it as if it occurred at any other row further down in the interior of the block.
4. Block C can be entered only from the end of block A, or from the end of block B, from one or the other, but not from both, nor from any other.
5. Similarly, block C can be followed only by block D or by block E. It must be followed by one or by the other, not by both.

We can now answer Mr. Smith's three questions.

1. The connecting link in Grandsire Triples is, for a plain lead, the 7th's place, and, for a bob, the 3rd's place between any two blocks, i.e., between the treble's blow in 2nd's on her way down and her first blow at lead, and is emphatically not the 3rd's place made as the treble leaves the lead. The reason for this is the same as the reason why two and three make five, viz., that it is a fact.
 2. The reply to this is virtually contained in the reply to the last question, viz., that the 3rd's place is not the connecting link. In this Grandsire differs from Plain Bob, in which the 2nd's (or 4th's) is the connecting link.
 3. As already shown, the leads are not divided between the rows in which 3rd's place appears, but even if they were so divided, Grandsire would still be unsymmetrical for the reason, if for no other, that, since a plain lead and a bob are equally the method, it is necessary for the symmetrists to secure the pretty picture which they must have to prop themselves up against—it is necessary for them to draw their lines of division in two places—at one place for a plain lead, and a blow earlier for a bob! which is about as 'symmetrical' as a man hopping first on one leg and then on the other!
- The truth is that the question of symmetry is all pure fancy. At the most it is merely a question of 'looking pretty' on paper, and is nonsense when applied to actual ringing. In spite of this I have no doubt that the symmetrists will continue to draw their imaginary divisions. For my part I prefer not to waste my time in trying to get through a brick with a needle and darning cotton.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

RAISING AND LOWERING.

To the Editor.

Sir.—With reference to Mr. Wm. Lawrence's letter in last week's issue, 2, 5, 7 and 1, 4, 6, 8, as given forth from the organ, are totally different to the clashing that would result from trying to raise or lower bells in chords, more especially a heavy peal.

This subject was discussed at the Kent County meeting at St. John's, Lewisham High Road, S.E., on Saturday last, with the result that it is to be brought to the notice of the Central Committee. As our general secretary for the county is a great musician, I hope, and believe, he will urge our ringers, especially those in charge of bellfries, to carry out my suggestion, and discountinue that which was described at the aforesaid meeting as 'a disgrace' to ringers.—Yours very truly,
16, Harefield Road, Brockley, S.E.4 F. W. RICHARDSON.

RINGING ENTHUSIASM.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I read with interest of Pte. Seviour's enthusiasm, and I should like to give you some instances of the enthusiasm of my father, the late Samuel Slater. I can recollect him on a Saturday having a wash and brush up, and starting off about 3 p.m. to walk from our house to the Norman Tower, Bury St. Edmunds, 14 miles, and sometimes they rang and sometimes they didn't. When they did ring they only rang a long touch of Grandsire Triples, and if they rang three courses of Grandsire Caters they thought they had done wonders. Then he would go to the meeting-house and stop until closing time, making arrangements about meeting again, and then he would walk home, getting back about 4 a.m. on the Sunday morning. This he did several times, and I have heard him say he liked walking in the middle of the night. Also when St. Peter's bells, Thetford, were opened he walked from Pakenham Red Castle Farm to Thetford and back in one day, besides attending the opening and dining at the Bell Inn. On another occasion he walked to Saffron Walden from Glemsford, 22 miles, and rang a peal and then walked home again the next day. I and an elder brother of mine have walked home from Sudbury with him scores of times, and we have walked to Bury St. Edmunds on more than one occasion. An elder brother of mine also walked to Hadleigh and back, 36 miles, with him in pursuit of his hobby, ringing. I am glad to see that all enthusiasm is not dying out, but a little more of it is needed among some who are called ringers. I am relating these instances of enthusiasm to show what has been done. I dare say others could tell you of similar instances.—Yours faithfully,
Hunt's Hill, Glemsford. THEODORE E. SLATER.

SUB-DIVISION OF ASSOCIATIONS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Regarding Lieut. Fright's suggestions of sub-division of Associations, may I be allowed to state that these ideas are not quite new? Acting on the advice of Mr. George Martin, of Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, numbering about 28 towers, was some three years before the outbreak of war, sub-divided into four districts under four heads, and things worked admirably, much good work being done in each of the districts. Of course of late, here as elsewhere, depleted numbers and the stress of the times, has made all progress in change ringing more and more difficult, but we who are left strive to do our best to keep going, hoping that soon better times are coming.

Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

G. H. GUTTERIDGE.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES

LEIGH, LANCASHIRE.—Bolton Branch.—At the Parish Church of St. Mary, on Sunday afternoon, August 4th, for Intercession service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: D. Smith 1, H. Smith 2, R. Allred (cond.), Tyldesley, 3, H. Allred (Tyldesley) 4, W. Hayes 5, J. Smith 6, W. Smith 7, S. Hayes, junr., 8.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.—At the Church of St. Leonard, on Sunday, August 4th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) in 43 mins. Also on Tuesday, August 6th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes), in 47 mins.: J. W. Howard, Armour-Staff-Sergt. G. H. Case, A. T. Baker, J. Elcock, E. Foxall, J. Overton, H. W. Overton, W. Overton (conductor). Arranged for Messrs. J. Elcock, E. Foxall and Armour-Staff-Sergt. G. H. Case.

MONKS ELEIGH.—On Sunday afternoon, August 4th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob: F. G. Symonds (conductor) 1, A. Diserens 2, A. Keeble 3, A. Symonds 4, S. H. Symonds 5, M. Pensom 6. Treble, 2nd and tenor men hail from London.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—At the Parish Church of St. George, on August 11th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: H. Watts 1, J. Allred 2, H. Allred 3, T. Lingard (conductor), Pendlebury, 4, W. Hindley 5, J. Broadley (Bradford) 6, R. Allred 7, J. Edge (Pendlebury) 8.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Sunday, August 4th, at St. Mary's, Barnes, for evening service, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major: E. H. Cook 1, H. Barrett 2, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 3, Sapper R. F. Deal, R.E., 4, O. H. Hunt 5, W. E. Garrard 6, F. Skerington 7, W. H. Wood 8.—On August 18th, at the residence of Mr. T. Walker, 50, Cannon Street, 1260 of Stedman Triples, on handbells: F. G. Symonds (first quarter-peal in the method in hand) 1—2, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 3—4, W. A. Alps 5—6, T. Walker 7—8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday morning, August 4th, for Divine service, at St. Thomas's, 312 Stedman Triples: Gunner Twyman, R.G.A., 1, W. Chambers (Newport) 2, C. Groves 3, F. Burnett 4, H. Beesley (Oxford) 5, J. Harris 6, E. J. Harding (conductor) 7, A. T. King, 8. 378 Grandsire Triples: F. Dowman, R.G.A., 1, W. Chambers 2, F. Burnett 3, C. Groves 4, Gunner Twyman, R.G.A., 5, J. Harris (conductor) 6, E. J. Harding 7, A. T. King 8.—On Sunday evening, August 4th, at Portsea Parish Church, 252 Stedman Triples: A. S. Beer (Greenwich) 1, C. Groves 2, S. Thomas 3, J. Harris 4, J. Cullum (Erith) 5, C. Creasy 6, F. Brinklow (conductor), Oxhey, Herts, 7, E. J. Harding 8.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of this Branch will be held at Ashwick (near Shepton Mallet) on Saturday, October 26th. The bells (6) will be available from 2 p.m.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., School House, Midsomer Norton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held on Saturday, October 26th, at the Church of All Saints, Fulham, S.W. Ringing from 3 p.m. till dusk.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Barnet on Saturday, October 26th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Nash, Hon. District Sec., North Mymms, Hatfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Bolton, on Saturday, October 26th. Bells from 4 to 7; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual festival will be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Saturday, October 26th. The following peals of bells will be available from 12 noon till 4 p.m.: Cathedral (12), tenor 37½ cwt.; All Saints (8), tenor 19 cwt.; and St. John's (8), tenor 12½ cwt. Service at 4 p.m. in the Cathedral Lady Chapel, with address by Canon G. E. Nursom, Vicar of Newcastle. Committee meeting in Cathedral Vestry 4.45 p.m. Tea at the Douglas Hotel, Grainger Street West, at 5.30 p.m., to be followed by the general meeting.—G. T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, R.S.O., Northumberland.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern District.—The annual District meeting will be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, October 26th. Bells available 3 o'clock; business meeting in the tower after ringing. It is hoped that members will make a special effort to attend, as this will be the final meeting at the tower until the spring.—F. W. Edwards, Writtle.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Mathern, near Chepstow, on Saturday, October 26th. Bells available all the afternoon and evening. Tea free, at 5.30; business meeting to follow.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and J. W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

OXFORD GUILD.—A meeting for combined practice will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, October 26th. Ringing from 3.15 until dusk. Ringing friends' help respectfully solicited.—G. H. Gutteridge, Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday, October 26th. Service at 5.30; tea and meeting after service. Bells (8) afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, Hon. Sec.

PARISH CHURCH, HIGH WYCOMBE.—Special Service and Organ Recital on October 27th, at 3.30. Tower open for ringing 1.30 to 3.30 and after the service. Collection for new bell. Visitors are asked to attend service.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637.)—A meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on October 31st at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, November 2nd. Bells available till sunset. Those intending to be present should inform F. Pitston, District Master, Bridge Street, Saffron Walden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Moorside on Saturday, November 2nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. A good attendance is requested, business important. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., Middleton.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Shoreham on Saturday, November 2nd. Tower open for ringing 2 p.m. till 5; tea and meeting to follow. Those who intend to be present please notify by October 29th.—A. W. Groves, Hon. Sec., 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—The annual meeting will be held at Chertsey on Saturday, November 9th. Bells (8) available from 3.15 p.m.; service 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome, but those intending to be present at tea are asked to notify me in good time.—F. J. Shepherd, Assist. Hon. Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Miles Platting, on Saturday, November 9th. Bells available from 3.30 till 7 p.m.; meeting to follow; reports ready. Subscriptions due from all members.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

EXCHANGE.

WANTED small back-gear treadle LATHE, about 3½ in. centres, screw-cutting preferred, in good working order, in exchange for fine peal of 12 HANDBELLS by Mears, condition good as new, tenor No. 14 in E flat.—Apply Dixon, 80, Fern Dene Road, Gateshead.

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DEATH.

TAYLOR.—Killed in action on Sept. 24th, Gerard Bardsley Taylor, 2nd Lieut. Leicestershire Regiment (attached 2nd Durham Light Infantry), formerly Sergeant of the 31st (Alberta) Canadian Battalion; aged 32 years; second son of John W. Taylor, and the late Annie Mary Taylor, of the Bellfoundry, Loughborough.

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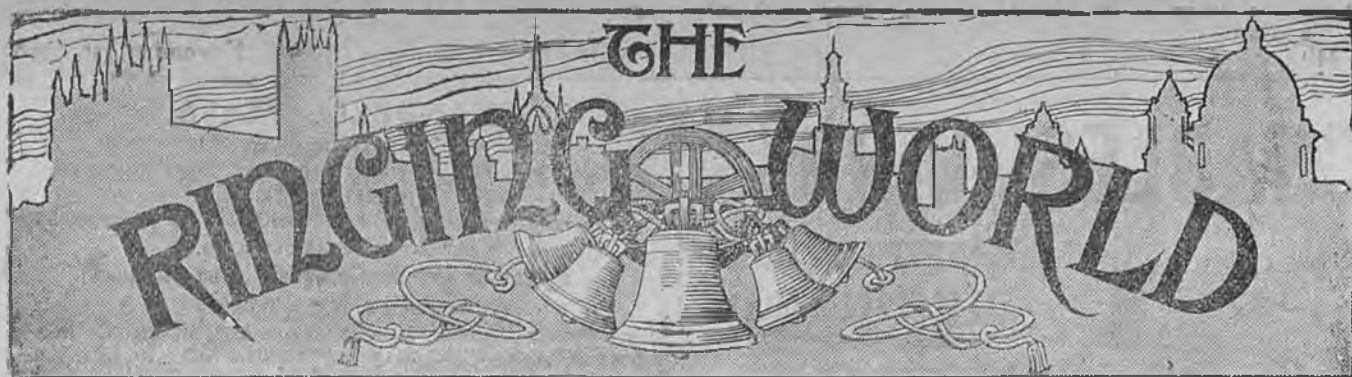
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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1st, 1918.

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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones to the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BLOX,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

FALLEN HEROES.

Grievous losses have fallen upon the Ringing Exercise by the inexorable claims of war, for, as in every other department of life, the sacrifices among ringers have been heavy. The field of honour has claimed all too many thousands of the best manhood of the nation, and the Exercise has lost its full share. Every man who has given his life has left a bleeding place in some heart or other, and in this respect the loss of one true soldier is as terribly sad as the death of any other. But of all the ringers who have made the great sacrifice none, we think, will be more widely mourned or more greatly missed than Bertram Prewett, who fell in action on the last day of August.

Without any exaggeration, one can say that Bertram Prewett was among the greatest of all ringers, and, had he lived, there was no saying to what degree he might have extended his already remarkable record. He began his ringing career while in his teens, and he made the very utmost of the exceptional facilities that came his way. Many men have opportunities, but few take full advantage of them. Bertram Prewett was one of those who accepted the chances that presented themselves, and he rose to be among the first flight of practical ringers. Enthusiasm and ability were the characteristics which enabled him to advance with the remarkable celerity that marked his progress in ringing, and while he did such great things in peal ringing, the last fault that could be urged against him was selfishness. He served the Church first, in the purposes for which bells were instituted, and his chief aim was always that at his own belfry the bells should be rung, and rung properly, for the services. To this end he helped to maintain at Bushey a very capable band of ringers. He was ever ready to assist others, and one of his greatest delights was to help a man through a peal in a new method. He rang peals from end to end of Middlesex and Hertfordshire for this very purpose.

Above all else, his manliness and constancy of character impressed all who had the pleasure of his intimate acquaintance. He never hesitated to express an opinion when he thought an opinion should be stated, whether his views offended or pleased, but he never bore ill-feeling, and his colleagues never had more loyal companion or firmer friend. Bertram Prewett has left us, and we wonder if we shall look upon quite his like again. He died as he had lived, the embodiment of clean, sound-minded life, the soul of honour. Some day, perhaps, in some hallowed aisle, his name, with that of others, may be perpetuated in letters of marble or of bronze; but there are those among us in whose hearts his memory will be for ever enshrined, for the recollection of his friendship will last as long as life.

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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, October 24, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT CITY CAFE, BULL RING,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 size in B flat.

JOSEPH PIGOTT 1—2	GEORGE F. SWANN 7—8
ALBERT WALKER 3—4	WILLIAM KENT 9—10
JAMES E. GROVES 5—6	JAMES GEORGE 11—12

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES.
Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN,
Referee: MR. MORRIS J. MORRIS.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Saturday, October 26, 1918, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY AT SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANCES;

Tenor 18 size in G.

WILBY J. HAZELL 1—2	FRANK SMITH 5—6
JOHN D. MATTHEWS 3—4	ARTHUR J. NEALE 7—8
HUGH T. SCARLETT 9—10	

Composed and Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.
Umpire: MR. BENJAMIN FOSKETT.

First peal of Royal in hand by 9—10; first away from tenors by 1—2.

SIX BELL PEAL.

OFFENHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN BRANCH).

On Saturday, October 26, 1918, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

*WILLIAM KEYTE Treble	HENRY MIDDLETON 4
JAMES HEMMING 2	HENRY J. PHIPPS 5
HARVEY STREETS 3	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... Tenor

Conducted by F. J. JOHNSON.

* First peal.

First peal of Minor on the bells. This was the quarterly peal of the Association. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to our fallen heroes in the war.

LADY RINGER'S WEDDING.

In the belfry of St. Mary's Church, Otlands (Surrey), on Sunday, October 20th, the Vicar (the Rev. J. de Verd Leigh), on behalf of the ringers, presented Miss Gertrude Barnes with a silver inkstand, in the shape of a bell, as a small token of goodwill from them on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. Arthur Howard, a well-known tradesman of Otlands, and in a few well-chosen words, expressed the hope that every happiness would be hers, and that she would continue her work in the belfry for many years to come.—Miss Barnes, who was taken by surprise, thanked all those present for such a pleasing gift.

The wedding took place the next day at St. Mary's Church, and was conducted by the Vicar. The service was choral, and a numerous congregation was in attendance. Miss L. J. Barnes (sister, also a ringer) was the only bridesmaid, while Mr. G. Howard fulfilled the duties of best man. As the happy pair were leaving the church, the local band rang the pretty peal of eight bells, and further ringing in honour of the occasion took place in the evening. The bride and bridegroom left for Bournemouth later in the day, where the honeymoon is being spent.

On Wednesday, October 23rd, the parents of the bride invited the Otlands band of ringers to tea at their residence, and a party of over 20, including the Vicar and curate, assembled to do justice to a meal which was not by any means a 'war time' one. After the meal came music, and a most pleasant time was spent. A telegram was read during the evening from the happy couple, thanking all the ringers for their services.

GREENWICH. — At St. Alfege Church, for morning service, on August 18th, 742 Grandsire Triples: C. T. Clark 1, A. Beer 2, E. E. Richards 3, T. A. Hawking 4, I. G. Shade (conductor) 5, H. Hoskins 6, T. Jakeman 7, D. Hodgson 8.

MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The first session of the tenth Council (28th meeting) was held on Whitsun Tuesday, 21st May, 1918, in the Upper House of Convocation of the Church House, Westminster, at 11 o'clock a.m., when there were present of representative members 56 out of 102, and of honorary members seven out of 12, making a total of 63 present out of 114 on the roll. During the election of a president the chair was taken by the hon. secretary, who announced that only one nomination had been received for the presidency, and called on Mr. J. W. Taylor, who proposed the election of the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey. This was seconded by Mr. W. Pye, and supported by Mr. J. S. Pritchett.

Mr. W. T. Cockerill proposed the election of the Rev. Canon Coleridge, who declined to stand for election. The Rev. A. H. F. Boughey was then unanimously elected President. In his absence, the Rev. Canon Coleridge was unanimously voted chairman for the occasion. Having taken the chair, and thanked the members for the compliment, the Chairman announced that the next business was the election of hon. secretary and treasurer.—Mr. W. E. White proposed, and Mr. J. Griffin seconded, the election of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who said that he earnestly desired to resign the offices, but consented to undertake them once more. On being unanimously re-elected, he thanked the members for their renewed confidence.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn was unanimously re-elected hon. librarian, on the motion of Mr. Joseph Griffin, seconded by Mr. A. A. Hughes.

The minutes of the last meeting were then read, passed, and signed.

The hon. treasurer then read the statement of accounts, of which the following is a summary: To the balance in hand of £54 ls. 3d. there had accrued fees £12 12s. 6d., and one fee of 7s. 6d. a year in advance. Sales of publications, etc. (three years), £5 10s. 8d., and interest £7 3s. 1d. Against this there had been expenses of meetings, £2 2s. 6d.; printing, stationery, etc., £5 2s. 3d.; registrars' fee, 3s. 9d., and postage £2 4s. 5d., leaving in hand a balance of £70 2s. 1d., as shown in the pass book. These accounts, having been previously audited in detail by the Standing Committee were passed, on the motion of the Rev. Canon Coleridge, seconded by the Rev. F. J. O. Helmors.

On the proposal of Mr. E. H. Lewis, seconded by Mr. R. Narborough, it was resolved to invest £50 of the above named balance in war stock.

It was proposed by the Rev. Canon Baker, seconded by Mr. F. Willey, and carried, that the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, Mr. J. W. Parker, and the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson be re-elected honorary members for one year.

It was proposed by Mr. H. Knight, seconded by Mr. J. Griffin, and carried, that the Rev. E. W. Carpenter and Mr. H. W. Wilde be re-elected honorary members for two years; and on the proposal of Mr. J. Griffin, seconded by Mr. H. White, it was carried that Mr. John Carter, Mr. R. A. Daniell, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, the Rev. Canon Papillon, Mr. J. S. Pritchett, Mr. J. A. Trollope, and Mr. G. Williams be elected for the full period of three years. Two of the three vacant places were filled for two years by the election of Mr. James George, proposed by Mr. J. S. Pritchett, seconded by Mr. H. Argyle and of Miss Nellie Gillingham, proposed by Mr. H. Argyle, seconded by Miss E. K. Parker.

The following new members were introduced to and shook hands with the chairman: Mr. E. Horrex, of the College Youths; Bath and Wells, Mr. J. Maddock; Chester, Mr. H. S. Brocklebank and Mr. R. T. Holding; Kent, Mr. J. H. Cheesman; Lancashire, Mr. J. R. Taylor and Mr. W. E. Wilson; Sussex, Mr. E. H. Lindup; Stafford, Mr. W. Fisher; Yorks, Mr. F. Willey; Essex, Mr. E. J. Butler and Mr. G. R. Pye.

The Hon. Secretary read the vote of condolence sent by the Standing Committee to Lady Heywood and her family on the death of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, together with Lady Heywood's letter in reply to it, and on the suggestion of the chairman the vote was unanimously adopted by the Council.

The Hon. Secretary then mentioned the names of members deceased since the last meeting, viz.: Mr. W. L. Catchpole, the Rev. H. A. Coker, Mr. Henry Dains, Mr. C. H. Hattersley, Mr. Arthur Hughes, Mr. W. Snowdon, and Mr. J. W. Whiting.—The Chairman having referred in feeling terms to each of these, the Council unanimously passed a vote of sympathy with their relatives by rising in silence from their seats.

The Hon. Secretary announced that he had received apologies for absence from Mr. W. H. Godden, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, the Rev. C. E. Matthews, Mr. J. Motts, Mr. J. W. Parker, Mr. C. L. Rantall, Mr. W. Story, the Rev. C. J. Sturton, the Rev. W. P. Wright and Mr. E. A. Young.

The Hon. Secretary then read a circular letter that had been addressed in the end of January, 1917, by the Standing Committee to the Archbishops and Bishops, countersigned by the clerical members of the Council, on the subject of a possible attempt on the part of a very small section of people opposed to ringing to stir up an agitation against church bells after the war; and reported that he had received replies from the Archbishop of York and ten Bishops, all of them being of a favourable tone.

The re-election of the following members of the Standing Committee was proposed by the Rev. Canon Papillon, seconded by the Rev. Canon Baker, and carried nem. con., viz.: The Hon. secretary, the Rev. Canon Coleridge, the Rev. H. Law James, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, with Messrs. W. T. Cockerill, R. A. Daniell, and J. Griffin, the vacancies being filled by the election of the President, the Rev. H. J.

Elsee, and Messrs. A. T. King, E. H. Lewis, A. E. Parsons and J. W. Taylor.

For the Peal Collection Committee, the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson reported that the printing was being deferred until after the war. The committee was re-elected, and on the proposal of the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, seconded by Mr. H. W. Wilde, Mr. J. W. Parker was added to the committee.

The Rev. Canon Papillon reported that the Literature Committee had, after repeated application to Mr. R. A. Daniell, failed to obtain from him any information as to the material which they understood that he had collected for the proposed Bibliography of ringing, and were, therefore, unable to make any report of progress therewith.

On the proposal of Mr. E. H. Lewis, seconded by the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, the Rev. Canon Papillon and Mr. R. A. Daniell were re-elected, the Rev. A. T. Beeston being elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the Rev. H. A. Cockey.

Mr. E. H. Lewis reported for the Legitimate Methods Committee whose work, he stated, was practically in abeyance during the war. The committee was re-elected.

Mr. A. T. King proposed, and the Rev. E. W. Carpenter seconded, the adoption of the report of the Peals' Analysis Committee, which was carried with the thanks of the Council to the committee which was at the same time re-elected. For the Towers and Belfries Committee Mr. E. H. Lewis reported that personally he had had an opportunity of visiting one of the towers in which the committee was interested, but that the work of the committee as such was at present at a standstill. The committee was re-elected.

On the suggestion of Mr. E. H. Lewis, it was agreed to ask the various committees to elect a chairman of the committee from their number, and to issue a report annually before the meeting of Council.

The Hon. Secretary introduced a discussion on the means most likely to conduce to the greatest utility and efficiency of the Council. The discussion was continued by Mr. A. T. King, the Rev. C. C. Marshall, the Rev. F. L. Edwards, the Rev. Canon Baker, the Rev. F. J. O. Helmors, Mr. F. W. Hopgood, and others, and was eventually adjourned for further consideration at the next meeting.

Mr. E. H. Lewis initiated a discussion as to the best way in which to help in the restoration of some of the bells lost by Belgium in the war. After an interesting discussion, it was proposed by Mr. E. H. Lewis and seconded by Mr. E. A. Young, and carried by a large majority, that this Council is in favour of an appeal being made to British ringers and others to help Belgium in the restoration of her lost bells, and commends the matter to the notice of ringers and lovers of bells.

Mr. E. H. Lewis, the Rev. H. J. Elsee and the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson were elected a committee (with power to add to their number) for the purpose of consulting with the Associations as to the best method of procedure.

The Hon. Secretary drew the attention of the Council to the increasing abandonment of raising and falling bells in peal, as a result of which a large proportion of ringers do not acquire the necessary skill to enable them to take part in this ancient and musical practice. In the discussion which followed, there was a general expression of agreement as to the importance of the question, and though no resolution was proposed, it was strongly felt that all members of the Exercise should use their influence in the preservation of the practice of raising and falling the bells in peal.

For the place of meeting next year it was agreed that if peace should have been proclaimed, the meeting should be at Gloucester, but if otherwise it should be held in London.

A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings, and the meeting adjourned.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Western Division of the Hertfordshire Association was held at Rickmansworth, on Saturday, October 19th, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. F. Halsey, members attending from Fulmer, Oxhey, Great Missenden, Rickmansworth, and Bushey. Grand-sire and Stedman Triples were rung during the afternoon, everyone being pleased with the going of the bells. Tea was provided by Mrs. Barrett, of High Street, after which the business meeting was held, presided over by Mr. Jones, of Watford, the Vicar being unable to be present owing to another engagement. A letter was read from Mr. Cooper, who is home wounded from France, wishing the members a successful meeting.

A vote of sympathy and condolence was passed to Mrs. Staver, in the loss of her husband, Capt. R. Staver, a member of the Bushey Society.

New members were elected from Fulmer (Miss Fuller), Tring (Mr. Wright), Great Missenden (Mr. J. Horace Barnes and Mr. J. Henry Barnes), Rickmansworth (Mr. Jones, Mr. Good and Mr. Ollimore). It was decided that the next meeting be held at Bushey and Oxhey.—A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells; also the Rickmansworth ringers for meeting the visitors and having everything ready.—Votes of thanks to the chairman brought a pleasant meeting to a close.

BAKEWELL, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, August 4th, for evening service, 360 Bb Minor: H. Turner 1, E. Oldfield 2, J. Feam 3, T. Clarke 4, W. Smith 5, A. G. Wallis (conductor) 6, T. Howard covering. The second ringer hails from Beles, Lancs.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

MORE ABOUT SYMMETRY.

At last we are getting to understand what Bob Leads mean. There are still two difficulties in the way. The writers will persist in talking about persons (instead of things): and this wastes time and space and temper. And again, so far no one has kept distinct the arguments which refer to the science from those which refer to the art, or to the practice, of change ringing. Until we keep these distinct in our minds, many of our reasonings will miss the mark.

All those who have written on these matters have spoken of symmetry, but none of them have considered that scientific symmetry is one thing, artistic symmetry is another, and practical symmetry is another. In most instances they have been referring to the two latter kinds, while their arguments would only hold good if applied to the first. As a matter of fact, these kinds of symmetry are not, strictly speaking, symmetry at all. The second kind is really proportion, and the third balance.

Only one correspondent has got so far hold of the idea of scientific symmetry as to speak of the 'axis of symmetry'; and he in the same paragraph says the human body is symmetrical. Of course it is not. One might say that a rough outline of the human body would be symmetrical, but that is all. What the writer means is either that the human body is well proportioned, or that it is well-balanced: and if he got it clear in his mind which of these two he really meant, it would help both him and his readers.

Again one ringer says a certain method is ugly because it is not symmetrical, and another says it is beautiful because it is so symmetrical. But if a thing is symmetrical it cannot be beautiful: neither can it be ugly.

Most of inorganic nature is symmetrical, and if we knew enough we might find that all of it is. But there is no beauty there: it is all bare, cold science. Nature must be organic before there is any basis for beauty. It may be said that a thing is beautiful so long as it keeps the true mean between the extreme of symmetry on the one hand, and confusion on the other.

One may discuss a science, with its hard unyielding facts, and its painfully exact symmetry; or an art, with its canons of taste, revealing what is in true proportion; or a practice, with its just balance between what is required and what is possible. But to mix up these three exclusive categories, can result obviously in nonsense only.

An instance of my first difficulty is the question of a bell striking three times in one place. One ringer refuses to face it. Apparently he has got the historic brief endorsed 'No case; abuse the plaintiff's attorney.' Now I have for nearly twenty years been asking all those interested whom I have met, why a bell should not ring three blows in one place, and no one yet has given any real reason. Now that this action of a bell, with its curious inverting result, has been taken up by a ringer in the foremost rank, it will have to be seriously considered.

Braiworth Rectory, Eves.

H. DRAKE.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. WIRRAL BRANCH MEETING.

A meeting of the Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at St. Mary's, the Parish Church of Birkenhead. About twenty-two ringers put in an appearance, representing seven parishes. Ringing commenced about 4 o'clock, and tea was served in the Schoolroom an hour later. In the unavoidable absence of the Vicar, the curate presided at the meeting, and in the name of the Vicar gave the ringers a very hearty welcome.—The people's warden expressed his pleasure at being present, and seeing their enthusiasm. The bells, he said, were in a very bad state; in fact, almost unringable. They were going to have them put right, and he read an estimate that had been received from Messrs. Taylor and Co. to put them in thorough repair, with new steel frame, fittings, etc. A large sum was required, but if the bells of Birkenhead Parish Church were to ring out when victory and peace was declared the work ought to be placed in hand at once.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and their kindness and hearty welcome to the Guild. The methods rung were Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob Minor, and Stedman Doubles.

OLD BURY ST. EDMUNDS RINGER. DEATH OF MR. R. P. MOORE.

A ringer at St. James' Church, Bury St. Edmunds, for over 50 years, Mr. Robert Pawsey Moore has recently passed away at the age of 71. He was a well known and much-respected inhabitant of the Suffolk town, and was widely esteemed by ringers in the district. His death occurred after only a few days' illness, and he took part in the ringing for the Sunday evening service on the occasion of the harvest festival on Sept. 22nd.

In addition to the family mourners, several ringers attended the funeral, including Messrs. A. Symonds (Lavenham), G. Debenham (Horringer), G. Lilley (Farnham, All Saints), H. Smith, R. S. Long, H. Lomax, junr., J. Chinery, R. Gooch and Corpl. E. E. Baker, A.S.C. After the service, which was conducted by the Rev. C. R. Caffry (Precentor at the Cathedral), the bells of the Norman tower were rung deeply muffled to a 504 Grandshire Triples, by: A. Symonds (conductor) 1, G. Debenham 2, H. Smith 3, G. Lilley 4, J. Chinery 5, Corpl. E. Baker 6, R. S. Long 7, H. Lomax, junr., 8.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN RINGER.

RIFLEMAN B. PREWETT KILLED IN ACTION.

The death on the field of honour of Rifleman Bertram Prewett, of the Bushey company, while serving in France with the London Rifle Brigade, will cause a deep sense of regret throughout the Exercise, for he was one of the best known among present-day ringers. He fell in action on August 31st, but definite news of his death was not received until last week, and the deepest sympathy of every ringer will go out to his widow, and to his aged parents, who have lost their only son.

Bertram Prewett's progress in ringing was phenomenal, and in the seventeen years preceding the war he rang well on towards one thousand peals. He was born on October 12th, 1878, at Hampstead, Middlesex, so that he was within a few weeks of his 40th birthday when he fell. Educated at Watford Grammar School and King's College, London, he secured honours in mathematics before leaving school, and entering the Civil Service. His first introduction to a belfry was in November, 1897. Coming under the tuition of Mr. G. N. Price, he rang his first peal on March 28th, 1898. In 1899 he became connected with the Middlesex Association, and was soon one of the band that with Mr. W. Pye at its head, established fame for itself throughout the land. Bertram Prewett took part in many notable peals, including the famous 18,027 Stedman Caters, in 12 hrs. 18 mins., at Loughborough on Easter Monday, 1909, and the record Surprise Peal, 15,269 Bristol Major, at Hornchurch, on Whit-Monday, 1912. Among other peals in which he took part were the first peal of Surprise Royal and the first peal of Bristol in London; the first peal of Cambridge Maximus ever rung; the first peal (Treble Ten) at Beverley Minster; he called the first peal of Superlative in Wales, and the first peal of Cambridge in Ireland, and he also rang in the first peal of Bristol in Wales. He rang in the first peals of London Surprise at Chester and Rochester Cathedrals, called the first peal of Cambridge Royal in Sussex, and took part in three peals of Stedman Cinques in 24 hours at Quex Park. Wiry in frame, though not big in build, he had rung several heavy bells to peals, including St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin (45 cwt.), St. Giles', Cripplegate (35½ cwt.), and St. Sepulchre's, Holborn (31 cwt.).

As an official of the Hertford County Association, Mr. Prewett did valuable work. He was the auditor of the Association, and represented it on the Central Council for over 12 years. He had travelled widely in pursuit of his favourite hobby, and had taken part in many of the successful tours organised by Mr. W. Pye. In addition to the Middlesex and Herts. Associations, he belonged to the following Associations: The College Youths, Kent, Sussex, Winchester Diocesan, Salisbury Diocesan, Durham and Newcastle Diocesan, Devonshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Norwich Diocesan, Oxford Diocesan, Chester Diocesan, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Midland Counties, the London County, Stoke Guild, the Irish Association, and the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

Rifleman Bertram Prewett voluntarily enlisted in the early months of 1915, in the London Rifle Brigade, and he went overseas nearly two years ago. An old friend of his, writing concerning his death, says: 'He was a splendid ringer, but I was attracted to him for his manliness of character, his modesty as a ringer of such ability, and his great readiness to help. He was a great lover of flowers, and through them he learnt to know Nature's God. His great treat on Easter Monday was to hear the late Dean Lawrence read the first lesson for evensong that day, Song of Solomon ii, 10-17. He loved the spring and the early flowers, and with them he associated his Maker. I feel personally I have lost a true and tried friend. We all hoped it would not be long before he would again be with us, but God has willed otherwise. He has passed on to where sorrow and sighing are no more, and although death his memory will be an inspiration to many.'

A memorial service for the late Rifleman Prewett and Capt. Robert E. Stavert who has also been killed in action, is to be held at St. James' Church, Bushey, on Sunday evening next. There will be half-muffled ringing from 5 p.m. to 6.20 p.m., and all ringers are invited.

FALLEN ON THE FIELD OF HONOUR.

TWO NEWPORT (MON.) RINGERS KILLED.

The All Saints' company, Newport, Mon., loses a promising young ringer by the death at the General Hospital, Salonica, on October 3rd, of influenza and bronchial pneumonia, of Graham Samuel Burley. We learned to handle a bell at St. George's, Bristol, and on removing to Newport, where no was engaged by a large firm of outfitters, being a tailor by trade, joined the All Saints' band. It was not long before he could take part in several methods. Just before joining up a peal was specially arranged for him to give him the opportunity of ringing his first, this being Grandsire Triples. Also it has proved his first and last peal! He leaves a wife and one child, who have returned to their native home, Bristol, and to whom the sympathy of the Newport ringers is extended.

For the second week in succession news has been received of the death of one of the All Saints' Church ringers, and with regret we have to announce that Mr. Tom Max, of the R.A.M.C., has been killed by shrapnel in France. He was one of the regular Sunday service ringers, and could ring Stedman Triples well. He was also a chorister at All Saints' Church.

LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—When Mr. Davies speaks out of an honest heart, he is the most charming writer that ever graced the Exercise, and I think also the most forcible; but when he descends to special pleading, his writing not only loses its force and its charm, but it becomes offensive to any right-thinking man. The figures given by Mr. Davies prove that the first 3rd's in Grandsire is the course link which no one has ever disputed, but they are given as proof that the 7th's is the lead link in Triples, which implies that the 5th is the lead link in Doubles, and so on. This is absurd. The 7th's has no linking power whatever, and Mr. Davies' leads begin and end at nowhere with nothing, except when a bob is called to denote when the bells pass from one lead to another. The second 3rd's is undoubtedly the cycle link, and for two hundred and fifty years the cycle and the lead have been coterminous, and in all respects identical, which they most certainly are. But Mr. Davies, partly from perversity and partly to make Grandsire unsymmetrical, would divorce the one from the other. Whether or no this sophistry will go down with Mr. Smith I cannot tell, but I can tell Mr. Davies flatly that it will not go down with me.

In the matter of Walthamstow Stedman, Mr. Davies is not acting fairly. He insinuated that it is not Stedman, and when I asked him to show cause he avoids the question by saying it is a bad method. It may be a bad method and it certainly has the badness of Kent; but, like Kent, it has some good points, and Kent, with its badness, is just as much Treble Bob as is Oxford with its goodness.

Until Mr. Davies puts himself right in these matters I shall have nothing more to say to him.—Yours, etc., GEORGE T. CLAYTON

To the Editor.

Sir,—My handwriting was never very good. I fear it must be getting worse, and that it is responsible for two misprints in my letter in your issue of last week. In the last line but nine (9) of the fifth paragraph, on page 341, a 'not' has been omitted. It should read 'any single of any sort in any method is not only NOT a feature of that method,' etc. This is important. A misprint of less importance is in the 2nd line of fact 3, regarding the 5 blocks, where the word printed 'trick' should read 'brick,' the word 'brick' not making any sense at all.—Yours, CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

MEETING AT SOUTHAM.

The quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held on Saturday, October 19th, at the historical market town of Southam. Owing to the curtailment of railway facilities, and also to the station being some two and a half miles from the town, the attendance was rather poor, but those cycling had the advantage of the glorious autumn afternoon. The Parish Church of St. James has a very musical ring of eight bells (tenor 15½ cwt. in E), which are in excellent going order. Ringing commenced soon after 3 p.m., and some good rounds and call changes, in which three local lady ringers took part, opened the proceedings. Afterwards a good touch of Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by the Ringing Master (Mr. James George). Service was held at 4.30, at which the Rector gave a very appropriate address.

The business meeting was afterwards held, the Rector, who was elected an honorary life member, presiding, supported by Mr. J. George, the hon. secretary, and about 16 members, representing Allesley, Coventry, and Southam; also Mr. S. J. Lawrence, of Northampton, who was elected a life ringing member.

It was decided that a memorial be erected in the tower at Allesley, recording the peal rung in memory of the late hon. secretary (Mr. G. H. Kettle), who fell in action, and that the secretary be instructed to invite subscriptions for the same.

Six new ringing members were elected, including four ladies, and a grant of three guineas was made to the testimonial to Mr. John S. Goldsmith.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, and for conducting the service, concluded the business.

After tea, the tower was again visited, and touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire were rung. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Erdington in January.

MEETING OF OLD FRIENDS.

On Sunday last, for Matins, at Baintree Parish Church, 560 Bob Major; C. H. Howard (conductor) 1, Miss Petit 2, Q.-M.-Sergeant W. A. Cave 3, B. Petit 4, N. E. Hammond 5, W. H. Dyson 6, W. H. Hammond 7, G. Lindridge 8.

In the afternoon, at St. Mary's, Bocking, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Treble Bob Major, conducted by Q.-M.-Sergeant W. A. Cave, for whom this ringing was arranged, to give him an opportunity of again meeting some of the many friends he made when stationed at Baintree in the spring of 1915. The following took part: H. E. Hammond, A. Shuffelebotham, C. H. Howard, B. Petit, W. H. Dyson, G. Lindridge and W. H. Hammond.

RIDDENDEN, KENT.—On August 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: C. Tribe 1, A. E. Edwards 2, E. J. Pannett 3, C. W. Player 4, E. S. Ruck 5, E. B. Crowder 6, J. Arthur (conductor) 7, O. Hodges 8.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**QUARTERLY MEETING AT MATHERN.**

The last quarterly meeting of the year was held at Mathern, near Chepstow, on Saturday last. It was a typical autumn afternoon, and the walk out of some 1½ miles from Chepstow was much enjoyed. Noticeable were the immense shipbuilding yards now in course of construction at Chepstow and Beachley.

The bells a light ring of six (tenor 10 cwt.) are by Evans, of Chepstow, and were rehung in a new iron frame some 30 years ago by the Loughborough firm, and go well. They were kept busy by ringers from Llandaff, Cardiff, Newport, Chepstow, Llanelly, etc., the visitors including Mr. J. E. Sykes, of Huddersfield, and several hailing from different parts of the country, but now engaged on the new Government works at Chepstow. Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Kent Treble Bob were the methods rung until 4.15, when the bells were stopped, and on descending from the tower, the members were met by the Rector (the Rev. Watkin Davies, Rural Dean). After listening to a brief history of the church, and viewing the different objects of historic interest, a move was made to the Schoolroom, where the business meeting was held. At the outset the Rector said it was his painful duty to inform the members that two of their colleagues, Mr. S. Burley and Mr. T. Max, both of the All Saints' tower, Newport, had made the supreme sacrifice in the great war, and moved that a vote of condolence be passed with the relatives. This was done in the usual way, by the members standing in silence.

It was decided to defer arranging the place for the next Monmouth Archdeaconry meeting until the annual meeting, to be held at Llandaff on December 26th next.

Mr. Bolton gave notice that he would at the annual meeting move that a portion of the Association funds be invested in War Loan.

New members were elected from Mathern and Shirenewton, the latter being one more lower to become affiliated to the Association, and it was interesting to learn that the firm which had been entrusted with the adding of another bell, to make a ring of six, had only the day before the meeting completed the work. Tea, very kindly provided by the Rector, was partaken of in the Schoolroom and the best thanks accorded him for his generosity.

On the return to Chepstow, advantage was taken of the permission to ring on the grand ring of eight, these, too, being by Evans, of Chepstow. Various methods were rung, and brought to a close a most enjoyable afternoon's outing and meeting.

DEATH OF A PROMINENT LINCOLN RINGER

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death, after a long and most painful illness, of Mr. John William Watson, of Lincoln, at the age of 56 years. He may be said to have been one of the pioneers of change ringing in Lincoln. We believe he first started his ringing career at St. Botolph's, rightly called the 'nursery' for ringers. In addition to his practical work in change ringing, his interest in the old North Lincolnshire Association, now merged into the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, never flagged, and he held office up to the time of his death. In 1884, when the Association was formed, he was appointed auditor. In 1888 he took over the secretaryship when the membership was 103. In consequence of his business engagements, he found it necessary to resign the post of secretary in 1892, when the members had grown to 233. His valuable services were, however, secured as one of the auditors, a position he retained up to the present time.

No record of his peals has been kept, but he was one of the band who rang a peal of Bob Triples at Sleaford in 1889, being the first Association peal rung by Lincoln ringers. Although he had rung Superlative, we believe his ambition was to secure a peal of London. His energy, however, was more marked in helping others along rather than ringing a number of peals. He was never weary of prompting learners. His genial and untiring efforts in making ringing visitors at home will probably be long remembered by those whose good fortune it was to come in contact with his personality.

As a staunch Churchman, in addition to being a ringer, he leaves behind him a solid foundation of his work, the fruits of which will undoubtedly show themselves in keeping the art alive and progressive.

His colleagues rang the Cathedral bells, half-muffled, on the occasion of his interment on the 19th October. The Cathedral band had had the good fortune to secure his services as a member of the company for some years, and the esteem with which he was held by the Co-operative Society (where he had spent the greater part of his life, holding at the time of his death the responsible position of manager of the drapery department) was shown by several of the committee and managers attending his funeral.

CORPL. F. R. CUNDALE MISSING.

Reported missing on April 16th last, nothing has yet been heard of Corpl. Frank R. Cundale, a member of the St. Matthew's band, Holbeck, Leeds. Before enlisting, in the West Yorks (Leeds Rifles) Regiment in 1914, Mr. Cundale took an active part in ringing in the Leeds district, acting as secretary of the Leeds Association for some time, and discharging the duties in a most efficient manner. It is still hoped that news may be received that Corpl. Cundale is a prisoner of war.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637).—A meeting for twelve bell practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on Nov. 2nd at 3.30 p.m. Meetings at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on Tuesdays, Nov. 5th (nomination of officers), Nov. 12th (handbell practice), Nov. 19th (election of officers and presentation of balance sheet), Nov. 26th (handbell practice), all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, November 2nd. Bells available till sunset. Those intending to be present should inform F. Pitston, District Master, Bridge Street, Saffron Walden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Moorside on Saturday, November 2nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. A good attendance is requested, business important. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., Middleton.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Shoreham on Saturday, November 2nd. Tower open for ringing 2 p.m. till 5; tea and meeting to follow.—A. W. Groves, Hon. Sec., 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The St. James' Society, Bushey.—A memorial service will be held on Sunday, Nov. 3rd, at the Church of St. James', Bushey, Herts, in memory of the fallen heroes, among whom are Pte. Bertram Prewett and Capt. R. Stavert, two prominent ringers of St. James' Church, killed in action. The bells will be rung half-muffled from 5 to 6.20 p.m. All ringers are invited to take part in the service and ringing.—F. A. Smith.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—The annual meeting will be held at Chertsey on Saturday, November 9th. Bells (8) available from 3.15 p.m.; service 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome, but those intending to be present at tea are asked to notify me in good time.—F. J. Shepherd, Assist. Hon. Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Miles Platting, on Saturday, November 9th. Bells available from 3.30 till 7 p.m.; meeting to follow; reports ready. Subscriptions due from all members.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—The annual meeting of the Winchester District will be held at Southampton on Saturday, Nov. 16th. The bells of St. Mary's Church will be available during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided in St. Mary's School at 5.30; the business meeting will be held immediately after. Members intending to be present at the tea should let me know not later than Nov. 14th.—Jas. W. Elkins, District Sec., 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas' Liverpool, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells ready at 3; service at 5.30; meeting at 6.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bengeworth, Evesham, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Service in Church at 4.30 p.m., at which all members attending the meeting are requested to be present. Tea will be provided, and will those who intend being present please let me know by the Tuesday previous (one delivery only)? The bells (6) will be available.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Gt. Hampton, Evesham.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED at once a **SECOND-HAND PEAL OF HANDBELLS** in good condition, not less than 12 nor more than 25; chromatic scale preferred. No reasonable price refused.—Write Rev. G. H. Ensor, St. Stephen's, Balham, S.W.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association have started a fund to help forward the above memorial, and appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

BIRTH.

BARNETT.—On Oct. 15th, at 50, Church Road Bexley Heath, Kent, to Mr. and Mrs. Barnett, junr., a son

WINCHESTER AND SALISBURY GUILDS.

A very successful and pleasant gathering took place at Salisbury on Saturday last, in response to an invitation to a combined practice at St. Martin's, Salisbury. The company present were Messrs. G. Williams, W. H. George, W. T. Tucker (North Stoneham), A. M. Stewart (Wimborne), C. W. Goodenough (Bournemouth), Pte. W. Hart, R.A.M.C. (Brighton), now on Salisbury Plain; Lewis (Bristol), Messrs. F. Romains, Harris, Sanford, Lane, Gaisford, with Gunner S. Macey, R.G.A., home on leave from Scotland (all local men).

The bells were raised at 5.30, and various touches brought round in the standard methods (Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples), one local man ringing his first course of Treble Bob. The bells were lowered at 8 p.m., when a very pleasant hour at the meeting-house brought the proceedings to a close at 9 p.m. As G. Williams was staying the night, a band was secured for a touch for service before returning on his 24 miles cycle ride home on Sunday, and punctually all turned up at the time appointed, and a 504 Grandsire Triples tapped off in what may be termed 'the good old St. Martin's time,' by: Gideon Webb 1, G. Williams (conductor) 2, G. Sanford 3, L. Harris 4, F. W. Romains 5, Gunner S. Macey, R.G.A., 6, R. P. Knight 7, C. Gaisford 8. Thanks are due to the local men for making arrangements and meeting the visitors, although most of them were pretty well at home at St. Martin's belfry. It is hoped in the near future to repeat the visit, if St. Thomas' tower can be secured for a Saturday.

BIGGLESWADE, BEDS.—On Sunday, August 4th, at the Church of St. Andrew's, for evening service, 1918 changes of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. and 12 mins. were rung by the following members: Ed Hussey (Biggleswade) 1, G. Pratt (Clifton) 2, J. Church (Bedford) 3, T. Kendall (Luton) 4, Corpl. G. Bennet, R.E. (Ossett), 5, Dvr. W. Essery, R.E., 6, H. L. Harlow (Bedford), conductor, 7, S. G. Harlow (Bedford) 8. Composed by G. R. Newton.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—The Lancashire Association.—On Sunday evening, August 4th, for the Intercession service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: J. Denner, J. Worthington, J. Welsby, A. Potter, S. Oakes, B. Welsby, J. Potter (conductor), Jas. Denner. Rung on the 20th anniversary of the dedication of the two new trebles to complete the octave.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 399. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1913
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BROOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

ARE THE BELLS READY?

Peace has come appreciably nearer within the last ten days. With Turkey and Austria following Bulgaria out of the war, the final collapse of our chief, and now sole enemy, can be not far distant. It may be a few weeks, it is possible even that it may be a few months, but it is not beyond hope that a few days may see the end of the fighting, for history-making events are following one another in breathless succession. The last month or so has been crowded with military successes in every field of operation, successes which would have justified the ringing of joy bells almost daily. But the nation is restraining its emotions, and the bells are silent until the moment when the people's outburst of joy must come. May we, however, urge ringers to be ready for the great day when peace shall once again reign in the world.

We seriously doubt whether there are anything like complete plans for the ringing of peace bells. Here and there associations or companies may have prepared their schemes, but we hope that the general and district secretaries, where they have not already done so, will at once take steps to organise ringing companies in their areas, so that when Germany, like her allies, is compelled to acknowledge herself beaten, the bells in as many towers as possible in this country may take their part in proclaiming the joyful news. When that day will actually arrive we cannot foretell, but it does not seem possible that it can be long postponed, and we want to see the ringers of this country organised to play their part when the news is flashed over the wires. Subsequently there is certain to be something in the nature of national thanksgiving, and it is in connection with this that we hope the Central Council will take steps to secure, as far as can be, united action in regard to ringing throughout the country.

With the coming of peace, not only will there be a great revival of ringing, but there will doubtless be a rapid resuscitation in the bell-founding trade. Peace memorials are certain to be discussed, and nothing can be more appropriate for this purpose than bells. We always associate bells with peace, and as they are themselves articulate, they can be an effective as well as a constant reminder of the great epoch which will mark the triumph of right over might. Already at Rochester the Cathedral ringers have approached the authorities with a view to celebrating peace by the addition of two more bells to the present eight, and doubtless ringers in other parts of the country will not fail to represent to those concerned the appropriateness of similar action. This and the restorations that will be necessary to existing bells, through the neglect which war has caused, ought to give an early and substantial stimulus to the bell-founding industry.

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Dear Sir,

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

COLNE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 2, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED BROOK	Treble	WILLIAM WILSON	5
JOHN P. FOULDS	2	TOM REDMAN	6
JAMES HOOLDSWORTH	3	HARRY ENTWISTLE	7
RENNIE HARTLEY	4	JOHN WATSON	Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM MALLINSON.

Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last mark of respect to the deceased composer of the above peal; the ringers representing Blackburn, Burnley, Oswaldtwistle and the local band.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 2, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 25½ cwt.

THOMAS J. SALTER	Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD	5
JOHN EATON	2	JOHN WOODBERRY	6
WILLIAM SHORT	3	ROBERT G. KNOWLES	7
CHARLES CAMM	4	CHARLES BEAMAN	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

Rung for the Dedication Festival.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Lewisham District of the Kent County Association was held on Saturday, October 19th, at St. John's, Lewisham High Road, and the weather being favourable, over 50 ringers, including visitors, put in an appearance during the afternoon. The tower was open at 3 p.m., and the bells were kept going to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise Major, by various bands till 6 p.m. Service was then attended, the Association form being used, and a very instructive address was delivered by the Rev. W. F. Jepson (Vicar).

The business meeting followed in the Vestry, the Vicar presiding. J. Turvey, of Will Hall, Eltham, was elected a member. Christ Church, Brith, was selected for the next meeting, and, failing there, St. Luke's, Bromley Common, on the third Saturday in January, 1919.

The District Secretary then gave his annual report, which was adopted. Messrs. T. Groombridge, senr., and W. J. Jeffries were re-elected district secretary and representative, both thanking the members for re-election.

Mr F. W. Richardson next brought forward the question of raising and falling bells, either singly, in chords, or in peal, and after discussion, in which Mr. F. Wilford (Northants) took part, the representative was asked to bring the same before the Central Committee, and try to get the hon. secretary to bring the matter before the ringers in general.

The Vicar, who had to leave, then gave the members a hearty welcome to St. John's. He was sorry they could not entertain the members to tea as before, owing to the difficulty in catering. — A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, his address, and for presiding. — Mr. Jeffries then took the chair, and it was resolved that the allowance for tea by the Association be sent to the hon. secretary as a donation to 'The War Memorial Fund.'

Mr. J. Law put a room at the Whidbourne Institute at the disposal of the members, and a pleasant hour was spent with the hand-bells.

THE LATE MR. J. W. WATSON.

On Saturday week, at St. James' Church, Grimsby, 1050 changes of Grandsire Triples were rung by: J. W. Seamer (conductor) 1. P. Pigg 2. A. W. Long 3. W. H. Heyhoe 4. A. S. Hill 5. Sergt. R. Long (Staffordshire) 6. C. Taylor 7. B. Brown 8. Also a quarter-peal, with A. B. Shepherd in place of A. S. Hill. These touches were rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. J. W. Watson, of Lincoln, one of the founders of the Association, in 1894, and at one time secretary, also for the last twenty-seven years hon. auditor, who died Tuesday, October 15th. On Sunday, October 27th, for Divine service, 504 Grandsire Triples: F. T. Howden 1. J. W. Seamer 2. P. Pigg 3. Sergt. R. Long (8th Stafford) 4. W. H. Heyhoe 5. A. S. Hill 6. C. Taylor (conductor) 7. J. Lamb 8. Also 168, with A. B. Shepherd and Pte. Goodrich (Coldstream Guards) taking part.

CAPTAIN R. E. STAVERT.**BUSHEY'S DOUBLE LOSS.**

The double loss, which the Bushey band has sustained by the deaths of Bertram Prewett and Robert E. Stavert, is a blow which few ringing companies have received. Of Bertram Prewett we wrote last week.

Captain Robert E. Stavert, although not so widely known as his colleague, was nevertheless a ringer of considerable accomplishments. He commenced his ringing at Bushey in 1903, and had been a prominent member ever since. He had rung about 150 peals altogether, ringing from Grandsire Triples to Bristol Surprise and Stedman Cinques. He was a safe and capable ringer, and greatly respected by all the band.

The deceased joined up in the ranks in the early days of the war, and after being wounded came home and obtained a commission. He fell in action in France on August 25th.

He leaves a young widow and one child, with whom the greatest sympathy is felt, also for his widowed mother, this being the third son she has lost in the war, while a fourth was killed in a railway accident in 1909, at Willesden Junction. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung at Bushey on Saturday, October 28th, with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect by a mixed band from Bushey and Watford. R.I.P.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, CLUN.**A PEACE PEAL TO BE RUNG.**

The fourth annual meeting of St. George's Society, Clun, Salop, was held in the ringing room of St. George's Church, on October 31st, when the Rev. R. D. Machen (president) presided over a good attendance of members and probationers.

Mr. W. Mead (hon. secretary and head ringer) presented the report and balance sheet. He said, although they continued to make progress, if only slowly, they had for another year of the war managed to keep the bells going regularly for services. The winter practices had, however, again been stopped by D.O.R.A. Their funds once more showed a small increase, they having begun the year with a balance in hand of 31s., and ended with 33s. At the last annual meeting they decided to procure a set of handbells, and they had been very fortunate in getting a very musical set of 13, size 20 in E flat, by Mears, from a noted ringer, Mr. W. Newell, of Reading. These had been paid for by subscriptions, and they were now indebted to one of their members, Mr. Rd. Morris, for the neat stand on which the bells hung. It was made from part of an old oak bell wheel, which must be over 250 years old. The stand was quite an ornament to the room. During the year they had lost one of their probationers, the Rev. F. S. Dutton, who had taken up duties in the Oxford Diocese, and would now have greater opportunities of making progress. Of their members on active service they had to mourn the loss of Sergt. J. W. Lewis, M.M., to whose memory they rang a half-muffled quarter-peal. Two others, Second-Lieut. James Lunn and Pte. Eric Morris, had been taken prisoners of war, and were in Germany. Sergt. E. E. Griffith has been promoted to Second-Lieutenant, and has joined the Flying Corps. The members had again paid their Guild subscriptions, and sent them Christmas parcels. With regard to the Diocesan Guild he had nothing to report. No meeting had been held this year or any report published. They had paid the subscriptions regularly, and so far had received very little in return. He thought it was a great mistake for the Association to get out of touch with the members, which meant greater efforts to get the organisation going again after the war.

The Vicar, in proposing that the report and balance sheet be accepted, said they were again fortunate in making progress all round. He would ask the Rev. H. J. Scott to again act as chaplain.

Mr. G. W. Roberts proposed, and Miss H. Cooke seconded, that Mr. W. Mead be re-elected hon. secretary and head ringer for the fifth year, which was carried unanimously.—The Hon. Secretary, in reply, said he thought the honour should go round a little, but he quite appreciated the honour done him.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Rd. Morris for the time he had given in making the stand for the handbells.—It was again decided to pay the Guild subscriptions of the three members on active service, and to send them Christmas parcels.

The Hon. Secretary brought forward the question of a 'Peace Peal,' which would be the first on the bells. He said he hoped they were now in sight of peace, and the time was near for making arrangements for the peal which should be rung as soon as possible after the declaration of peace. He proposed that a band of competent change ringers be invited to attempt the peal, and that they be entertained during their visit, the band to arrive as early as possible in the evening previous, and to ring a short touch, the peal to be attempted the next morning after a short special service in the church open to all.—This was seconded by the Vicar, and carried unanimously, the arrangements to be left in the hands of the hon. secretary.

It was decided that a donation should be given from the fund, to Mr. J. S. Goldsmith's testimonial, and that practices be resumed on the handbells, as tower bell practice was prohibited. This closed a successful meeting.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**WESTERN DIVISION MEETING.**

On Saturday last, a Western Division meeting was held at Shoreham, members attending from Brighton (St. Peter's), Steyning, Warham, Slinfold, Henfield, Angmering, and Hove, together with members of the local band, and several soldiers from the Eastern Command Depot, Shoreham. Touches of Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Treble Bob and Double Norwich were rung during the afternoon and evening. At five o'clock, the members adjourned to the Town Hall, where about 20 sat down to a very substantial tea.

At the business meeting, which followed, a welcome was extended to the visitors by Mr. B. Challen, on behalf of the Vicar.—Mr. E. Merritt was voted to the chair, and it was proposed to hold the next meeting some time in March.

The testimonial to Mr. J. S. Goldsmith was laid before the meeting, which expressed sympathy with him in his long illness, and resolved that the secretary should send the subscription list to each tower in the district.

Mr. Markwell proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. C. M. A. Tower) for the use of the bells, and to Mr. E. Merritt for presiding, and this was heartily accorded.

OXFORD GUILD.

Fourteen ringers enjoyed two hours' practice on the ring of ten at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday afternoon, October 26th. The longest touch was 468 Grandsire Caters: Miss D. Feltham 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, T. S. Smith (Slough) 3, W. Henley 4, Miss G. Bateman 5, W. Lawrence 6, J. Pratt (conductor) 7, W. Honor 8, H. H. Chandler 9, F. Leader 10. This was the first touch in the method by the ringer of the third. Both Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung. Miss Nora Williams and C. Edwards (West Ealing) taking part. After the ringing four 'mere men' invited the ladies to tea, and those who were able to stay accepted: Miss F. Gudgeon presided, and the tea was rendered the more enjoyable because the good hostess supplied the party with hot buttered toast, and one of the fair sex had brought a box of sugar, which proved to be 'fuller' than was expected.

IN MEMORY OF THE FALLEN.

An impressive ceremony took place at Weybridge, on Saturday last (All Souls' Day), when a special commemoration service was held in memory of the Weybridge men who had given their lives for their country. The proceedings commenced at 6.45 p.m., when a selected party of the Winchester Guild accomplished a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 52 mins., with the bells half-muffled: J. Emery (Hersham) 1, C. Raddon (Devizes) 2, A. Woodrow (Hersham) 3, F. J. Shepherd (conductor), Hersham, 4, D. A. Rowe (Weybridge) 5, W. Shepherd (Hersham) 6, I. Emery (Bromley) 7, W. C. Anstead (Weybridge) 8. Afterwards further ringing took place in Major and Triple Methods, ringers from Chertsey augmenting the party. The church was draped with Union Jacks, and a bugle band sounded the 'Last Post.'

WHERE BELLS ARE PLENTIFUL.**To the Editor.**

Dear Sir.—On a recent Sunday evening, before ascending the tower at Twyford to ring, I heard two other peals of bells ringing out, and the thought came to my mind what a large number of peals there were in this country district. Taking Twyford as a centre there are three other peals of eight in a radius of two miles, and if it extended to five miles there are one peal of ten bells, ten peals of eight, three peals of six, and one of five. I should like to know if any other parish is similarly placed.—Yours faithfully,

Church Street, Twyford, Berks.

FREDERICK DENTRY.

DEATH OF ANOTHER ISLEWORTH RINGER.

The Isleworth band have to record the death of another ringer, Pte. W. J. New, 2/5th Durham Light Infantry, who died at the Salonica Hospital on the 19th October, of pneumonia. The deceased was the son of the late Mr. New, for many years a ringer at the Parish Church of Leigh, Dorset, who died last year. Pte. New was a very keen ringer, and a good conductor, and had rung several peals of Minor, Grandsire, Oxford Bob, and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob, and Treble Bob Major. He had conducted a peal of Stedman Triples, and was also an expert at handbell ringing, his last performance in this direction being to ring 3—4 and conduct a 10½ six-score of Grandsire Doubles, each six-score called differently, just previously to being called up.

The deceased joined the colours in August, 1916, and was married shortly after. He was immediately sent to Salonica, where he has remained ever since. The sympathy of the ringers will go to the bereaved widow and to his aged mother.

On Sunday last, the bells of Isleworth were rung, muffled, for mourning and evening service. In the morning an attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but this came to grief after ringing about 40 minutes.

TREBLE BOB AND THE LAW OF SUCCESSION

BY J. A. TROLLOPE.

In a recent article in 'The Ringing World,' I made the statement that a Treble Bob Method which breaks the law of regular succession will probably be a better method than one that keeps it. Mr. Davies, in words which are not over courteous, challenges me to give my reasons.

In the first place you must remember that there is no absolute standard by which you can judge the goodness of a method. There are many qualities which go to make a good method, and some of them are contradictory, so that different opinions may reasonably be held by different people about the same method. I arrived at the conclusion in question after writing out and examining many hundreds of methods, and that is by far the best way in which to test the truth of my statement. Obviously, of course, I cannot give this reason in an article. Mr. Davies must, if he wants to, go to the trouble of writing out and examining the methods for himself. But there are two or three qualities which are recognised by all as necessary for a good method, and I can show how the peculiar nature of Treble Bob generally affects them. They are, first, the keeping of the tenors well together; second, the keeping of the second away from the tenor in Major peals; and, third, the amount of interest the method gives in actual ringing.

The first two qualities really amount to the same thing. If you keep 7-8 always together behind you necessarily also keep 8-6 together behind in the Plain Course, and if you keep 8-6 together behind in the Plain Course you probably will be able to keep 8-2 apart in your peals. If, however, you have 8-4 behind in the Plain Course you will not be able to call a bob R without getting 8-2's.

The keeping of the tenor together depends entirely on how much you break the coursing order in the Plain Course. On eight bells there are only sixteen rows in the same coursing order, and only 112 rows in which the seven working bells are in the same coursing order. Therefore, since a course of Treble Bob Major consists of 224 rows, you must break the coursing order to some extent; that is, you must part the tenors to some extent.

If you kept the coursing order unbroken you would get the following—

12345678
21436587
12345678
21436587
24163857
42618375
24163857
42618375
etc.

You have every two rows repeated, which, of course, will not do. To clear this falseness you must have other work. Now it is obvious that if you break the coursing order and regain it at once your tenors will not be parted so widely as they would be if you break it and regain it at some distance. Just compare Oxford and Kent. In the first you break the coursing order in the following way—

12345678
21436587
12345678
21436587

You do not regain the coursing order till the end of the lead. As a result you get the tenors widely parted for two leads, and inevitable 8-2's in your peal.

In Kent you have instead the following—

12345678
21436587
12345678
21436587

That is, you break and regain the coursing order at once, and do away with the parting of the tenors.

But this involves the breaking of the regular succession, for the simple reason that if you use back stroke places only you have not room enough to break and regain the coursing order at once.

This is a simple illustration, and you will find that in practically all Treble Bob Methods the same thing occurs. Take another and rather more complex example.

12345678
21436587
12345678
21436587
24135678
42316587
24135678
42315768
24351788
23457168

Here you have 4th's and 3rd's made by the third, and 4th's and 3rd's made by the fifth. These places are the ones which produce the lead end, and except for changing places with the treble, the working bells are retained in the same coursing order. But we still have some repetition of rows, and we must get rid of this falseness. To do this we must break and regain the coursing order, and, again, if we do the whole

operation at once we shall find that we must break the regular succession. The best way to do it is to substitute the following for the

dodging of the four hind bells—

5678		5678
6587		6587
6857	for	5678
8675		6587
6857		5678
6587		6587

The coursing order of these four bells is retained among themselves, and, therefore, any wide and prolonged parting of the tenors is prevented.

The third reason for my statement is that methods which break the regular succession will probably be more interesting to ring. This is not an absolute statement. There are many exceptions. But the general experience of advanced ringers will bear me out when I say that methods like London and Bristol, which have hand stroke places and backward as well as forward hunting, are in practice more interesting than those which have sampler work. If you adopt Mr. Davies' standard you rule out all these as illegitimate.

In the Field, Sept. 29th, 1918.

WEDDING BELLS.

At the Parish Church of St. Woollos, Newport, Mon., on Monday, Oct. 21st, one of those little incidents occurred, which so aptly show the good feeling which exists among ringers generally for their fellow members. It was the occasion of the wedding of the eldest daughter (Helen) of that genial old ringer, Mr. John Butler, to Private W. C. Fry, A.S.C., home on leave from France. All the ringing members assembled, and after congratulations to the happy couple, a splendid quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by Mr. John Butler. The ringers stood as follows: John Goddard 1, F. Atwell 2, Tom Butler 3, W. Phillips 4, A. Brooks 5, John Butler 6, J. Pippin 7, F. Stansbury 8.

ACCIDENT TO MR. JAMES GEORGE.

Mr. James George, of Birmingham, met with an accident last week. While walking on Tuesday evening he fell on his face, and was picked up unconscious, with slight injury to his chin and left leg. His many friends throughout the country will be glad to hear that he is recovering satisfactorily.

ROCHESTER'S PEACE MEMORIAL PROPOSALS

Rochester Cathedral ringers have petitioned the Dean and Chapter to sanction the addition of two new bells to the existing peal of eight to perpetuate the declaration of peace when it takes place.

RING YOUR BELLS.

The following lines were written by Mr. W. H. Edwards on the occasion of a Chester Guild meeting at Birkenhead:—

Ring out your music, sweet old bells.
Ring out aloud! Your message tells!
Ring out your summons far and free
That calls men forth to hear the Word.
Yours is a service for the Lord,
Yours is a sacred ministry.

Up there within the belfry's tower
You call to prayer, you tell the hour,
And bid the negligent to pray.
Fling forth your message full and clear
That all within your sound may hear
And wake to know 'tis Sabbath Day.

Your humble spirit God must please,
Ye cry aloud, yet no one sees
Within your belfry witness there.
May God who sees you make you strong
To pull and make a loud ding dong,
And bring folk to the house of prayer.

Thus witnesses for God you be
Shut in where only He may see.
You humbly ring and seek not fame.
In God's own day will be revealed
Much that from us is now concealed
Of ministry done in His Name.

God bless the music of the bells
As in the air the echo swells,
And every ringer may He bless.
Good ringers, pull and pull away,
With every effort humbly pray
Your zeal may tend to righteousness.

HEADCORN, KENT.—On August 23rd, at the Church of SS Peter and Paul, an attempted peal of Grandsire Triples failed, after one hour's ringing: C. Triber 1, F. Hodgkin 2, E. J. Pannett 3, J. Arthurs 4, E. B. Crowder 5, F. Fairhead 6, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 7, O. Hodges 8.

AN ENJOYABLE OUTING.

The Wycombe ringers, by request of some 'brother strings,' arranged a successful ringing meeting at the historic Church of Bray on a recent Saturday. It was thought that, with the decreasing light, these meetings would have to be postponed; but as so much appreciation is evinced by members of towers whose numbers are depleted for the Empire's needs, a few more gatherings are being arranged. For Saturday's meeting the order was—by train to Maidenhead, and 'shanks' to Bray. The walk, in a typical October afternoon, with the sun glinting on the autumnal foliage, causing ever-changing hues, was enjoyed to the full. On reaching the Church, the party were welcomed by the Vicar of the parish, and the foreman of the local band (Mr. Sears), who had everything in good trim. The proceedings commenced with 120 of Grandsire Doubles, in which three of the lady ringers took part, followed by a similar number of Stedman Doubles. A well-struck touch of Kent Treble Bob was the next item, followed by touches of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob Minor. The 'go' of the bells was excellent, and credit is due to those responsible for their good condition. The conductors were Messrs. Jas. W. Wilkins, Ralph Coles, William Henley, George H. Gutteridge, and Geo. Twitchen. A tour of the old Church, with its striking display of stained glass windows, and the massive tower, etc., proved highly interesting. After a well-struck touch of Oxford Bob the bells were lowered in peal. Here came a pleasant surprise—the ringers were invited to tea by Mrs. Woodhouse, of 'Aleya.' Everything possible was done by the charming hostess for the comfort of the visitors, and the meal proved most enjoyable. The antics of a fine cockatoo, 82 years of age, were very droll, and caused some fun. The appreciation of the visitors was expressed by the Wycombe secretary, and responded to with a real good ringers' 'Ave,' and the proceedings terminated.

On Monday afternoon, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Hester Reynolds and Mr. John Eyre, at the Parish Church, Wycombe, a well-struck quarter-peal of Stedman Caters was successfully accomplished on the ten bells. The number of changes was 1,265, and Mr. J. W. Wilkins efficiently conducted. The ringers were as follows: Wm. Henley, treble; Jas. W. Wilkins, 2; Wm. T. Horne, 3; Francis K. Biggs, 4; George H. Gutteridge, 5; George Twitchen, 6; Frank Boreham, 7; Edward Markham, 8; Reg.-Sgt.-Major G. White, 9; Ralph Coles, tenor. Messrs. Wm. Henley and G. H. Gutteridge hail from Stoke Poges and Fulmer, the others being local men.

SILVER WEDDING.

On Oct. 7th, 1893, Francis Edward Dawe of London and Miss Elizabeth Wright, of Tenbury, Worcestershire, were married at St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street, London, by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. At that time Mr. Dawe was in office as Master of the College Youths, and so far as living memory went, he was the first Master to be married during his term of office. After the ceremony the twelve bells of St. Bride's were rung and 'fred,' and in the evening at the same bellry a peal of 5019 Stedman Cinques was rung in honour of the event, conducted by James Pettitt.

Mr. and Mrs. Dawe have thus just celebrated their silver wedding, and we are sure all ringers will join in wishing them continued health and happiness. Doubtless, but for the present restrictions on ringing and the difficulty of getting a band, a peal would have been rung to commemorate the auspicious event.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Monday, August 5th, 720 Bob Minor: R. Satterthwaite 1. Miss E. M. Stuart 2. W. Robinson (conductor) 3. J. Holme 4. T. Stuart 5. J. Burrows 6. Also 120 Kent Treble Bob, first in the method for Miss E. M. Stuart. Also 168 Grandsire Triples: R. Satterthwaite 1. J. Braithwaite 2. W. Atkinson 3. J. Holme 4. B. Walker (conductor) 5. J. Burrows 6. T. Stuart 7. W. Salmon 8. Also 462 Grandsire Triples: W. Collins 1. Miss E. M. Stuart 2. W. Robinson 3. J. Holme 4. W. Atkinson (conductor) 5. T. Stuart 6. J. Burrows 7. R. Satterthwaite 8.

LINCS.—On August 6th, at Fleet, two 360's of Plain Bob and one 360 of Oxford Bob: 1 F. Porter, 2 Rev. C. J. Sturton 3. H. V. Fletcher 4. H. C. Watts 5. G. Trues 6. J. B. Hallifax (conductor) 7.—On August 7th, at Gedney, Lincs, one 720 of Oxford Bob. The ringers standing as above, and two 360's of Plain Bob, with W. Hannah ringing the 3rd, and J. Eltridge the 2nd. The above ringing was arranged by Mr. Hallifax for the Rev. C. J. Sturton, who was paying a short visit to his old parish.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.—Framland Society.—On Saturday, August 10th, at St. Mary's, Bottesford, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: T. Rawdin 1. S. Proctor 2. A. Parker 3. E. Nield 4. F. Turner 5. M. Bend 6. J. W. Kirtan (conductor) 7. W. Thorpe 8. Also 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: E. Snookes, R.A.F., 1. S. Proctor 2. F. Turner 3. W. Thorpe 4. J. W. Kirtan 5. M. Bend 6. A. Mackeers (conductor) 7. F. Spencer 8. The visitors wish to thank the Rector for the use of the bells.

ACTON.—On August 25th, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 45 mins.: J. W. Fenn (Acton) 1. A. Jones (Fulham) 2. A. Disceens (Sunbury) 3. C. Dean (Croydon) 4. A. W. Darlington (Putney) 5. G. R. Fardon (Shepherd's Bush) 6. F. Skevington (Hammersmith), conductor. 7. A. Harding (Ealing) 8.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Newbury to-morrow (Nov. 9th). Evensong 4.30; tea and business meeting at 5.—E. M. Thorp, Branch Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—The annual meeting will be held at Chertsey on Saturday, November 9th. Bells (8) available from 3.15 p.m.; service 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome, but those intending to be present at tea are asked to notify me in good time.—F. J. Shepherd, Assist. Hon. Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Miles Platting, on Saturday, November 9th. Bells available from 3.30 till 7 p.m.; meeting to follow; reports ready. Subscriptions due from all members.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637).—Meetings at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on Tuesdays, Nov. 12th (handbell practice), Nov. 19th (election of officers and presentation of balance sheet), Nov. 26th (handbell practice), all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—The annual meeting of the Winchester District will be held at Southampton on Saturday, Nov. 16th. The bells of St. Mary's Church will be available during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided in St. Mary's School at 5.30; the business meeting will be held immediately after. Members intending to be present at the tea should let me know not later than Nov. 14th.—Jas. W. Elkins, District Sec., 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells ready at 3; service at 5.30; meeting at 6.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bengeworth, Evesham, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Service in Church at 4.30 p.m., at which all members attending the meeting are requested to be present. Tea will be provided, and will those who intend being present please let me know by the Tuesday previous (one delivery only)? The bells (6) will be available.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Gt. Hampton, Evesham.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells (8 and 10) available from 3 p.m. Service in Holy Trinity Church at 5.30 p.m. Preacher: Rev. P. Cunningham, Rector of Cranleigh. Tea at 6.15 will be provided free for members who advise me by Nov. 12th.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at High Halden, Kent, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells (6) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Abbots Leigh on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m.; tea and business meeting to follow.—W. Stafford, Hon. Sec, 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

LADIES' GUILD.—A practice meeting will be held at Desborough (Northants) on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells available from 2.30. Those intending to be present are requested to communicate with Mr. Fred Kilburn, 14, Victoria Street, Desborough, Market Harborough, who will inform them whether tea can be provided. It is hoped that arrangements can also be made for ringing at Rothwell from 2-3.30, and Rushton from 6-7.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held (by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev. G. H. Vincent) at St. Andrews', Hillingdon, on Saturday, Nov. 23rd. Bells available from 3 till 4, and from 4.30 till dusk. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Ringing to cease at 7; meeting after ringing hours. Subscriptions are now due. Reports to hand. A good attendance is requested.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at Leek on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Members are requested to bring their own rations owing to the Food Control.—J. Johnson, Hon. Sec., 51, Dunrobin Street, Longton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Burnley, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED.—SECOND-HAND SET OF 8 HANDBELLS; state price.—Verey, Streatley, near Reading.

WANTED at once a SECOND-HAND PEAL OF HANDBELLS in good condition, not less than 12 nor more than 25; chromatic scale preferred. No reasonable price refused.—Write Rev. G. H. Ensor, St. Stephen's, Balham, S.W.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association have started a fund to help forward the above memorial, and appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 400. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

PEACE.

The world to-day is a world of thankful hearts. The evil spell cast over the globe for more than four years by the spectre of war has been broken. Peace has been restored. To the people of this country and their Allies the end of the fighting brings unspeakable relief, for after years of alternating hopes and fears, the great cause, for which their sons have fought, bled and died, has come triumphant out of the vortex into which it was hurled by the pride and arrogance of a small coterie of hell-inspired men. Small wonder that, in this hour when the enemy has been finally overthrown, the people should rejoice, for they know that the sacrifices they have made have not been in vain. But the rejoicing has not been due to exultation over a beaten enemy, rather has it been from sheer thanksgiving that an end has come to all the strain which war has imposed, and to the sacrifice of precious lives.

In this spirit the bells have rung out from end to end of the land, carrying the good tidings and celebrating the return of peace, which, everyone will devoutly join the Prime Minister in wishing, will mean the end of all wars. The bells in London set the tune on Monday, and within a few hours there was scarcely a tower in the country, where a hand could be mustered, from which the bells were not ringing out the great message. In due time there will be an organised national thanksgiving, and then the bells will speak forth again in unison and in keeping with the spirit of the nation. In the interval we may expect that many peals will be rung in celebration of the victory of the Allied arms and of the conclusion of the fighting. Until peace is signed we cannot, of course, say that the war is over, but the terms of the armistice have drawn the teeth of the dragon, even if the internal affairs of Germany and Austria-Hungary did not put any further fighting on their part out of the question. So the bells may continue to ring and to make joy at the termination of the war. No word is needed to urge ringers to make use of this opportunity, for after the long period of restraint, in which the silence of the bells has been as much a reflection of the quiet determination of the people, as their voices now interpret the spirit of joy which fills the nation, the bells will be gladly welcomed.

But while they proclaim victory and peace, let us not forget the men who have given their lives to make this victory and peace possible. Hundreds of thousands of the finest manhood of this Empire lie beneath the soil of foreign lands—the price which war has claimed. Among them are a large number of ringers, and when we ring, those absent faces are bound to come before our minds. Our homage is eternally due to them, and nothing we can do can repay the debt we owe to them.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, November 9, 1918, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE ... Treble	*ARTHUR MASON ... 5
WILLIAM PYE ... 2	FREDERICK EDWARDS ... 6
ISAAC G. SHADE ... 3	EDWARD WHITBREAD ... 7
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 4	FRANCIS A. SMITH ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Bertram Prewett and Robert E. Stavert, both of whom fell in France and were much respected members of the above Associations and the Bushey band. The above company represents seven different towers and five counties.

* First peal in the method.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, November 9, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSCRIPTION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

WILLIAM ROCK SMALL ... Treble	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... 5
JOHN BASS ... 2	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 6
*THOMAS CATTELL ... 3	WILLIAM FISHER ... 7
JESSE SCREEN ... 4	HARRY SMITH ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Private Geoffrey Rowley, a member of the local band, who died from wounds in France.

* First peal of Stedman.

SIX BELL PEAL.

FITZHEAD, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 10, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

A. C. HARVEY ... Treble	F. POLE ... 4
G. JONES ... 2	A. TOUT ... 5
W. CLAPP ... 3	W. SEALEY ... Tenor

Conducted by A. TOUT.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE BRANCH MEETING.

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch was held at Moor-side, on Saturday last, when 16 members attended from Moorside, Oldham, Glodwick, Milnrow, Balkerstone, Middleton, Ashton (St. Peter's) and Hyde. During the afternoon, touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble and Plain Bob Major were rung.

The business meeting was presided over by the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Garnett, M.A.), who gave the ringers a hearty welcome to Moorside.

It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Oldham Parish Church on Saturday, December 7th. The Rev. J. H. Garnett, M.A., was elected an honorary life member of the Association, and a vote of thanks was accorded him for the use of the tower and bells. Thanks were also given to the local ringers for having everything in readiness, and to the Vicar for presiding, and also for the keen interest he had taken in the ringing, he having been with the ringers throughout the afternoon.

LONG STANTON RINGER'S DEATH.

The Long Stanton company have to mourn the loss of their vice-captain, Albert Cook, who died of pneumonia on Nov. 4th. Though not a great change ringer—he never advanced beyond Bob Minor—the deceased was a good striker, a very regular attendant at the Sunday ringing and services, and of that cheerful and obliging nature which is always associated with the best type of ringer. Mr. Cook had been lately deputising as captain for his brother, Signaller C. W. Cook, who is at present a prisoner in Germany, and who it is hoped will soon be back in his place in the belfry at Long Stanton.

Afterwards, 360 of Bob Minor, by: A. Rackham 1, J. H. Rackham 2, A. Rackham 3, J. I. Dorman 4, R. Stevens 5, S. T. Rackham (conductor) 6.

LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Pray let me thank Mr. Smith for his letter. Though I do not agree with him, and am not convinced by his arguments, it is yet a pleasure to argue with one who, like him, writes in an agreeable and reasonable spirit.

No one admits more freely than I do that Plain Bob and Grandsire have, not an identical, but a similar feature in common, viz., that the working bells, each in its turn, work round the hunt or hunts. I say that this feature is similar, not identical, in the two, for in the one case the hunt is single, and in the other it is binary. Moreover, in the one case the feature is caused by the making of 2nds, whereas in the other it is effected by the making of 3rds. Here the similarity ends. I do not agree that we can compare Grandsire with Plain Bob by striking out the bell in the hunt, for the simple reason that it is then Grandsire no longer. Even if Mr. Smith's comparison could prove that the 3rds in Grandsire is the equivalent of the 2nds in Plain Bob, it would not prove that it is the lead-link. The fact is that it is not the lead-link, and nothing can prove it to be so. In Plain Bob it so happens that the 2nds (or 4ths) does form the lead-link. In the matter of the P link we find a point, not of similarity, but of contrast, between Plain Bob and Grandsire, in that in the former the lead-linking place is as near to the front as possible, while in Grandsire it is behind, i.e., as far from the front as possible.

Mr. Smith then argues that, because the 3rds in Grandsire prevents the repetition of rows, it must be the lead-link. Not to mention the good reasons given in this letter and in my last for rejecting this view, it seems to me to be untenable for the additional reason that, were it valid, any place made in the interior of a lead to prevent repetition might be claimed as a lead-link, which is obviously absurd. I can only repeat that the (second) 3rds in Grandsire is inside the lead, and cannot, therefore, be a lead-link.

Just as I refuse to regard the features of Plain Bob, so do I likewise decline to regard any features of Double Norwich Caters as affording any model or any argument to any question relating to Grandsire. In this connection let me endorse and amplify one of the remarks in my last letter, viz., that any method on any number of bells so far as regards its structure has the right to consider all its features as being inalienably its own without respect to any suppositions as to its history or derivation, and stands or falls entirely on its own merits. No method on any number of bells can supply any compelling argument for any other method on the same or any other number of bells.

Against Mr. Smith's employment of my remark on page 152 of 'Grandsire' (Ed. 1893), I think I have just cause of complaint. It is certainly out of keeping with the perfect fairness of the rest of his letter. When I there say that 'where there are no plain leads the method ceases to be Grandsire,' I should have thought that it was evident to the poorest capacity that what I mean is not that Grandsire bobs are not Grandsire, but that as it is usual to regard the plain lead as the normal one, and the bob as the exceptional one and that if plain leads are to form a small minority we should have to think of reversing this idea, and of ringing the bobs in silence and 'calling' the plain leads i.e., a peal with a call in every lead is not Grandsire such as we usually practise it. It is a pity that Mr. Smith allowed himself to adopt such an argument. I adhere to my remarks on the absence of symmetry in Grandsire.

Coming now to Mr. Trollope's letter, and passing over the sneer which apparently he could not repress in his fourth line, I am glad to acknowledge that it is an attempt from his point of view to supply some of the 'simple reasons' for which I asked. But his point of view is far removed from mine, and his reasons, though doubtless recommending themselves to those who view things as he does, have, I regret to say, but slight cogency for me. To me law and order come first, whereas it is abundantly evident that though Mr. Trollope is quite ready to give a hearing to law and order when they do not interfere with questions of 'music' and 'interest in ringing,' and so forth, he has no qualms in giving them the go-by when it suits his taste. In his letter he wisely confines himself to the case of Kent Treble Bob, but I should like to ask, 'What about the Surprise Methods in which the tenors are for nine-tenths of the time "all over the shop"?' My chief complaint against the report of the Legitimate Methods Committee is that it is virtually not a report on 'Legitimate' Methods at all, but on favourite methods, to prop up which there was invented the craze of maintenance of coursing order and Plain Bob lead-ends. It was a report based not on law, but on opportunism. No one appreciates 'interesting work' in a method more than I do, but interest or no interest, music or no music, all charm is gone if I have to make places at back and hand in an even-bell method.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

[Other letters to the Editor are unavoidably held over.—Ed.]

DEATH OF A LADY RINGER.

The sympathy of the whole Exercise will go out to Mr. and Mrs. W. E. White, of Cotgrave, Notts, in the loss of their second daughter, Dorothy, who succumbed on Saturday last to pneumonia, following influenza. Miss White, who was 22 years of age, was, like her father, a ringer at All Saints' Church, Cotgrave, and she was a member of the Midland Counties Association, of which Mr. White has been hon. secretary for many years.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

SPECIAL SUNDAY RINGING AT CLIFTON.

The intuition of the Rev. and Hon. W. Chetwynd, Vicar of Clifton, stood him in good stead, when in anticipation of the proclamation of the armistice, he appointed Sunday last for special ringing upon the beautiful peal of six bells at his parish church. The negotiations, however, were not quite complete, so nothing was presumed in the way of celebrating the event, but the worthy Vicar acquiesced in the desire of the ringers to ring for service, and to enable the parishioners to hear their bells as nearly to perfection as possible on a Sunday. It was apparent to us, nevertheless, as we scuttled across the stretch of meadows, which bring the church into view with the tower peeping above the tree tops, that we were on an errand to give thanks that our fetters were about to be loosened for all time. In sporting parlance, the Rev. Hon. W. Chetwynd must have 'visited the stable,' when he picked 'November 10th' as a sure thing, and we as time went on could not refrain from rubbing our hands with glee and exchanging confidences that we should ring those bells as they had never been rung before. We were elated at the prospect that the occasion was an appropriate one, and proud that it was to be a great occasion and of special interest to us and to the Vicar himself.

The company was capable of undertaking any programme formulated, and included Mr. A. B. Moss (Chilwell), a most delightful man amongst ringers, and gifted with much enthusiasm; Mr. W. J. Bowden (Edmonton), Mr. F. R. Scott (Bedford), Mr. F. S. Price (Beeston), William Clifford (Beeston), W. J. Sevier (Nottingham), W. C. Hunt (Beeston). After being made very welcome, the following rang a well-struck 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 minutes: W. J. Sevier 1, F. R. Scott 2, W. J. Bowden 3, Wm. Clifford, junr., 4, A. B. Moss 5, and W. C. Hunt (conductor) 6. It should be noted that all the performers are munition workers and employed in the same factory, where the honourable Rector has powerful influence and holds high office.

Subsequently for evensong two courses of Oxford Treble Bob were rung, those taking part including Mr. F. S. Price, who conducted.

The Vicar gave an admirable sermon, taking for his text: 'Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's.'

At the close of the service the ringers again adjourned to the belfry, and rang 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: W. J. Sevier 1, A. B. Moss 2, W. J. Bowden 3, Wm. Clifford, junr., 4, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 5, F. S. Price 6. This latter may be placed on record as of importance and great interest, as we were informed during the ringing, and that we were actually ringing the joy bells of peace. It was a piece of good news that made our hearts palpitate with joy.

After service we were invited to the Vicarage for refreshments, which we gladly accepted, and the visit ended with a grateful and fitting farewell.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT BUSHEY.

At the Church of St. James Bushey, on Sunday evening, Nov. 3rd, a memorial service was held for the fallen heroes of the war, among whom are Rifeman Bertram Prewett (Master of the Bushey Society), and Capt. R. E. Staver. The following ringers attended: Messrs. G. R. Lucas and O. L. Twist (Walthamstow), Mr. A. Mason (Wembley), Messrs. C. Leman, C. Dell, A. French (Oxhey), Mr. G. Hughes (Stammore), Messrs. W. J. Oakley, H. Prior, W. Whitehead, T. Whitehead, F. Smith, and F. Edwards. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, with the bells half-muffled, before the service, the conducting being shared between Mr. Lucas and Mr. Mason.

The ringers expressed their deepest sympathy with the widow and aged parents of Rifeman Prewett, and the widow and relatives of Capt. Staver.

On Saturday last, as recorded in another column, a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Bushey.

DEATH OF BASINGSTOKE DISTRICT SECRETARY.

We deeply regret to record the death of the Rev. F. G. Hume, Rector of Oakley, near Basingstoke, and for a good many years hon. secretary of the Basingstoke District of the Winchester Guild. The Rev. F. G. Hume was one of the representatives of the Guild at the recent funeral of Mr. Henry White, and the news of his death, after only a short illness, will be greatly deplored throughout the Winchester Guild, in which he was much respected. He was a most able and punctilious secretary, and although not a great ringer, was nevertheless able to fill a useful place in the belfry.

JOINT PRACTICE IN WALES.

St. Martin's, Caerphilly, and All Saints', Llanbradach, ringers have arranged to hold a joint practice once a fortnight. The first was held at St. Martin's, Caerphilly, on Saturday last, when several long touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, conducting being shared by G. Cooke, F. Boucher and W. Burgess. The ringers were also able to master a plain course of Plain Bob Major just before time for lowering the bells. The next practice will be held at All Saints', Llanbradach, on Saturday, November 23rd, at 6 p.m.

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RINGING RESTRICTIONS REMOVED.

As soon as the Armistice had been signed on Monday, various restrictions under the Lighting Order were removed, among them the restrictions on the ringing of church bells and the striking of public clocks at night. There is, therefore, now no legal hour at which ringing must cease at any tower in the country.

PEACE RINGING.

At York, on Monday, by special command of the Dean and Chapter, the news of the signing of the Armistice was conveyed to the people of the city by the ringing of the Minster bells for one hour, after which a thanksgiving service was held. There were present at this service no fewer than 10,000 people. The ringing consisted of touches of Grand-sire Triples and Stedman Caters, conducted by Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. (of Leicester) and T. Haigh respectively.

In the afternoon three courses of Grand-sire Cinques was rung by: T. Haigh (conductor) 1, Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. (Leicester) 2, H. N. Imeson 3, F. Earnshaw 4, W. Fountain 5, Pte. J. B. Collett, R.A.F. (of Bishop Riders, Birmingham) 6, E. Rickitt 7, G. Horner 8, A. C. Fearriley 9, T. Hodgson 10, A. Haigh 11, A. Horner and W. Ayre 12. Also four courses Grand-sire Caters called by Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. Afterwards the company split into two parts, and rung on the two peals of six at St. Mary Senior, Bishophill; and SS. Philip and James, Clifton, respectively.

At Cheshunt, Herts, on Monday afternoon, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples was rung by: G. Andrews 1, S. Proctor (conductor) 2, P.C. W. Darlington 3, T. Jelf 4, A. Darnell 5, C. Dilley 6, G. Maxin 7, R. Smith 8. Afterwards the bells were 'fired,' and several short touches rung, in which Lee-Corpl. C. Sturt, Pte. W. Smith and Pte. D. Tucker took part.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. YORKTOWN DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Yorktown district was held at Chertsey on Saturday last, there being a large attendance of ringers from Guildford, Otland Park, Hersham, Yorktown, Cranleigh, Worsley, Stoke Poges, Walton, Weybridge, Hillingdon, etc., in addition to the local band. Ringing commenced at 3.30 p.m., the methods ranging from Double Norwich to Grand-sire Triples. Service was held at 5 p.m., and was conducted by the Vicar of Chertsey (Rev. J. Smith, M.A.), who gave an address on the use of bells and their meaning, and the duties of ringers, making special reference to those members with His Majesty's forces. In the unavoidable absence of the organist, the assistant secretary (Mr. F. J. Shepherd) presided in the organ, and the lesson was read by the Ringing Master (Mr. W. Shepherd); thus it may be said that it was essentially a ringers' service.

An excellent tea was served in the Church House by Messrs. Wade, the company of 45 doing ample justice to it. The Vicar of Chertsey occupied the chair at the business meeting which followed, and was supported by Mr. Miller (churchwarden) and the officials of the Yorktown and Guildford districts, including Mr. G. Miles (the Yorktown district secretary), who is about to return to Camberley, after having served his country.

The financial position was reviewed by the assistant secretary (who has been 'carrying on' during Mr. Miles' absence), showing that, whilst there was a balance on the right side, this had only been achieved by economy in expenditure, and the need was emphasised of all outstanding subscriptions being sent in before the end of the year.

The Ringing Master presented a report, giving a summary of the work achieved during the year. Ten towers had been visited, and several quarter-peals rung for Sunday services, assistance being given to depleted bands.

The following officers were elected for 1919: Secretary, Mr. George Miles; assistant secretary, Mr. F. J. Shepherd; Ringing Master, Mr. W. Shepherd; auditor, Mr. A. Woodrow; representatives on the Guild Committee, Messrs. W. A. Woodrow and F. J. Shepherd.

The proposed testimonial to the Editor of the 'Ringing World' was introduced, and received strong support from the chairman and the remainder of the company, the services which Mr. J. S. Goldsmith had rendered to ringing being eulogised by Messrs. R. Whittington, J. Jones, C. Hazelden and F. J. Shepherd. A collection was made as the first instalment to the fund. It was also resolved that everything possible be done to increase the circulation of the 'Ringing World' in every tower, and by each ringer.

Several new members were admitted, including the chairman, whose election was greeted with hearty applause.

The Ringing Master of the Guildford District (Mr. A. C. Hazelden) voiced the appreciation of all present of the reception given at Chertsey to the Guild that day, especially to the Vicar for the democratic way he had come amongst the ringers. A special word of praise he said, was also due to the caterers.—The Rev. J. Smith, in responding, said he was only too grateful to the Guild for the advice and assistance they had given to his ringers. He wanted to hear his bells rung regularly and the Guild would be glad to know they were now training young ladies at Chertsey to take the places of the ringers they had lost, as had been done in other towers. He trusted the Guild would soon

visit Chertsey again, and that, by that time, they would find he was able to handle a rope.

A further move was then made to the tower, ringing continuing up to 9 p.m.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

A beautiful bright autumn day went far to make a success of the annual festival of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association on Saturday, October 26th. There was little ringing, however, owing to the meeting having resolved itself into a half-day affair instead of a whole day, as in pre-war times. Taking into consideration the excessive railway fares and the distances to travel, the attendance was good, nearly 60 members putting in an appearance from Cramlington, Sunderland, Shildon, Morpeth, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Hexham, Darlington, West Hartlepool, Wylam, Gosforth, Winton, Whitley Bay, North Shields, Tanfield, Chester-le-Street, Gateshead and Houghton-le-Spring.

The Vicar of Newcastle, Canon Newsom, conducted the service in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral. Mr. W. Ellis, the newly-appointed organist, kindly presiding at the organ. In a short address, the Vicar pointed out the many beautiful and exemplary lessons to be found in following the prayers of the 'office' or form of service adopted by the Association, and used for almost forty years at the annual festival, and congratulated the members on the excellence of the office in its compiling.—A collection was taken for the local V.A.D. Hospitals, realising £2 10s. 8d.

Tea was provided at 5.30, at the Douglas Hotel, Mr. C. L. Routledge, President, being in the chair. He was supported by Bishop Weildon (Dean of Durham), Canon Newsom, the Vicar of South Shields (Rev. J. Hudson Barker), Rev. H. H. Barff (Vicar of Wylam), Professor M. C. Potter, Messrs. Whitehead H. Wilson, E. A. Weightman, G. T. Potter (hon. secretary), Charles Todd, R. Stephenson, W. Story, T. Gofton, E. Ferry, W. Kingdon, etc.

After the usual loyal toast, the Chairman proposed the health of the Bishops and clergy of the two Dioceses, and welcomed the presence amongst them for the first time of the Dean of Durham and the Vicar of Newcastle, who was virtually the Dean of St. Nicholas' Cathedral, though not in title.

Dean Weildon, in a humorous and kindly response, thanked the members for their hearty welcome, and said he would make every effort to get his own bells into working order in Durham Cathedral (applause). He hoped to be able to welcome them back to Durham again at no distant date.

The Vicar of Newcastle, in responding, said he needed no thanks for the address he had given them that afternoon; it had been a pleasure to him to be able to do it.

Mr. Wm. Story proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicars and wardens of the churches whose bells had been so kindly placed at the disposal of the members, and also to the organist, Mr. Ellis, for giving the music to make a bright and cheerful service.—This was seconded by Mr. Fred Lowe, of Tanfield, and carried by acclamation.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. George Potter) next read the balance sheet, which showed the excellent balance in hand of £15 7s. 1d. Unfortunately he was not able to read the annual report, which would, of course, eventually appear in print, as it had inadvertently been carried off by a local reporter. However, as it was not a very lengthy one, he gave a short resume of its contents. There had been only six returns of the Sunday service ringing sheets (Ferry's list), and the first certificate had been awarded in the 8, 10 and 12-bell section to the Newcastle Cathedral branch with 687.14 points. The second certificate went to St. John's, Newcastle, with 203.1 points. In the 6-bell section, Holy Trinity, Darlington, were first with 120 points. There was no award for second place. Other returns were from St. Ignatius, Sunderland (8), 158 points; St. George's, Jesmond (8), 104.16 points; and St. Cuthbert's, Benfieldside (6), 15.68 points. There had been no peals rung on either tower or handbells during the year, and only two or three attempts made.

The President, in proposing the adoption of the report and balance sheet, asked the members, by rising in their places, to accord a vote of deepest sympathy with the relatives and fellow ringers of those gallant men amongst them who had given their lives for King and country during the past year. They were: R. Guthrie, Benwell; G. R. Potter, North Shields; F. E. Scott, Jarrow; A. Errington, St. George's, Jesmond; Thomas and Robert Hogg, North Shields; Thomas Richardson, Sunderland; and Wm. Summers, Hexham. Besides these, the report mentioned B. A. Hern, wounded, and in the War Hospital, Gosforth, and Jack Gofton, a prisoner of war in Germany. The Association had also lost, by death, Messrs. Anthony Myers, of Chester-le-Street, an old and valued active member of 36 years' standing; Geo. Breed, of York; Dr. Pauli, of Middleham; Henry White, of Basinstoke; and William Catchpole, of Ipswich. The time was coming soon when peace would be declared, and the President urged all to be ready with all they could muster to ring. Britons would not be satisfied unless the bells were rung for peace, and wherever possible peals should be attempted. Many old ringers, who had retired, or had, perhaps, left their company 'in pique,' should be persuaded to return, and so let peace bring peace and goodwill amongst ringers and estranged friends,

as well as among nations. He congratulated St. George's, Jesmond, on their excellent advance in the science of change ringing, in the face of all difficulties—this was due to the extraordinary enthusiasm of Professor Potter and his colleagues.—The report and balance sheet were adopted, on being seconded by Mr. Hillier.

The officers of the Association were all re-elected, on the motion of the Rev. J. H. Barker, seconded by Mr. Robinson, of Chester-le-Street. Mr. Chas. Todd proposed that the next annual meeting should be held in West Hartlepool, and this was carried. Any other meetings would depend on the declaration of peace, and in that event a special meeting of the sub-committee would arrange the gatherings as in pre-war days.

Mr. G. T. Potter, in the name of the North Shields and Newcastle Cathedral ringers, presented a handsome silver-mounted jug to Mr. Joel Hern, the veteran ringer and steeple-keeper, of North Shields belfry as a token of esteem and regard, and as a memento of his 50th anniversary as a peal ringer. This happy event had taken place in July, but he had kept the presentation for that meeting as a suitable and popular time to do Mr. Hern the more honour.—After a storm of applause, Mr. Hern suitably responded, and said he was always glad to see his old friends, and new ones, too, in North Shields belfry.

Mr. Routledge made a special appeal to the meeting to render every support to their own periodical the 'Ringing World.' The Exercise, he said, would lose its flavour without it, and it needed support just now as it never did before—paper was scarce and dear; labour was scarce and dear—and many who used to give their support were away fighting for their country. The 'Ringing World,' by the man who was a keen ringer, was devoured from first page to last, and ought to be subscribed to by all who had an interest in their beloved art.

A resolution of sympathy with the Editor in his long illness, and good wishes for his complete restoration to good health, was passed, on the motion of Mr. Charles Todd.

A vote of sympathy was accorded to an old member, Mr. J. W. Taylor, bell founder, of Loughborough, on the loss of his gallant son, Second-Lieut. G. B. Taylor, who was killed in France at the end of September, the third of his boys who have laid down their lives for their country.

Of the new members elected at the close of the meeting, the Vicar of Newcastle was one of the most notable. Mr. Herbert Wilson, of Gosforth, was also elected an hon. member, and among the ringing members were elected two sons of Mr. Alder Gofton, of Whitley, 10 and 13 years of age, and both change ringers; the Rev. H. E. Sladdon, of South Shields; seven members from Houghton-le-Spring, with Mr. Robert Parkinson, late of Church, in Lancashire, at their head, and several others.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

Afterwards, courses of Stedman and Grandsire Cater, and Cinques were rung 'in hand,' and Messrs. W. H. Barber and Corpl. A. Hessian amused the company with a tune on handbells 'four-in-hand.'

"KILLED IN ACTION."

Still another ringer who was connected with the Hertford County Association has fallen in action, in the person of Pte. Herbert G. Wilkerson, of the 15th Battalion Suffolk Regiment. He had been connected with the Royston Society, and rang his first peal of Minor at the age of 13 years. He joined up in April, 1916, and was sent out to France on completing his training. Contracting enteric, he was invalided home, being afterwards dispatched to Palestine, where he was wounded in the right arm. On recovering, he proceeded again to France, and was home on leave in July, during which time he visited Nuneaton, and rang the tenor to a touch of Grandsire Triples for Sunday morning service. This was his last touch. He was unmarried, and the youngest of the family. He was killed on October 15th, and the sad intelligence was conveyed officially to his widowed mother on Saturday week. Deep sympathy will go out to the bereaved.

As a token of respect for the late Alan Boxall, who was killed in France on August 31st, 1918, a quarter-peal of Grandsire, with bells half-muffled, was rung at Godalming, Surrey, on Nov. 1st. Deceased was for many years a member of the local band, and also of the Winchester Diocesan Guild: W. Mooney (Godalming) 1, W. Clissold (Godalming) 2, B. A. Etheridge (Guildford) 3, W. Hooper (Godalming) 4, C. Childs (Godalming) 5, S. Radford (Guildford) 6, W. Fowler (Putneyham), conductor, 7, R. Pamment (Godalming) 8.

In memory of Pte. W. Sevier, a member of the St. James' Society, Bristol, who fell in action on Nov. 7th, 1917, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Cater was rung on November 7th last at St. James' Church, Bristol, with the bells half-muffled, by: R. Chamming 1, G. Pearce 2, H. Brown 3, Pte. C. Walton 4, A. Pearce 5, W. Lewis 6, E. Gaise (conductor) 7, F. Porch 8, H. Way 9, W. Short 10.

Pte. Sevier, whose ringing enthusiasm was mentioned in these columns, was a brother of the deceased. The Guild deeply deplore the loss of so promising a ringer. Pte. C. Walton was home from France on leave.

Pte. Geoffrey Rowley, a much respected member of the Tipton band, of which his father, Mr. Alfred Rowley, is also a member, has died of wounds received in France. On Saturday last a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung in his memory at Tipton Parish Church, and the band passed a vote of condolence with Mr. and Mrs. A. Rowley in their bereavement.

VETERAN HERTS RINGER DEAD.

It is with deep regret we have to announce the death of Mr. Robert Jackson, of Baldock, Herts, who passed away at his residence, after a few days' illness, on Tuesday, October 23th, at the advanced age of 85 years. Deceased was foreman of the Baldock Guild of bell ringers from 1880 to 1898, when he resigned. He had not done any ringing since. He was a member of the Hertfordshire Association.

The funeral took place on the following Saturday in the parish churchyard, the Rector (the Rev. Canon Nairne) and the Rev. S. Mead officiating. The service was choral, the deceased having been a member of the choir for a number of years. The bells were rung fully muffled for morning and evening service on Sunday as a token of respect.

RINGER'S DOUBLE BEREAVEMENT.

As a token of respect to the memory of Mary Rackham, aged seven years five months, and George Rackham, aged four years ten months, the children of Mr. S. T. Rackham, choir-master and a regular service ringer at Llandelly, Breconshire, who were interred together in the parish churchyard on October 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung, with half-muffled bells, at St. Eli's Church on November 2nd, by: W. Bassett 1, R. Stephens 2, J. I. Dorman (conductor) 3, H. J. Rackham 4, A. Rackham 5, W. Morgan 6. First quarter-peal by the ringers of the treble and tenor, and W. Morgan was elected a member before starting.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

GRANTHAM.—Lincoln Diocesan Guild.—For evening service, at St. Wulfstan's Church, on Sunday, August 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: 1st Air-Mechanic E. Sparkes 1, S. Proctor (conductor) 2, A. Parker 3, E. Nidd 4, H. Thorpe 5, W. Thorpe 6, F. Turner 7, A. Rowland 8. For evening service, on Sunday, August 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 53 mins.: N. Woodthorpe 1, W. Thorpe 2, H. Thorpe 3, Pte. F. Proctor 4, A. Parker 5, S. Proctor (conductor) 6, E. Nidd 7, D. Overton 8, F. Turner 9, A. Rowland 10. Arranged for Pte. F. Proctor, who was home on a short leave.

BIRMINGHAM.—At Bishop Ryder's Church, on Sunday, August 11th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins.: T. Russam 1, W. Bryant 2, A. Walker 3, A. Scrivens 4, Ernest Mansell 5, J. Neal 6, J. E. Groves (conductor) 7, J. Collett 8.

BLACKPOOL.—On Sunday, August 11th, for evening service, 1264 Bob Major: J. Shaw 1, W. Wilde 2, Pte. T. E. Sone, R.A.M.C. 3, J. A. Talland 4, Pte. H. R. Pasmore, R.A.M.C. 5, J. Burrows 6, C. Ryder 7, Pte. L. W. Jacques, R.A.M.C. (composer and conductor), 8. —On Sunday, August 18th, for evening service, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Pte. L. W. Jacques, R.A.M.C. (Olney, Bucks), 1, J. Meadowcroft (New Hey) 2, F. Greenwood 3, E. Schofield (Milnrow) 4, W. Wilde 5, H. Sear (Bletchley) 6, Pte. T. C. Sone, R.A.M.C. (conductor), Maidstone, 7, Pte. H. R. Pasmore, R.A.M.C. (London), 8.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—Pte. Edward Mills, R.G.A., an old and respected member of the Salehurst ringers, being home on leave, was heartily welcomed by his old comrades in the belfry of St. Mary's, on Sunday morning, the 11th inst., when, owing to meeting one short, for Triples, 960 changes of Grandsire Doubles was brought round in 36 mins., with 4-6-8 covering. The bells were then 'fired' in honour of the recent Allied successes in France, and this was followed by 60 Grandsire Doubles, the ringers stood as follows: J. Goodsell 1, F. Morgan 2, W. Perry 3, Pte. E. Mills 4, T. Booth 5, T. Hoad 6, A. Edwards (conductor) 7, S. French 8.

LAVERHAM.—On August 15th, 1260 Grandsire Triples: A. Symonds 1, H. Smith 2, S. Smith 3, W. W. J. Roper 4, F. Parker 5, G. W. R. Greenwood 6, L. Leeks 7, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 8. Composed by J. Howes, Kingston-on-Thames. Rung to oblige Mr. Grimwood, of Tooting, and as a farewell to S. Smith, called upon to join the colours on the 19th.—On August 4th, for morning service, a touch of Grandsire Triples: A. Symonds 1, G. Fardon (conductor), Shepherd's Bush 2, F. Parker 3, F. G. Symonds 4, A. Diserens 5, M. Fensom 6, L. Leeks 7, W. Fayers 8.

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, August 18th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob: A. Symonds (conductor) 1, H. Crick 2, A. Hollocks 3, T. Hollocks 4, C. W. R. Grimwood 5, W. Hollocks 6.

ERTH, KENT.—At the Parish Church, for morning service, August 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: A. J. Morton 1, W. J. Aldridge 2, G. Thompson 3, F. J. Cullum, senr., 4, W. Evans 5, J. Lowrey 6, Elect. Art. F. J. Cullum, R.N. (conductor), 7, W. Branchley (first quarter-peal) 8. Ringers of 2 and 5 hail from Woolwich, and the 3rd from Tunbridge Wells, the remainder are local men.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association have started a fund to help forward the above memorial, and appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD WOKING.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—The annual meeting of the Winchester District will be held at Southampton on Saturday, Nov. 16th. The bells of St. Mary's Church, will be available during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided in St. Mary's School at 5.30; the business meeting will be held immediately after.—Jas. W. Elkins, District Sec., 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells ready at 3; service at 5.30; meeting at 6.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bengeworth, Evesham, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Service in Church at 4.30 p.m., at which all members attending the meeting are requested to be present. The bells (6) will be available.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Gt. Hampton, Evesham.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells (8 and 10) available from 3 p.m. Service in Holy Trinity Church at 5.30 p.m. Preacher: Rev. P. Cunningham, Rector of Cranleigh.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at High Halden, Kent, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells (6) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Abbots Leigh on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m.; tea and business meeting to follow.—W. Stafford, Hon. Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

LADIES' GUILD.—A practice meeting will be held at Desborough (Northants) on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells available from 2.30. Those intending to be present are requested to communicate with Mr. Fred Kilburn, 14, Victoria Street, Desborough, Market Harborough, who will inform them whether tea can be provided. It is hoped that arrangements can also be made for ringing at Rothwell from 2-3.30, and Rushton from 6-7.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at Leek on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Members are requested to bring their own rations owing to the Food Control.—J. Johnson, Hon. Sec., 51, Dunrobin Street, Longton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Ramshot, on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Ringing to cease at 7; meeting after ringing hours. Subscriptions are now due. Reports to hand. A good attendance is requested.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramshot.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637).—Meetings at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on Tuesdays, Nov. 19th (election of officers and presentation of balance sheet), Nov. 26th (handbell practice), all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held (by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev. G. H. Vincent) at St. Andrews', Hillingdon, on Saturday, Nov. 23rd. Bells available from 3 till 4, and from 4.30 till dusk. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Basingstoke Branch will be held at Basingstoke on Nov. 23rd. St. Michael's bells (8) will be available from 3 p.m. Service in the Church at 5.30; tea and meeting at 6. The bells of All Saints' will also be available after the meeting. Visitors requiring tea kindly notify me by Nov. 18th.—John Ward, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 8, Rochford Road, Basingstoke.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, Nov. 23rd. Ringing will commence at 3 p.m., and tea, kindly provided by Lieut. Cyril F. Johnston, will be served at Gillett & Johnston's Foundry at 5.45 p.m.; to be followed by a social evening. All ringers (members or not) and friends are hereby cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 50, Cannon Street, E.C.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 30th, at the Church of all Saints, Fulham. Ringing will commence at 4 p.m. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the Southern District will be held at Shere, near Guildford, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Fuller particulars will be given next week.—E. K. Parker, 40, Rockmount Road, Upper Norwood, S.E.19.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the Guild will be held at the Old Church, Smethwick, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Bells available at 3.30. Service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Canon Astbury); business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Burnley, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

DEATH.

WHITE.—On Nov. 9th, at Cotgrave, of double pneumonia following influenza, Dorothy, second daughter of William E. and Adelaide M. White, aged 22 years, member of the All Saints' (Cotgrave) and the Midland Counties Association.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. 761.
[transmission as a newspaper].]

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**St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.
WOLFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs. GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 6th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,**

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

NOW THAT THE WAR IS OVER.

In every phase of life we are confronted with "after the war" problems, and ringing will have its own special difficulties to face in the reconstruction which must follow, if the leeway of more than four years' disorganisation is to be made up within a reasonable period. Before the war broke out, ringing had attained a remarkable level, not only in achievements, but in the widespread nature of its practice. It was going ahead literally by leaps and bounds, and the rapidly increasing record of peals gave proof of extraordinary growth in the efficiency of the Exercise. The claims of the nation through the war period reduced ringing almost to stagnation, by withdrawing a large proportion of the men from the towers, as well as by making the indiscriminate use of bells absolutely out of place and out of keeping with the feelings of the public. In the result, many bells have hung idle in their towers for months on end, change ringing has been abandoned in many places, and in not a few even the bells themselves have been allowed to get into a state of neglect.

But the fact cannot be ignored that in very many towers up and down the country there has been a great set-back. Presently, when the men come back, there will be an acquisition of strength that will be invaluable to ringing, but it is time the various associations, as we have so often urged, took steps to stir their branches into activity, so that the returning members may be secured and not allowed to drift away because through the years of severance interest may have been lost. The sound of the bells will, in itself, be enough in most cases to draw our warrior ringers to the belfry when they are back again, but the towers ought to be ready with their invitation and welcome "when the boys come home," so that there can be no excuse for the returning ringer if he does not retrace his steps to the belfry.

The re-establishing of the hands, however, is not everything. There must be the effort to raise the ringing itself to the high standard it reached before the war; many belfries will need attention, and more peals will want overhauling. This latter question should be immediately looked into by the ringers who are now at home. Where the bells require restoration, it is folly to let them hang neglected, while it will probably be an easier matter to raise funds in the near future, when war memorials are on the tapis, than it may be later. Doubtless, too, the bell founders will welcome immediate inquiries, for we imagine it will help them through the difficult period which must otherwise ensue when war contracts cease. There is much to be done; let the Exercise be up and doing.

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MODERN WORK.**

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Dear Sir,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCH WARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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PEACE PEALS.

*Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.*

The following peals have been rung in celebration of the triumph of the Allied arms and the conclusion of the armistice, which the world hopes will mark the end of all wars:—

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

(THE NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.)

On Monday, November 11, 1918, in Three Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5006 CHANGES;

Tenor 37½ cwt.

*CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE... Treble	BENJAMIN C. DIXON 7
*ERNEST E. FERRY 2	BERT HORTON 8
JOHN McKEAG 3	ALFRED F. HILLIER 9
WILLIAM H. BARBER 4	JOSEPH E. R. KEEN 10
WILLIAM W. SINCLAIR 5	ROBERT RICHARDS 11
ASA HOLMES 6	JOHN FOREMAN Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER, of Sunderland.

Conducted by CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE.

The first peal on 12 bells by an entire band of the Newcastle Cathedral Guild: all Sunday service ringers.

* First peal of Cinques.

TEN BELL PEAL.

WORCESTER.

On Monday, November 11, 1918, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATER, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

*CHARLES G. BAWKETT ... Treble	GEORGE HINTON, SEN. ... 6
*GEORGE HINTON, JUN. ... 2	WILLIAM PAGE 7
WILLIAM POWELL 3	CHARLES W. JONES 8
JOHN MORRIS 4	GORDON CHICKETTS 9
WILLIAM LEWIS 5	WILLIAM H. JOHNSON ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by W. PAGE.

* First peal on 10 bells.

† First peal.

First peal of Grandsire on the bells since being re-hung. It is 52 years since a peal was rung in Worcester composed by its conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CHELTHENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

THE CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Monday, November 11, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

W. T. PATES Treble	W. HARLEY 3
G. H. PHILLOTT, M.A. ... 2	J. PARSONS 6
H. HALFORD 3	A. W. HUMPHREYS 7
W. BRINKWORTH 4	C. TRIGG AND W. TOWNSEND Tenor

Conducted by W. T. PATES.

C. Trigg, who is in his 81st year and a member of the local band, being unable to complete the peal, was relieved by W. Townsend.

MILES PLATTING, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 12, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lbs.

MRS. W. W. WOLSTENCROFT Treble	JOHN HARRISON 5
*MISS EMMA TONGE 2	FRANK STONELEY 6
ARTHUR RIDYARD 3	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 7
JOSEPH HALL 4	AMOS SIMPSON Tenor

Composed by T. BANKS.

Conducted by F. STONELEY.

* First peal with a bob bell.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 12, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

TAYLOR'S.		Tenor 13½ cwt.	
JOHN DENNER	Treble	SAMUEL OAKES	5
JOHN WORTHINGTON	2	ALFRED POTTER	6
JOHN WELSBY	3	JOHN POTTER	7
† JAMES DENNER	4	* ROBERT DENNER	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

† First peal with bob bell.

* First peal.

PENTRE, RHONDDA.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 13, 1918, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter, 8 2312 2870 8

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 26 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs., in E flat.

HARRY PAGE	Treble	THOMAS HAMLIN	5
GEORGE WINES	2	WILLIAM PAGE	6
GEORGE CROSS	3	JAMES CROSS	7
TOM PAGE	4	HENRY CRABBE	Tenor

Conducted by J. CROSS.

Rung also as a birthday peal for the ringer of the tenor.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 13, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

BENJAMIN GOUGH	Treble	ALBERT E. PARSONS	5
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL	2	HERBERT KNIGHT	6
THOMAS CATTELL	3	WILLIAM FISHER	7
JOHN JAGGAR	4	HARRY SMITH	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

In addition to being a thankoffering for victory, this peal was rung to celebrate Mr. William Rock Small's 79th 'annual,' which fell on the previous day, viz., the 12th. The band heartily congratulated him and wished him the usual 'many happy returns.'

SUNDERLAND, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 14, 1918, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Ignatius the Martyr.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM SMALLWOOD	Treble	THOMAS W. DITCHBURN	5
GEORGE S. TAYLOR	2	JOSEPH W. PARKER	6
RALPH A. LOVIE	3	JOHN J. LEIGHTON	7
JOHN PICKERING	4	RICHARD LANGTON	Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH W. PARKER.

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(NORTHERN BRANCH)

On Friday, November 15 1918, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

JOSEPH FIGOTT	Treble	JOHN EATON	5
J. W. LILLEY	2	ALLAN J. CARTWRIGHT	6
GEORGE HITCHMAN	3	GEORGE FIGOTT	7
HARRY GROSVENOR	4	* ARTHUR PRICE	Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE FIGOTT.

* First peal.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1918, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

CHARLES W. STEPHENSON	Treble	GMR. WM. H. HUNTER, R.C.A.	5
WILLIAM WALTON	2	JOHN P. FOULDS	6
RENNIE HARTLEY	3	TOM REDMAN	7
ALFRED BROOK	4	* HARRY ENTWISTLE	Tenor

Composed by EDWIN TIMBRELL.

Conducted by HARRY ENTWISTLE.

* First peal as conductor.

The ringer of the 5th was home on leave from the Cambrai sector, the ringers of the 4th and 6th hail from Colne, the rest belong to the local company.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION AND THE
SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 16, 1918, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

WILLIAM BENNETT	Treble	FRANK JACOBS	5
CHARLES W. NUTTALL	2	SAMUEL WESLEY	6
GEORGE HOLLIS	3	ARTHUR KNIGHTS	7
* WILLIAM LAMBERT	4	WALTER ALLWOOD	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

* 300th peal.

HENLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE S. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Saturday, November 16, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 lbs. in A flat.

EDWARD EVANS	Treble	EDGAR PEMBERTON	5
REV. WM. C. PEAKSON	2	WILLIAM P. GARRETT	6
WILLIAM MOTTS	3	JAMES MOTTS	7
HENRY C. GILLINGHAM	4	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, November 16, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANCES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN BALLARD	Treble	CHARLES H. BRIGGS	5
JAMES F. CLARKE, JUN.	2	JAMES F. CLARKE, SEN.	6
WALTER MARTIN	3	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN	7
ABRAHAM WILKERSON	4	HARRY ARGYLE	Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by HARRY ARGYLE.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WATH-ON-DEARNE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Tuesday, November 12, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

consisting of the following 10 methods: 720 each of Violet, Duke of York, New London Pleasure and Oxford, 360 each of London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Roystone Delight, College Pleasure, City Delight and Arnold's Victory.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM BRAMHAM	Treble	ROBERT J. RICKETTS	4
WILLIAM WOODCOCK, JUN.	2	ARTHUR GILL	5
ARTHUR PANTHER	3	CHARLES WALSH	Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PANTHER.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.



Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN BATES ... ..	... Treble	MISS EVELYN STEEL	4
MISS DOROTHY STEEL	2	CHARLES A. ROBINSON	5
CHARLES WM. CLARKE	3	WILLIAM STAPLETON	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM STAPLETON.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT. THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being two 720's each of Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Canterbury Pleasure, and one of Oxford Bob, each rung alternately and called differently.

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN AVIS ... ..	... Treble	GEORGE MORRAD	4
HARRY ARGENT	2	FREDERICK HAYES	5
GUY R. AMBROSE	3	A/M. FREDK. M. MITCHELL, R.A.F.	Tenor

Conducted by A/M. FREDERICK M. MITCHELL.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, November 14, 1918, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,
AT CITY CAPE, BULL RING,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 size in E flat.

JOSEPH PIGOTT	1-2	JAMES E. GROVES	5-6
ALBERT WALKER	3-4	MORRIS J. MORRIS	7-8

Conducted by MORRIS J. MORRIS.

MISCELLANEOUS TOUCHES.

The following touches have also been rung in celebration of peace:—

BLETCHLEY, RUCKS.—On Monday, Nov. 11th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): H. Sear (conductor) 1, W. Mead 2, F. Stanton 3, F. Whitehead (first quarter-peal of Stedman) 4, F. Hedges 5, E. Marks 6, W. Sear 7, V. Sear 8.—On November 15th, for thanksgiving service: H. Hobblerness 1, W. Mead 2, W. Sear (conductor) 3, A. Cruise 4, H. Sear 5, E. Marks 6, F. Hedges 7, F. Stanton 8.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.—At the Parish Church, on Monday, November 11th, for thanksgiving service in the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins.: E. Dumper 1, G. Williams 2, W. Edwards 3, A. Marks 4, W. Cowe 5, J. Fray 6, W. H. George (conductor) 7, A. A. Jones 8.

PLYMOUTH.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Monday, Nov. 11th, 666 Grandsire Caters, in 30 mins.: Corpl. G. Farr 1, W. Richards 2, J. Woodley 3, Pte. W. Malins (Rugby) 4, W. Randle 5, H. Bennett 6, W. Hamlyn 7, Petty Officer F. Dover, R.N. (Norwich), 8, G. H. Myers (conductor) 9, F. Purse 10.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday, Nov. 11th, at St. Andrew's Church, three touches of Grandsire Triples, viz., 336, 354 and 504: W. Mansfield 1, H. Mansfield 2, J. Taylor 3, E. G. Hibbins 4, W. Kempton 5, A. N. Other 6, W. Eusden (conductor) 7, R. Rayner 8.

FRAMLINGHAM.—On Monday evening, Nov. 11th, at St. Michael's Church, 720 Bob Minor, in 35 mins.: W. Ostler 1, V. E. Kerridge 2, G. E. Symonds (conductor) 3, H. C. Howlett 4, J. C. Self 5, W. Flory 6. Followed by other ringing, in which Stanley Maulden and Sidney Moore took part.

BURBAGE, DERBYSHIRE.—At Christ Church, on Monday, Nov. 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: H. Kirk (conductor) 1, W. Ashmore 2, W. Moss 3, Pte. R. Wilding, A.S.C., 4, W. Longden 5, J. R. Backhouse 6. Rung after the treble stay had been broken in attempt for a date touch. The local ringers are indebted to Pte. Wilding (who was staying in the V.A.D. Hospital at Buxton) for his kind assistance. He hails from Bury St. Edmunds.

ARMLEY.—On Monday, November 11th, at 10, Milford Road, on handbells, 1232 Bob Major: Malcolm Moorhouse 1—2, John W. Moorhouse (conductor) 3—4, Gerald Moorhouse 5—6, Miss Olive L. Lumley (longest touch on handbells) 7—8.

(Continued on page 375.)

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**WINCHESTER DISTRICT.**

The annual meeting of the Winchester district was held at Southampton on Saturday last, members being present from North Stoneham, Bishoptoke, Twyford, Diklen, Southampton (St. Michael's and St. Mary's), Bristol, Grimsby, Bournemouth, Salisbury and Winchester. The bells of St. Mary and St. Michael's Churches were available during the afternoon and evening, and some good touches in various methods, were rung on them.

By the kindness of Canon Lovett, the tea and meeting were held in the Deanery Classroom, the Rector presiding at both, and in a few words of warm welcome said he thought it was a very fortunate circumstance that twelve months ago this meeting should have been arranged to take place in what had proved to be a week of national thanksgiving.

Sincere regret was expressed at the absence, through illness, of Canon Braithwaite, who has recently lost his youngest son in Palestine, and on the proposition of the chairman, a vote of condolence was passed to him.

An apology was received from the Master (the Rev. C. E. Mathews), who fully intended being present, but had to attend a meeting of national importance.

The Guild has recently lost, by death, two of its oldest and most enthusiastic members, viz., Mr. H. White, of Basingstoke, and the Rev. F. G. Hume, secretary of the Basingstoke District, and the district secretary was requested to convey the condolence of the members present to their families.

At the meeting, which followed immediately after the tea, the financial statement was passed. The district has a favourable balance, but not quite so large as last year. The Rev. Canon Braithwaite was re-elected chairman, and Mr. J. W. Elkins was unanimously re-elected hon. secretary.—Mr. Wilfred Andrews, in proposing the re-election as assistant secretary, Mr. C. Russell, said it was hoped Mr. Russell was now on his way home, he having been a prisoner of war since the capture of Kut. His enthusiasm for ringing was well known, and it would, no doubt, be a gratification to him to find himself in his old post.—Mr. G. Smith (Twyford) was re-elected auditor for the district, and Messrs. W. Andrews and W. Tucker representatives on the Central Committee.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Romsey, on Saturday, November 15th, 1919, and to hold three quarterly meetings next year, the first at Winchester on February 8th, the second at Hursley on May 10th, and the third at Alresford on August 30th.

On the proposition of Mr. G. Williams, Mr. F. W. Romanis, Salisbury, was elected a compounding member of the Guild.

The Chairman, in acknowledging a vote of thanks proposed to him by the Rev. W. E. Colchester for the use of the bells and the classroom, said he regretted they were not coming to him for the annual meeting next year, but he hoped that during the coming year the church tower might be properly dedicated, which, as it was only finished at the outbreak of the war, had not yet been done, and he would be most glad if a special meeting could be arranged when that event takes place.

The District Secretary expressed his gratitude to Mr. Houghton, the captain of St. Mary's band, and to Mr. Vass, the caterer, for all they had done to make the meeting so successful.

The Rev. W. E. Colchester, the Guild treasurer, said that owing to the death of Mr. H. White (the Guild auditor), it would be necessary to find someone to audit the accounts, and suggested that Mr. George Smith should be asked to do it.—Mr. Smith expressed himself willing to undertake the work until the next annual meeting of the Guild.

The Rev. Canon Lovett and the Rev. T. Salmon (Rector of North Stoneham) having to leave early, the Rev. W. E. Colchester occupied the chair for the remainder of the proceedings.

GUILDFORD DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Guildford District of the above Guild was held on Saturday, November 16th, at Guildford. The towers of Holy Trinity (eight bells) and St. Nicolas' (ten) were open during the afternoon, and crowded to their utmost capacity, some 75 ringers, of whom a very large proportion were ladies, being present. As is usual in this district, only short touches in various methods were rung, so that all had a pull. A picked band rang for the service at Holy Trinity, the preacher being the Rev. P. Cunningham, Rector of Cranleigh, and the service being conducted by the Rev. G. C. Allen, who is himself a ringing member of the Holy Trinity band. After service, the members adjourned to the Parish Hall for tea. The first item was the presentation of a handsome silver teapot to Sergt. and Mrs. Dobbie, both members of the Holy Trinity band, as a wedding gift from the band.—Mrs. Dobbie returned thanks, and said her husband was unable to be present, but she knew his thoughts were with them.

The list of new members who were elected comprised Mary Countess of Lovelace, the Rector of Ockham (the Rev. H. A. Gumberlege), Major J. H. B. Hesse, of Haslemere, in addition to six male and three lady ringers from different towers.

A paper by Mrs. Hazelden on 'A visit by the Guild to Farnham Castle' was very much appreciated.

A letter from Mr. J. George, of Birmingham, resulted in a substantial collection in the room, and a decision that each company should be asked to subscribe as much as possible, and hand it in at the February meeting.

The Ringing Master's report drew attention to the fact that Mr. John Heathorn (who was present both at the service and tea) had rung in the peace ringing on Monday. He would be 95 years of age if he lived till January, and distinctly remembered several of the ringers who rang in the peace celebrations after the battle of Waterloo in 1815.

The election of officers resulted in Mr. W. R. Melville becoming chairman of committee; Mr. A. C. Hazelden, Ringing Master; Messrs. R. Whittington and J. H. White, representatives on the Central Committee at Winchester; Mr. W. H. Tunnell, auditor; Mr. John J. Jones, hon. secretary.

It was decided to leave the dates and places for the 1919 meetings in the hands of the officers, it being humorously remarked that they had held six quarterly meetings in the past nine months, and they could not do better than keep it up.

The ringers present included Mr. F. Bennett and Mr. R. J. Dawe (Brighton), Major J. H. B. Hesse, and contingents from Woking, Worplesdon, Puttenham, Cranleigh, Haslemere, Shalford, Cobham, Aldershot, Clandon, the two local towers, and visitors from Oatlands, Hersham, Kingston, and Walton.

MITCHAM SECRETARY KILLED.

It is with deep regret that the Mitcham Society of Ringers have to record the death of their secretary, Mr. Douglas Walter Drewett, eldest son of Mr. J. D. Drewett, the highly-respected Master of the Surrey Association. Mr. D. W. Drewett was elected a member of the Surrey Association and the Mitcham Society in January, 1901, and was elected secretary of the latter in October, 1903. He enlisted in the 1st Cameron Highlanders on 29th May, 1916, and was killed in action, 3rd October, 1918.

He had seen much active service, and strong hopes were held that he would be spared to return and retain the link of connection of three generations of the family with the Mitcham Society. He had rung nearly 50 peals, including Cambridge Surprise, Double Norwich, Oxford, Kent and Plain Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, also two quarter-peals of London Surprise Major.

He was an enthusiastic ringer, a great lover of the wonders of nature, keenly observant of all that was beautiful therein, and previous to the war, when making those delightful visits to towers in the lovely parts of Surrey, the day was made doubly enjoyable by his knowledge of items of interest along the route taken.

The memory of his kindly manner and fine example will ever be cherished by his brother ringers, and deep sincere sympathy goes out to his sorrowing widow, three children, father, brothers and sister. R.I.P.

CHESTER GUILD PRESIDENT AS MAYOR.

Mr. G. J. Bowen Cooke, C.B.E., chief mechanical engineer, L. and N.W. Railway Works, Crewe, Master of the Chester Diocesan Guild, has been elected Mayor of Crewe, and in honour of the event, on November 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes) was rung at the Parish Church by Frederic Moore (first quarter-peal) 1. Richard Langford 2. Harry Overton 3. Richard D. Langford 4. Geo. H. Crawley 5. Albert Crawley 6. George Harding 7. John Dentith 8. Richard T. Holding 9. William Edge 10.—On Sunday, Nov. 10th, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: H. Overton 1. R. Langford 2. R. D. Langford 3. A. Crawley 4. G. H. Crawley 5. J. Dentith 6. R. T. Holding 7. W. Edge 8. For evening service, 809 Grandsire Caters: W. T. Holding 1. R. Langford 2. H. Overton 3. R. D. Langford 4. G. H. Crawley 5. A. Crawley 6. G. Harding 7. C. J. Bowen Cooke 8. R. T. Holding 9. J. Dentith 10. All conducted by R. T. Holding.

YOUNG RINGER'S DEATH.

On Saturday last it was the sad task of the Eye (Suffolk) ringers to lay to rest the body of Albert Cutting, who died from influenza, after serving in the Army for only one month. Deceased learned to ring just over a year ago, and had made great progress in Plain and Treble Bob Major. Previous to joining up, on his 18th birthday, he was in the service of the Colchester Brewery Company, and won the esteem of all his fellow employees, as was evidenced by the number who attended the funeral. At the conclusion of the service, Messrs Burrows, Day, Oakes and Poppy rang a course of Grandsire Triples over the grave, and in the evening a 1008 Bob Major was rung with half-muffled clappers, on the tower bells by Messrs. Burrows, Brunning, Day, Murton, Nunn, Oakes, Poppy and Youngs. This is the fourth Eye ringer lost through the war.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—On Monday, November 11th, for thanksgiving service, 504 Grandsire Triples: S. Churton (conductor) 1. G. Bloor 2. C. Woodward 3. E. Landon 4. C. H. Page 5. J. Austin 6. T. Austin 7. J. Simister 8.

RAISING AND LOWERING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I was very glad to see Mr. Lawrence's letter in the 'Ringing World,' recommending the raising and lowering of bells in concordant notes of the scale. In spite of Mr. Richardson's criticism, I am firmly convinced that this is the best substitute for the real thing. In its simplest form the application of this principle would consist in ringing bells up or down in pairs. Even that is musical, as far as it goes. Whether ringing two bells or more, the endeavour should always be made to sound them in order, not together. After raising and lowering in this manner for a few weeks on end, any three or four ringers should have acquired the necessary proficiency to keep such a small number of bells in their proper places, but the advantage of thus using alternate bells is, that when two or more do clash together, no actual discord is produced. The notes either fall in chords or arpeggios: the arpeggio should be the ringers' aim. Very fine effects may sometimes be produced in this way: for example, the sonorous tones of the 8th, 10th and tenor at Bow Church thus raised and lowered would give forth magnificent music.—Yours truly,

Kington Magna Rectory.

F. L. EDWARDS.

MR. ROCK SMALL'S ARMISTICE BIRTHDAY.

Tipton's veteran and enthusiast, Mr. William Rock Small, celebrated his 79th birthday on November 12th, amid the armistice rejoicings, and on Wednesday, the 13th, took part in a peal of Stedman Triples at his parish church in honour of the double event. On Saturday, a band was got together to ring another commemoration peal—Stedman Caters—at Wednesbury. It was a company of veterans who had all rung peals with Mr. Small 25 years ago, but unfortunately, after 2½ hours ringing, when only seven courses from home, the 8th rope broke. The band, which represented ten towers, stood in order of age, the oldest at the treble and the youngest at the tenor, viz., W. R. Small 1, James George 2, John Carter 3, Alderman J. S. Pritchett 4, John Jagger 5, George Hughes 6, Albert E. Parsons 7, James B. Groves (conductor) 8, Ben Gough 9, Herbert Knight tenor. Not to be denied, the same band intend to start again at Wednesbury on November 30th, when they hope for better luck.

MANCHESTER TOWN HALL BELLS.

A great revival has taken place during the past two weeks on these bells. There was ringing on Lord Mayor's Day Saturday, Nov. 9th, and on the following day, Sunday, on the occasion of the civic procession for morning service at the Cathedral. On Monday, Nov. 11th, on the proclamation of the peace armistice, the bells were rung intermittently from noon till 7 p.m.

The policemen-ringers are very short-handed for this heavy ring of ten bells, many of them having been called to the colours. Consequently, when the bells are required to be rung, P.C. Billings is obliged to call upon ringers from many church towers. The call was made for the three days mentioned, and then another call came later on Saturday and Sunday, 16th and 17th inst., for further special ringing on the occasion of thanksgiving services held in the Cathedral and attended by the Lord Mayor, aldermen and councillors. In the procession were military bands, soldiers, policemen, specials, firemen Church Lads' Brigade, Boy Scouts, and numerous other bodies in uniform.

There were many touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters, also one good touch of Stedman Caters, rung during the five days' ringing, those taking part being Messrs. Chapman, Trippier, Clarke, Idle, Davies, Brown, Shaker, Greenhalgh, Winterbottom, P.C.'s Billings, Williams, Page, Wilson and Scragg. Also B. Knight, of Chesterfield, and W. A. Cave, of Bristol.

Mr. R. Newton (formerly of the Town Hall company, now of Boston, U.S.) would have been delighted to have been present on those occasions, as also would John Eachus, of Manchester Cathedral, and Mr. Harry Idle, of St. James' Church, Birch-in-Rusholme. In the case of the latter two, we regret to say, serious illness was the cause of their absence.

DEATH OF MR. A. ANDREWS, OF DAVENTRY

With very much regret, the numerous friends of Mr. Arthur Andrews, chemist, of Daventry, Northants, and formerly of Billinge-borough, Lincolnshire, will hear of his death, which took place on October 30th, from pneumonia, after an illness lasting about a week.

The funeral took place at the Parish Church, Daventry, on Saturday, November 2nd, the remains being followed to the grave by members of the family, and many friends, including Pte. W. Allen, Messrs. Wilford, Hopper, Lawrence, and T. Law, rising friends from Northampton. The widow unfortunately was prevented from attending owing to illness.

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. S. Lindsay), the hymns 'Jesu lover of my soul' and 'Hide with me,' being sung in the church. Appropriate music was played on the organ as the cortege entered the church, and four of the deceased's fellow ringers acted as bearers. After the coffin had been lowered into the grave a plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by F. Hopper, Pte. W. Allen, S. J. Lawrence and F. Wilford. Owing to the large amount of sickness, and the number of deaths in the parish, no ringing could be done on the tower bells.

THE END OF THE WAR.

HOW CHIGWELL ROW CELEBRATED IT.

I remember upon the occasion of one of our country outings, some few years before the war, the parish clergyman asking one of the ringers where he came from. The one addressed proudly and readily replied, 'I come from Barking, sir.' 'Ah!' said the reverend gentleman, with a facetious smile. 'I have never got so far as Barking, but I'm afraid I have done some yelping in my time.'

Last Monday week, the 11th, when the news of the cessation of hostilities became known, I was unfortunately at Barking, away from home. The noise and tumult was so great as to bring to mind the circumstance I have above related, and I really felt a bit like barking, shouting, yelping, or standing on my head.

'So peace has come to us at last,' I muttered to myself. 'With four years' silence of the bells, darkened belfries, absence of ringers and a general neglect or abandonment of our fascinating art, restrictions are removed, so that we now are able to ring without the fear of Dora.'

'Bang, bang,' from the sky above made an abrupt end to my musings, while the thoroughfares seemed suddenly to have been transformed into delicious crowds. Flags of all sizes and colours abounded, the costermonger's donkey coming in for recognition, as well as the thousands of people thus adorned. Amid the din of revelry I could just catch the faint sound of Barking bells, upon whose mellow tones some of the highest change ringing performances have been achieved. The steeplekeeper, failing ringers, was tapping off a few changes or tunes, rather than let the occasion pass by without the bells.

At every step I fancied someone would hale me to a neighbouring tower. Here was a ringer unemployed, and, with the scarcity of labour, surely I should soon be doing my bit. But no! I would return home and turn my back upon all this noise and confusion. I found, however, all the tramcars labelled 'Full,' so that I was compelled to walk every inch homewards.

Weary and footsore, I had not long reached home, and was just preparing my frugal meal, when lo! from the front window of my wigwam our churchwarden appeared. There was a look of resentment or chagrin upon his countenance as I opened wide the door to receive such an important personage.

'Everyone in the parish,' he began excitedly, 'is asking me how it is the bells are not ringing for this joyful news. Of course, I referred them to you.'

'Sorry, sir,' I began, 'but how can the bells be rung without ringers?' I queried. 'They are all together gone out of the way,' said I. 'Hang it all, he quickly retorted, 'surely you can go and kick up a noise on the bells somehow or other. There's all the people waiting near the church, and the flags from the "Maypole" are flying, and no bells!'

'You shall have some noise and hear the bells directly I have finished my tea, sir,' I eagerly responded. Then jokingly, 'There's one or two luxuries from Barking I've brought home allowed by the Food Controller on my table want attention.'

I could say no more by his interruption. 'That's right—get on with it,' and his figure disappeared in the shades of night. My repast over, I was not long before the bells were nibbled, and I ready to make a noise of some sort. First, I played two bars of 'God save the King' (I hadn't got the bells for the dominant key, being only a peal of six). I found 'We won't come home till the morning' did very well, also 'The Village Pump.' Then I manipulated the cords together and 'Fired.' At this all the yokels were heard shouting. I then gave them 'Auld Lang Syne' as far as it would go.

Everybody now were fairly on tiptoe 'at the corner,' and by-and-by the belfry began to fill with boys and girls, some of whom I had for months past been teaching to manage the ringing of a bell. I selected from their number five of the best, two girls and three boys. I making the 6th.

Now, I remembered the orders of the churchwarden to make some sort of a noise somehow or other; and, raising the bells, away we went into rounds. Some of them lost the sally, others got the ropes twining about their necks, others got held up at the back stroke, one got twisted on the floor, and, by jove! I can tell you it was a noise.

G. F. M.

MR. W. NEWELL'S 80th BIRTHDAY.

On Friday, November 8th, ten members of the Reading Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild met at St. Laurence's Tower to do honour to Mr. Newell, who that day attained his 80th birthday. The Vicar (the Rev. R. P. Newhouse) very kindly gave permission for a long touch to be rung, but as a service was to be held in the church at eight o'clock, a full peal could not be attempted. It was, therefore, decided to go for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, and the 1259 changes were splendidly rung in 52½ minutes by: R. T. Hilbert 1, H. Tucker 2, — Wiggins 3, F. Hopwood 4, C. Giles (conductor) 5, C. Pullen 6, H. Egby 7, J. Swain 8, A. Osborne 9, H. Simmonds 10.

Mr. Newell did not take part in the touch, as he was not feeling 'up to the mark,' but he still rings for service on Sunday, and gives instruction to the youngsters on practice nights. His many friends in the Exercise will wish Mr. Newell still many years of health.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Practice at Shoreditch to-morrow (Saturday, Nov. 23rd), at 5 p.m. Saturday (30th), St. Bride's, 5 p.m.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District. —The next meeting will be held (by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev. G. H. Vincent) at St. Andrews', Hillingdon, on Saturday, Nov. 23rd. Bells available from 3 till 4, and from 4.30 till dusk. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Basingstoke Branch will be held at Basingstoke on Nov. 23rd. St. Michael's bells (8) will be available from 3 p.m. Service in the Church at 5.30; tea and meeting at 6. The bells of All Saints' will also be available after the meeting. Visitors requiring tea kindly notify me by Nov. 18th.—John Ward, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 8, Rochford Road, Basingstoke.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, Nov. 23rd. Ringing will commence at 3 p.m., and tea, kindly provided by Lieut. Cyril F. Johnston, will be served at Gillett & Johnston's Foundry at 5.45 p.m.; to be followed by a social evening. All ringers (members or not) and friends are hereby cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 50, Cannon Street, E.C.4.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637).—Meeting at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on Tuesday, Nov. 26th (handbell practice), at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 30th, at the Church of all Saints, Fulham. Ringing will commence at 4 p.m. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the Guild will be held at the Old Church, Smethwick, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Bells available at 3.30. Service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Canon Astbury); business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS' ASSOCIATION.—WESTERN BRANCH.—A quarterly meeting of this Branch will be held at St. Helen's, Worcester, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Service at 4 o'clock, business meeting afterwards. A tea will be arranged for if possible. Will those intending to be present kindly notify me by the Wednesday previous?—R. G. Knowles, Madresfield, Malvern.

THE LADIES GUILD.—A meeting of the Southern District will be held at Shere, near Guildford, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30. Will all who wish to have tea communicate with Mrs. Hazelden, St. Michael's, Joseph's Road, Guildford, before Nov. 27th? Gentlemen cordially invited.—E. K. Parker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next branch meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Burnley, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—WESTERN DIVISION.—A meeting will be held at Oxhey and Bushey on Saturday, November 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. Meeting to follow in the Institute, Bushey.—Hon. Secs., F. A. Smith, 85, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts, and F. Edwards, 24, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 7th (12 bells). Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at dusk. Subscriptions due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

LADIES GUILD.—WESTERN DISTRICT.—A meeting will be held at St. Phillip's, Bristol, on Saturday, December 7th. Bells available from 2 until 7 p.m. Divine Service at 4.30. Tea in the schoolroom at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Members and friends cordially invited. Will those who require tea kindly notify me not later than December 2nd?—N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.—Notice is hereby given that the usual Tuesday evening meetings at the above church will be resumed as and from the 19th inst. Meeting time (on open nights) 7.30, for tower bell practice.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

ST. MARY'S, PUTNEY.—Ringing practice will be held at the Steeple every Wednesday from 7.30 p.m. till 9.30, commencing Wednesday, Dec. 4th. All ringers welcome.—C. E. Collis, Secretary.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

MISCELLANEOUS TOUCHES.

(Continued from page 372.)

CREWE.—On Monday, Nov. 11th, a quarter-peal of Bob Royal/W. Edge 1, W. T. Holding 2, H. Overton 3, R. Langford 4, G. 11, Crawley 5, A. Crawley 6, R. D. Langford 7, J. Dentith 8, G. Harding 9, R. T. Holding (conductor) 10. First quarter-peal of Bob Royal on the bells.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, November 11th, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung on the middle eight of Newcastle Cathedral bells. The semi-toned 6th bell was given by Miss A. M. Dixon, of Newcastle, in memory of her brother, Mr. Matthew Dixon, in September, 1914, with the proviso that it should be rung as a 'peace' bell when hostilities were ended. A short touch only was rung on this the 'Armistice' Day, but when the official peace day is celebrated it is hoped to ring a 5,000 on this musical octave, the 2nd of the twelve bells being the treble and the 9th the tenor.

IN THE DORCHESTER DISTRICT.

The towers of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Guild did full justice to the celebration of the signing of the Armistice on Monday week. At Dorchester a team, including four ladies, was got together, and soon sent forth the joyous news. Touches of Grandsire Triples were rung during the afternoon and evening, and afterwards the band visited Fordington, and kept the bells going till 9.20. On Wednesday, for the thanksgiving service, the local band being short-handed, and the assistance of some of the Wyke Regis ringers, and touches of Grandsire Triples were rung.

On Monday, at Wyke Regis, a band, including three of the youngsters, soon got the bells going, and touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor were rung throughout the afternoon and evening. On Thursday, for the thanksgiving service, a finely struck quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples was brought round in 44 mins., by: P. Wilshire 1, Pte. E. J. Whittingham, Dorset Regt. (Wokingham) 2, C. H. Jennings 3, L. W. Wiffen 4, Lce.-Corpl. B. Williams, Dorset Regt. (Bournemouth), conductor, 5, Sapper F. W. Booth, R.E. (Embsay), 6, A. J. Rose 7, J. Beals 8. After service, 720 Bob Minor, conducted by L. W. Wiffen, was rung on the middle six, treble leading and tenor covering, with C. Tewkesbury treble, the rest as before.

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New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.
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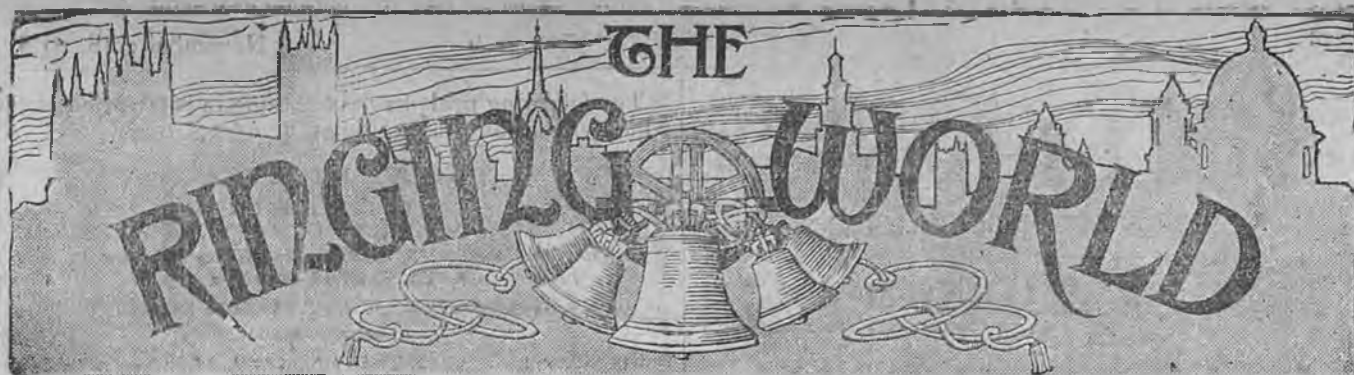
Prices, Gold (9 carat) 30/-, Silver 6/6
Bronze 2/9 (post free).



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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUM CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Messrs GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

UNITY OF ACTION.

In our last issue we touched upon some of the directions in which the efforts of ringers must be exerted if the art is to be re-established, without undue loss of time, in something like the position it occupied before the war. The services of the men who are spared to come back must be secured again for the belfry, the gaps which have been caused by those who have made the supreme sacrifice must be filled, and enthusiasm must be re-engendered. The former can only be largely a matter for each individual band, but the stirring up of interest is a question in which the various county and diocesan associations must take a part. It is their duty and it will be to their advantage. With the removal of the restrictions on ringing, there are increased facilities for meetings, and it would be one of the greatest helps in promoting the art if the number of meetings was considerably multiplied, particularly with a view to reaching outlying towers. In this respect, the example of the Guildford District of the Winchester Guild, in which "six quarterly meetings have been held in the last nine months," might well be copied. There the results have fully justified the action, for an attendance of seventy-five members at a district meeting speaks for itself as to the enthusiasm that exists. Another method of stimulating interest in the art is the organising of combined practices, where numbers are of no consequence, but the ringing is the important thing. These practices have served their purpose well during the war; they will serve an equally good purpose during peace.

Unity of effort is what is required, and if in every district throughout all our associations, ringers set out with a definite plan before them, the revival of the art will be rapid and lasting. And while we are on this topic, may we say a word for the ringers' own paper. Much of the interest of ringing lies in the knowledge of what is being done by others; friendly rivalry stimulates action, and there would be little progress without the means of inter-communication. The only source of information which is at the disposal of members of the Exercise is "The Ringing World," and when we are urging activity in the belfry, and unity of action among ringers to promote the art, we feel it is not out of place to ask ringers to give their support to the journal which, so to speak, holds the Exercise together. It is only through this newspaper that ringers can keep in touch with the doings of their confreres, not only in other parts of the country, but often in their own associations, and by adding to the support which is given to "The Ringing World," ringers will also be serving their own ends. We appeal, therefore, to all members of the Exercise to lend their aid, and they may rest assured that the greater their support, the better the journal that will be at their service.

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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Witness C. CARR, LTD.
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Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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The following peals have been rung in celebration of the Allied victory and the signing of the Armistice :—

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

CITY OF LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 23, 1918, in Four Hours and Five Minutes,
At St. Paul's Cathedral,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANCES;

Tenor 62 cwt.

EDWIN HORREX Treble	ALBERT A. HUGHES 7
CHALLIS F. WINNEY 2	REUBEN SANDERS 8
HERBERT LANGDON 3	CHARLES S. BURDEN 9
HENRY R. NEWTON 4	ALFRED B. PECK 10
WILLIAM E. GARRARD 5	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL 11
EDWARD WALLAGE 6	WALTER PRIME } Tenor
	SAMUEL E. JOYCE }

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by WILLIAM T. COCKERILL.

TEN BELL PEAL.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 23, 1918, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANCES;

Tenor 19½ cwt. in D.

WILLIAM KENT Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS 6
FREDERICK S. PRICE 2	CHARLES WILLIAMS 7
GEORGE WALKER 3	I/A.M. STANLEY BRAGG 8
ALBERT WALKER 4	JAMES L. WELLS 9
CHARLES DICKENS 5	GEORGE YENDALL Tenor

Arranged by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

No. 5 Carter's Broadsheet.

Arranged for 1st Air Mechanic Stanley Bragg, who was home on leave, and for F. S. Price, who hails from Beeston, Notts.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SWINDON, WILTS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(SWINDON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 23, 1918, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr.

HERBERT W. BISHOP Treble	THOMAS RICKETTS 5
ALFRED LAWRENCE 2	ERNEST BISHOP 6
ROBERT W. HYNTER 3	CHARLES J. GARDINER 7
THOMAS ROBINSON 4	ALBERT E. W. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST BISHOP.

In addition to being a thankoffering for the triumph of the Allies, this peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Thomas Robinson with the band's hearty wishes for 'many happy returns.' It was also the first peal rung by H. W. Bishop, of Wanborough, Wilts, formerly of Bishop's Stortford.

SELBY.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 23, 1918, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
At THE ABBEY OF SS. MARY AND GERMANUS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

W. MATTHEW'S 12-Part.

Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qrs. 20 lbs.

JAMES JACKSON Treble	FREDERICK CRYER 5
HENRY FAIRLAM 2	WILLIAM HINTON 6
ERNEST STORR 3	SERGT. E. MORRIS, A.S.C. 7
ARTHUR HULL 4	GEORGE RIPPON Tenor

Transposed and Conducted by SERGEANT ERNEST MORRIS, A.S.C.

Rung also in honour of the Rev. Dr. Solloway, D.D., Vicar of Selby Abbey, being made a Canon of York Minster.

* First peal. All the band belong to Selby except the Conductor, who hails from St. Margaret's, Leicester, the above being his 50th peal as Conductor.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 13, 1918, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Giles.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

EDWARD E. DODD Treble	JOHN WYATT 5
CHARLES E. READ 2	WILLIAM COOK 6
WILLIAM H. CORBETT 3	ARTHUR DEAN 7
ALFRED L. BROWN 4	*ALFRED S. DIXON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. CORBETT.

* First peal and first attempt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.
(NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.)

On Wednesday, November 20, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. John the Baptist.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6040 CHANCES;

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

JOHN FOREMAN Treble	ALFRED F. HILLIER 5
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE 2	WILLIAM W. SINCLAIR 6
BERT HORTON 3	BENJAMIN C. DIXON 7
ERNEST E. FERRY 4	WILLIAM H. BARBER Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by C. L. ROUTLEDGE.

The conductor's 200th peal.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 23, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
At the Parish Church of St. George.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

BANK'S SIX-PART. Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

HUGH WATTS Treble	*WILLIAM HINDLEY 5
JAMES ALLRED 2	ROBERT ALLRED 6
JOHN T. ALLRED 3	WILLIAM SMITH 7
HARRY ALLRED 4	JOHN HAMPSON Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT ALLRED.

* First peal. This is the quickest peal yet rung on the bells. The ringer of the seventh hails from Leigh.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.
(ROSSENDALE BRANCH)
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 12, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

VICAR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TAYLOR Treble	ORMEROD EASTWOOD 5
THOMAS HARRISON 2	WALTER TAYLOR 6
SAML. LORD 3	JOHN T. WRIGHT 7
LAWRENCE TAYLOR 4	JOHN W. ORMEROD Tenor

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.
(ROSSENDALE BRANCH)
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 23, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

SHEPHERD'S SIX-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

ED. ISHERWOOD Treble	WALTER TAYLOR 5
THOMAS HARRISON 2	ORMEROD EASTWOOD 6
SAML. LORD 3	STANLEY PICKUP 7
JOHN H. HAYDOCK 4	JOHN W. ORMEROD Tenor

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

Rung to commemorate the silver wedding of the Conductor.
Mr. Ed. Isherwood, who hails from Shandforth, late of Bury, was made a member of the Association before starting for the peal. Mr. J. H. Haydock hails from St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, Stanley Pickup from St. Saviour's, Bacup, the rest are local ringers.

RE-UNION OF RINGERS AT CROYDON.

GREAT GATHERING AT THE BELL FOUNDRY.

Saturday last will long be remembered by all who were privileged to attend the meeting held by the London County Association at Croydon, to which a special invitation had been extended to all London, Surrey and Kent ringers, through the kindness of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The bells of St. Peter's and St. John's were available for the ringers from three, and were kept busily engaged until five p.m. The visitors naturally paid great attention to St. Peter's, and, sad to relate, many were unable to get a pull on this magnificent peal of ten, owing to the great number attending. The ringing in which Miss E. K. Parker, Miss Orlebar, and other ladies, took part, included Stedman and Grandsire Caters and Treble Bob Royal, but the touch of the day, according to general opinion, was three long courses of Stedman Caters, composed and conducted by one of the oldest and most highly respected members of the London County Association, Mr. A. J. Perkins, of Biddington. Although considerably over 70 years of age, Mr. Perkins made it quite clear that he is still capable of displaying the master spirit, and it is hoped that ere long he will be conducting a peal to celebrate the signing of peace. At 5 p.m. a flashlight photograph was taken in the tower, and the party then proceeded to the new canteen recently opened by the Duke of Connaught at Messrs. Gillett and Johnston's works, where tea was served, upwards of 300 sitting down. Here the spirit of good fellowship was indeed in evidence, and not a single item had been omitted which could contribute to the comfort and well-being of the guests. A splendid repast had been kindly provided by Mr. C. F. Johnston, and to this, needless to say, ample justice was done. Tea over, another flashlight photograph was taken.

The Rev. L. J. White-Thompson, Vicar of Croydon (recently appointed Archdeacon of Canterbury), addressed the company, welcoming the ringers. He proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. C. F. Johnston for his hospitality, and the motion was received with acclamation.

Mr. Johnston responded, and in the course of a few well-chosen words of welcome, expressed his great pleasure in having present that great company of the ringers.

The Vicar of St. Peter's proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the canteen staff for the excellent arrangements made and carried out, coupled with the name of Mr. Charles Dean, whose untiring energy is well known in ringing circles, and highly appreciated.

With clockwork regularity the programme was proceeded with, and a delightful concert programme was carried out. The artistes included Mr. C. F. Johnston, Miss Nora Johnston, Mr. Harry Colder, Mr. D. Wright, Mr. Leonard Taylor, etc., the accompaniments being played by Mr. Stringer. Selections on handbells by Mr. C. F. Johnston was a pleasing feature, and were particularly well received and greatly enjoyed, as was a cornet solo by a performer of no mean attainments, who, with all the other entertainers, was connected with the firm. Five stalwarts (one at least whose modesty knows no limit) mounted the stage and rang a well-struck course of Stedman Caters, viz., G. M. Kilby 1—2, Miss E. K. Parker 3—4, W. A. Alps 5—6, W. Wise 7—8, T. Groombridge, senr., 9—10.

Many of the party during an interval took the opportunity of having a look round the factory, where the night shift was in full swing, and, piloted by the courteous and genial general manager, Mr. Housman, the party were taken through the various shops, and were greatly interested in this truly wonderful hive of industry. Returning, the inner man was again catered for and the revels continued, but owing to the clock creeping silently along, many had perforce to seek train and tram to their various destinations, declaring that it was a re-union worthily commemorating the armistice, also the sweeping aside of the restrictions imposed upon ringing by that busy-body, lately called D.O.R.A.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

There was a good attendance at St. John's Church, Hillingdon, on Saturday last, when the South and West District of the Middlesex Association held a meeting. The District Master (Mr. Thomas Beadle) presided.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar (the Rev. R. M. Carrick) for so kindly allowing the use of the bells, and to Mr. W. Honor for the energy shown by him in making the arrangements. It was proposed to have the next meeting at West Ealing on December 14th, subject to permission being granted. Everyone was pleased to see Mr. H. H. Chavviller again, after his recent illness. He rang one of the light bells to a short touch to show that he was willing. The members also had the company and help of Messrs. J. Pratt and F. Hughes, of the local band; also Messrs. C. Edwards, W. H. Oram and J. Payne.

After a capital tea at a near-by hostelry further ringing was indulged in, and curiously enough the last touch proved far and away the best (at least, so everyone said). It was Grandsire Caters: W. Lawrence 1, Miss Gladys Bateman 2, Miss Nora Williams 3, G. H. Gutteridge 4, R. Holloway 5, B. Bewer 6, W. Henley 7, A. Beckenale 8, W. Honor 9, A. Harding 10.

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

THE ARMISTICE.

THE BELLS CELEBRATE THE ALLIED VICTORY.

The following items of news tell how, throughout the land, the bells have taken their part in celebrating the signing of the armistice, which completes the defeat of the enemy:—

At St. Albans the bells at the famous old Abbey, and at the three other churches with peals, were rung on Armistice Day.

The Spalding Parish Church bangel had a busy day, and spread the joyous news over a wide district. They began at their church, and then by motor-car, reached the following villages where they set the bells going, to the great delight of the parishioners: Fulney, Moulton, Whaplode, Holbeach, Gedney Fleet and Long Sutton. They reached Spalding again in time to ring the bells in the evening, after a really good day's work. The ringers were: Richard Mackman, Harry Eley, Councillor J. T. Brown, H. Harris, A. J. Adecock, R. Smith, E. Andrew and C. Stiles.

Ringers in the Selly Oak district combined to visit towers in the neighbourhood, joy bells being rung at Edgbaston, Selly Oak and King's Norton. The visitors were met at the last-named church by Ald. J. S. Pritchett and the Vicar (Canon H. Price), both of whom expressed their thanks to the band for coming to the church to aid in the ringing on such an auspicious occasion. Those who took part were: C. Webb, J. Johnson, W. Bryant, E. J. Dowler, H. Withers, J. Eaton, G. Pigott, W. Ball, and V. Hemus, with Canon Price and Ald. Pritchett.

PORTSMOUTH AND EDINBURGH.

The bells of St. Mary's and St. Thomas', Portsmouth, were much in evidence on Monday, November 11th. By kind permission of the Admiral Superintendent of the Royal Dockyard the ringers were allowed to leave work to ring the bells, and sufficient ringers were mustered to man both peals of bells. At 12 noon, simultaneously with a service in front of the town hall, and with hooters blowing, both peals 'fired,' and continued to ring at intervals. At 3 p.m. the bands changed over, and the following touches were rung. At St. Thomas': 504 Grandsire Triples: A. Davis 1, E. Reynolds 2, F. Burnett 3, J. Symons 4, J. Harris 5, F. J. Cullum (conductor) 6, E. J. Harding 7, F. Edney 8. 504 Stedman Triples: E. Reynolds 1, C. Groves 2, F. Burnett 3, J. Symons 4, F. J. Cullum 5, J. Harris 6, E. J. Harding (conductor) 7, F. Edney 8. At St. Mary's: 504 Grandsire Triples: F. W. Rogers (first 504) 1, E. Reynolds 2, C. Groves 3, J. Symons 4, A. C. Collins 5, W. Wheeler 6, E. J. Harding (cond.) 7, G. Cooper 8. In the evening, at both churches, further touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, were rung, those taking part, in addition to the above, being Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O., Mr. Bond, Mr. Holloway, and visitors from Gosport.

At St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, during the day, on November 11th, the bells were rung at various times by members of the society, and members from St. Mary's Cathedral Society. The ringers included: E. F. Price, W. B. Sampson, J. Whitson, J. Paris, J. Ritchie, Miss M. S. Taylor and Miss J. Edie, while the others who took part rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins.: Miss E. L. Hall 1, J. Gardner 2, T. R. Taylor 3, Miss A. I. Whitson 4, Miss P. E. Hogg 5, H. Mann 6, W. G. S. Heathcote (conductor) 7, D. Stocks 8. This is the longest touch by all except the ringers of the 3rd, 7th and tenor.

OXFORD GUILD OPERATIONS.

Members of the East Berks and South Bucks branch of the Oxford Guild had previously discussed peace ringing, and with limited numbers available made an excellent rally on receiving the tidings of great joy. To ensure as many rings of bells as possible being sounded on the day, parish bands in Berks and Bucks amalgamated. On Monday afternoon, at 4 p.m., the following members attended St. Mary's Tower (Slough) in response to the summons of the 'whipper in,' Mr. G. F. Leader: Sapper G. Martin, R.E. (Boyne Hill), Sapper A. Oliver, R.E. (Salt Hill), Sapper C. T. Leech, R.E. (Salt Hill), Corporal E. Mallard, R.E. (Eastbourne), Misses Mona and Gladys Bateman (Stoke Poges), Misses D. M. and M. R. Leader (Slough), Messrs. J. J. Parker and W. Henley (Farnham Royal), W. Bateman (Stoke Poges), G. T. Leader (steeplekeeper), A. Perryman, W. B. Good, C. J. Shreeve, A. Leader (Slough), and the hon. secretary, Mr. W. H. Fussell.

Touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were soon echoing over the town from this fine ring of bells, conducted by Messrs. Martin and Henley. It was impossible to get them going earlier, men having to 'down tools' on receipt of a telegram, soldiers leaving their depot by kind permission of the Adjutant of the R.E.'s, and again the last sad rites of burial for several inhabitants who were laid to rest in peace near the tower had to be performed. No man of military age not serving in the Forces took a rope in the first joyous round, and a record of names is given by which it will be seen that the ladies halved the honours: Mr. C. J. Shreeve 1, Miss M. Bateman 2, Miss Dorothy Leader 3, Miss May Leader 4, Miss Gladys Bateman 5, Sapper Leech 6, Sapper Oliver 7, W. B. Good 8. The vice-president of the Branch (Canon Elliot) was present in the belfry, and gave the visitors a welcome, with thanks for their help on such an appropriate occasion.

The bells were again pealed soon after 7 o'clock for thanksgiving service. Leaving sufficient hands to carry on at Slough, the party was divided at 5 o'clock, some cycling to Stoke Poges, and others to Farn-

ham Royal. At the former tower the team was able to ring Bob Minor, conducted by Mr. W. Henley, and the peace peal consisted of three six scores of Grandsire Doubles: C. J. Shreeve 1, G. Bateman 2, G. Leader 3, W. Henley 4, W. Bateman (conductor) 5, and E. Mallard 8.—Canon Barnett thanked the ringers personally, and made appropriate remarks on the happy termination of the war, and quoted an interesting anecdote concerning the late Kaiser's brother. The musical process of 'falling in peal' concluded the ringing at Stoke.

At Farnham Royal the visitors found four young pupils with their tutor, Mr. J. J. Parker, eagerly awaiting them at 7 p.m. The Rector, the Rev. F. M. Hargreaves, and Mr. Churchwarden Withall were present, and after prayers, heartily joined in by all—a company of 18 ringers—the eight bells were set going in a glad peace peal of rounds, the team being: Harold Dowling 1, Ethel Dowling 2, Hilda Dowling 3, Leslie Dowling 4, G. Martin 5, J. Elderfield 6, Rev. F. M. Hargreaves 7, and W. Henley 8.

Touches of Grandsire, Oxford Bob and Stedman Triples were brought home, conducted by Messrs. Henley, Parker, and Martin respectively. By a kindly forethought—it was Mr. Anonymous again—the flagging energies of the men, after their arduous evening's work, were revived with simple refreshment provided at short notice. If only simple cheer, it was the sweetest partaken of by those present for many a year. It will be noticed that three pairs of sisters took the ropes of peace, and three clergymen were in their respective bellfries on the day, which is a county record in itself.

TWO FAMOUS VETERANS.

The Exercise will be delighted to read that, among the celebrations of the Allied Victory has been a peal at St. Paul's Cathedral. This was rung on Saturday last, and the band included the veteran, Mr. Edwin Horrex.

Another veteran, the oldest ringer in England, rang at Guildford on Armistice Day. This was Mr. John Heathorn, who is 95 years of age, and who, in his young days rang with ringers who had rung in celebration of the Victory of Waterloo. A wonderful link with a century ago!

The removal of the restrictions on ringing have resulted in the resumption of practices at St. Paul's Cathedral and St. Martin's, Birmingham, among other celebrated towers.

On Saturday last, the Wyke Regis band, with the soldier ringers in the district, journeyed to Abbotbury for the purpose of ringing the bells for the celebration of the signing of the armistice. Here, through the depletion of ringers, the bells have been rung very little during the war. The ringers were met by the local captain, Mr. H. Cozens, who had everything in readiness.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, dates from the early part of the 16th century, has an embattled tower, containing an old peal of six bells (tenor about 12 cwt.). The treble, 2nd and 3rd are by Hibbie, 1775, while the 5th is inscribed: 'To see in what estate they live and nothing to the poor they give to, 1636. H.G., W.H., I.T.' The 'ro' of the bells is excellent, and during the afternoon and evening several fine touches of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob Minor were rung. Three 120's of Doubles were rung to give the three local men left a chance to ring the tenor. A 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was brought round, by: Pte. S. V. Crabb, Dorset Regt. (Ilminster), 1. Lee-Corpl. D. Williams, Dorset Regt. (Bournemouth), 2. Sapper F. Booth, R.E. (Emberton), 3. C. H. Jennings 4, L. W. Wiffen (cond.) 5, A. J. Rose 6. The same band also rang 720 Bob Minor. These are the first 720's on the bells, and the villagers were delighted to hear their sound. The thanks of the ringers are due to the Vicar, the Rev. C. O. Brutton (who, to the regret of all, is leaving the district), for providing tea, and to the local captain, Mr. H. Cozens.

FROM ALL QUARTERS.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On Monday, November 11th, the bells of St. Mary's Church were 'fired,' and then a well-struck 720 Grandsire Doubles was rung with 6-8 covering, and the bells again 'fired.' J. Goodsell 1, F. Morgan 3, W. Perry 4, W. Hoad 5, T. Booth 6, A. Edwards 7, L. French 8. Further 'firing' afterwards took place, an old Salehurst ringer, Mr. H. French, taking part. Later, with the assistance of Mr. J. Blake, of Hawkhurst, an attempt was made for Taylor's Bob and Single peal of Grandsire Triples, but that unfortunately came to grief after two hours' excellent ringing: J. Goodsell 1, F. Morgan 2, W. Perry 3, J. Blake 4, T. Booth 5, A. Edwards (conductor) 6, W. Hoad 7, L. French 8.

LLANBRADACH.—Llanllaf Association. — On Tuesday morning, November 12th, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins.: *Miss L. Nottley 1, *Miss M. Giffen 2, P. Boucher 3, Wj. Pike 4, (S. Voysey 5, P. Jones 6, G. Cooke (conductor) 7, *H. Carsel 8. * First quarter-peal of Triples + First quarter inside.

CAERPHILLY.—On Tuesday evening, Nov. 12th, at St. Martin's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins., by the same band as at Llanbradach, except that the tenor was rung by T. Love, the ringers of 1, 2, 5 and 8 belong to Llanbradach, and the rest to Caerphilly.

RUMNEY, S. WALES.—On Nov. 11th, at St. Augustine's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 40 mins. John H. Pacey 1,

Mrs. A. Thompson 2, Miss Frances Millward 3, Miss May Dunn 4, Miss Hilda Howells 5, Henry Pacey (conductor) 6. Also another quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 43 mins.: Miss A. Millward 1, Mrs. A. Thompson 2, Miss E. Thompson 3, Miss May Dunn 4, Miss Hilda Howells 5, Henry Pacey (conductor) 6. Touches of Grandsire Doubles were rung during the evening by the foregoing ringers, and also J. Thompson and Miss Ethel M. Pacey.

BRAINTREE.—At the Parish Church, immediately upon receipt of the official news on Monday, November 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): F. Webb 1, G. Lindridge 2, H. E. Hammond 3, C. H. Howard (conductor) 4, W. H. Dyson 5, A. Shuffelbotham 6, E. F. Slade 7, W. H. Harms 8. The bells were again rung and fired in the evening, conducted by G. Lindridge and A. Shuffelbotham.

BOCKING, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, 350 Grandsire Triples and 928 Kent Treble Bob, rung by: H. Coote, F. Radley, A. Shuffelbotham (conductor), F. Warren, G. Lindridge, W. H. Dixon, E. Radley, L. W. Crow, W. Moore, C. Lambert and W. Grimwade. Charles Bearman, aged 81, for many years leader of the Bocking ringers, took part in a few rounds.

CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.—On Monday, Nov. 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), at the Priory Church: Miss C. Sparshott 1, W. A. Cave (composer and conductor) 2, Rev. R. H. Whitford 3, E. V. Hinton 4, W. G. Stone 5, S. Best 6, S. Sparshott 7, A. Woolf 8, A. Davies 9, G. Preston 10.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, touches of Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples were rung on Monday, Nov. 11th, and the bells fired. The following took part: Robt. Holloway, W. H. Hollier, J. W. Frain, A. Harding, C. Brown, W. Lawrence, C. Edwards, C. Roote, Miss Jones, G. Vickery, G. Iles, A. W. Davis.

OSWESTRY, SALOP.—At the Parish Church, on Monday, Nov. 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): G. Thompson 1, R. T. Evans 2, J. Hughes 3, R. Martin 4, R. Edwards 5, G. Williams 6, E. Jones (conductor) 7, G. Beaton 8.

WALKDEN.—On Monday, Nov. 11th, after firing and 'Queen's,' a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins., by: John Denner 1, J. Worthington 2, J. Welsby 3, A. Potter 4, S. Oakes 5, M. Berry 6, J. Potter (conductor) 7, Jas. Denner 8.

CROYDON.—Surrey Association.—At the Church of St. Peter, on Monday, Nov. 11th, 518 Grandsire Triples and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Dean 1, W. Bulpit 2, H. Wills 3, G. Bart 4, F. Lathier 5, D. Wright (conductor) 6, C. Kitching 7, F. Hermon 8.

CHELMSEFORD, ESSEX.—At the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), on the back eight, in 50 mins., by the following: A. Whight 1, A. Speller 2, H. Edwards 3, J. Wood 4, P. Tinson 5, H. Allen 6, H. Richell 7, W. Pease 8.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Monday afternoon, November 11th, at the Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Grandsire Minor: L.-Cpl. G. C. Collins, A.O.C. 1, R. Tall 2, J. Constant 3, R. Constant 4, F. Hayes 5, A.-M. E. M. Mitchell, R.A.F. (cond.) 6, 720 Plain Bob: C. Freed 1, F. Hayes 2, G. Jones 3, Air-Mechanic F. Mitchell 4, J. Avis 5, G. Morad (conductor) 6.

MERSTHAM.—At the Parish Church, on November 11th, 720 Grandsire Doubles: H. Morley 1, Miss Orlebar 2, E. Atkins (conductor) 3, C. Killick 4, A. Wood 5, W. Francis 6.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Monday, Nov. 11th, at noon, the bells were fired, and short touches of Bob Minor were rung. A 560 was brought round, by Miss E. M. Stuart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Stuart 4, J. Huddleston 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6, T. R. Jackson (cover) 7. In the evening, the bells were 'fired,' and 560 Bob Major rung: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, T. Watson 5, J. Huddleston 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. Also 336 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, T. Watson 3, Miss Stuart 4, J. Huddleston 5, W. H. Dennison 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For thanksgiving services, on Nov. 13th 732 Bob Minor: J. Burrows 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson (conductor) 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw (cover) 7.—On Sunday, Nov. 17th, for morning service, 784 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss Stuart 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For evening service, 816 Bob Major: Pte. E. H. Simpson, 2nd South Lancashire Regt., 1, J. Huddleston 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. After evening service, 672 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, Pte. E. H. Simpson 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

WASHINGBOROUGH.—On Monday, Nov. 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): W. Clarke 1, T. Kent 2, H. Knott 3, J. Walden (conductor) 4, T. Clarke 5, W. Walker 6, J. Hutton 7, E. Walker 8. Also on November 15th, a quarter-peal by: T. Kent 1, J. Walden 2, H. Knott 3, W. Clarke 4, T. Clarke 5, W. Walker 6, J. Hutton (conductor) 7, E. Walker 8.

RAWTENSTALL.—At St. Mary's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1918 changes) was rung for the evening thanksgiving service, on Monday, November 11th, in 1 hr. 8 mins.: S. W. Riley 1, G. E. Rolleston 2, T. Rollerson 3, H. F. Shaw 4, G. H. Hargreaves (conductor) 5, A. Newman 6, J. Rollerson 7, E. Timbers 8.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

At the annual meeting of the College Youths, last week, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Master, Mr. A. A. Hughes; hon. treasurer Mr. L. A. Hughes; trustees, Mr. C. F. Winney and Mr. W. Prime; senior steward, Mr. R. Sanders; junior steward, Mr. C. H. Horton; hon. secretary, Mr. W. T. Cockerill.

THE D.C.M.

Ringers will join in congratulating Mr. T. Walker, hon. secretary of the London County Association, upon the distinction gained by his son, Lance-Corpl. Thomas Norman Walker, who has been awarded the D.C.M. Lance-Corpl. Walker is 19 years of age, and a Lewis gunner, and he won his decoration while serving with the Royal Fusiliers. Although not yet a change ringer, he often used to ring the tenor behind in good style, and he is an excellent tune ringer on handbells.

PENTRE RHONDDA RINGER DIES OF WOUNDS.

The St. Peter's company, Pentre Rhondda, loses a promising young ringer, by the death, in France, from wounds on October 20th, of Pte. Frank Wines, of the Welsh Regiment. He had only been in France seven weeks.

He was the son of the treasurer of the Pentre Rhondda band. Deceased had rung only one peal, which was Oxford Treble Bob Major. In addition to being a ringer, Pte. Wines was also in the choir.

It was arranged to ring a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples on Saturday last, but one of the band was taken ill, and, therefore, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung instead, in 50 minutes: G. Cross 1, B. Davies 2, J. Cross 3, Tom Page (conductor) 4, T. Hamlin 5, H. Page 6, W. Page 7, F. Chamberlain 8. The band passed a vote of sympathy with the bereaved parents.

THE LATE MISS DOROTHY WHITE.

FUNERAL AT COTGRAVE.

The funeral of the late Miss Dorothy White, one of the Cotgrave ringers, and second daughter of Mr. W. E. White, the hon. secretary of the Midland Counties Association, took place on Monday, Nov. 11th, at the Parish Church. The flags in the village, which had been flying since the news was received of the signing of the armistice, were lowered to half-mast, as the solemn procession made its way to the church. The Rev. F. C. Cursham and the Rev. C. J. Sturton were the officiating clergy. The sad rites commenced with the singing of the hymn, 'Jesu, lover of my soul,' and the singing of the Nunc Dimittis marked the close of a very impressive service in the church.

At the graveside the mourners and friends joined in singing the hymn, 'There is a blessed home,' and, after the Blessing, the last two verses of 'Sun of my soul' were sung. The bells were then rung half-muffled by the Cotgrave ringers, and later in the evening a date touch, consisting of 478 of Plain Bob Doubles and two 720's of Plain Bob Minor, was rung in 1 hr. 20 mins., as a token of respect by the following band: G. Newell (Radcliffe) 1, Walter White (conductor) 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton (Orston) 3, W. E. White 4, Frank Spencer (Radcliffe) 5, T. Squires 6.

Farewell! in home and love,
In faith and peace and prayer,
Till He whose home is ours above
Unites us there.

RAISING AND LOWERING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the Rev. F. Ll. Edward's letter, I think the better way is to raise and lower singly from the treble in rotation, when not done 'in peal.'

However, I am pleased to have had the views of both Messrs. Lawrence and Edwards, and trust they will do their utmost to alter the abominable practice of raising and lowering bells 'all in a heap,' as I presume they are anxious it should be done in an orderly manner.

Perhaps I should explain my reason in writing on this subject.

I understand that several peals of our church bells are for ever silent, owing to injunctions, etc., surely deeply regrettable, and should be extremely sorry to know of any more peals being closed down, especially when such things might, perhaps, be avoided.

At the meeting at Messrs. Gillet's and Johnston's works, on Saturday, Canon White-Thomson, the new Archdeacon of Canterbury, in his remarks, said it was most outrageous that the Kaiser and the Germans should have caused our beautiful English bells to be silent even for one moment, but surely it is more outrageous that our own people should have the bells stopped for ever.—Yours truly,

Brockley, S.E. F. W. RICHARDSON.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Sunday, August 18th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, on handbells, in 39 mins., at the residence of Mr. T. Walker, 50, Cannon Street, E.C. 4: F. G. Symonds (first quarter-peal in hand) 1—2. T. H. Taffender (conductor) 3—4. W. A. Alps 5—6. T. Walker 7—8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Rossendale Branch was held at St. Paul's, Ramsbotham, on Saturday week, when 16 members attended from Ramsbotham, Rawtenstall, Newchurch, Bacup, and Deane (Bolton). During the afternoon and evening touches were rung of Grandsire, Bob Minor, etc., a short break being made for the ringers to partake of a hot potato pie, which the Vicar kindly provided the only disappointment being that there were not more present to enjoy the appetising meal.

In the absence of the Vicar from the meeting, which he was unavoidably prevented from attending, Mr. George Hargreaves, of Rawtenstall, was voted to the chair. It was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Saviour's, Bacup, at a date to be arranged later.

Thanks were given to the Vicar for his hospitality, and to the ladies for attending upon the needs of the party. Thanks were also given to the Vicar and wardens for use of bells, and to the ringers for having everything in order.

Ringings were then again indulged in until nine o'clock.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.

On Saturday week, a very successful meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at St. John's Church, Miles Platting. Ringers were present from Ashton-under-Lyne, Barlow Moor, Bolton, Eccles,

Pendlebury, Pendleton, Prestwich, Middleton, etc. During the afternoon Canon Elsec (President of the Association) put in an appearance, but regretted he could not stay to the meeting.—Mr. Harry Chapman presided over the business proceedings, and gave a hearty welcome to the visitors. Miss Doris Ogden, of Ashton-under-Lyne, was elected a member, and Manchester Town Hall was chosen as the next meeting-place, on December 7th, providing there be no general election on that date, otherwise it will be held on the 21st.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector, and to local ringers for having things ready.

LADIES' FIRST 720.

At St. Augustine's Church, Woodstone, for morning service, on Oct. 13th, 720 of Plain Bob Doubles was rung by the following ladies: Miss B. Armstrong 1, Miss P. Hare 2, Miss K. Williams 3, Miss F. Culpin 4, Miss A. Parkins 5, Miss E. Parkins 6, Miss F. Culpin conducted two six-scores, and four were conducted by Mr. H. Hoare standing in the belfry. This is the first time a 720 has been rung by a whole band of ladies. These ladies had their first lesson in handling a bell the week before last Christmas. The striking was very good throughout the 720, and great credit is due to them for the way they have persevered in attaining their present efficiency.

RINGER'S WEDDING.

The wedding of Miss Bond, of Yaxley, and Sergt. H. Day, R.A.F., son of Mr. F. Day, the well-known bell hanger, and Mrs. Day, of Eye, took place at Yaxley Church on Thursday of last week. In the evening, the Eye ringers met at the Parish Church, and rang touches in honour of the occasion. At the conclusion they enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Fredk. Day at their residence, where toasts were honoured, interspersed with courses on the handbells. Included in the many presents was a handsome cruet, presented by the Eye ringers and a few ringing friends.

MR. C. L. ROUTLEDGE'S 200 PEALS.

	Rung.	Conducted
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	2	
Stedman Cinques	1	1
Oxford Treble Bob Royal	2	1
Kent Treble Bob Royal	6	2
*Stedman Caters	12	1
*Grandsire Caters	1	
London Surprise Major	8	4
Cambridge Surprise Major	3	2
Superlative Surprise Major	17	8
Oxford Treble Bob Major	4	2
*Kent Treble Bob Major	42	8
Woodbine Treble Bob Major	1	1
Double Norwich Major	21	5
Double Oxford Bob Major	1	1
Duffield Major	1	
Bob Major	7	2
Stedman Triples	43	17
Grandsire Triples	10	3
Bob Triples	7	2
Seven Surprise Minor Methods	1	
Seven Minor Methods	12	5
Totals	200	65

* One of each on handbells retained in hand, three in all

NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Town Hall on Saturday, Dec. 7th. Bells available from 3.30; meeting at 7 p.m.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The practice announced for St. Bride's to-morrow (Nov. 30th) is postponed.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 30th, at the Church of all Saints, Fulham. Ringing will commence at 4 p.m. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the Guild will be held at the Old Church, Smethwick, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Bells available at 3.30. Service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Canon Astbury); business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS' ASSOCIATION.—WESTERN BRANCH.—A quarterly meeting of this Branch will be held at St. Helen's, Worcester, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Service at 4 o'clock, business meeting afterwards. A tea will be arranged for if possible.—R. G. Knowles, Madresfield, Malvern.

THE LADIES GUILD.—A meeting of the Southern District will be held at Shere, near Guildford, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30. Gentlemen cordially invited.—E. K. Parker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Burnley, on Saturday, Nov. 30th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—WESTERN DIVISION.—A meeting will be held at Oxhey and Bushey on Saturday, November 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. Meeting to follow in the Institute, Bushey.—Hon. Secs., F. A. Smith, 85, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts, and F. Edwards, 24, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts.

PARISH CHURCH, HIGH WYCOMBE.—On Saturday evening, Nov. 30th, from 6.15 till 8.15, touches with bells muffled will be rung as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. W. T. Horne.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Estab. 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on December 3rd, Southwark Cathedral on the 10th, St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on the 12th, at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on the 17th, all at 7.30 p.m. The sum of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not met the society twenty times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—W. T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 7th (12 bells). Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at dusk. Subscriptions due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

LADIES GUILD.—WESTERN DISTRICT.—A meeting will be held at St. Phillip's, Bristol, on Saturday, December 7th. Bells available from 2 until 7 p.m. Divine Service at 4.30. Tea in the schoolroom at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Members and friends cordially invited.

Will those who require tea kindly notify me not later than December 2nd?—N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

"BRISTOL'S OWN" Lady Handbell Ringers will, by arrangement, give a few handbell selections after the business at the Ladies' Guild meeting at Bristol on Dec. 7th.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, December 7th. Bells ready at 3; service at 5; meeting at 5.30. Members intend being present please send word to Sec.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Stoke on Saturday, December 7th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Tea in the Church Institute at 5.20 p.m.; please notify Mr. S. Churton, 11, Lonsdale Street, Stoke-on-Trent, of how many intend to be present not later than Wednesday, December 4th.—J. Johnson, Hon. Sec., 51, Dunrobin Street, Longton

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, December 14th, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7 o'clock. Subscriptions are now due. Reports to hand.—John H. Haydock, Branch Secretary, 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

BISHOP RYDER'S, BIRMINGHAM.—Notice is hereby given that the bells at above Church will be available for united practice on Monday evenings from 7.45 to 9 p.m.—W. H. Carrod, Hon. Sec., Potters-Hill, Aston, Birmingham.

ST. MARY'S, PUTNEY.—Ringing practice will be held at the Steeple every Wednesday from 7.30 p.m. till 9.30, commencing Wednesday, Dec. 4th. All ringers welcome.—C. E. Collis, Secretary.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

THE COCKEY MEMORIAL FUND.

The following further subscriptions have been received toward the Cockey Memorial Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
St. George's Tower, Bristol	...	1	10 6
Mr. W. Farley, Wells, Somerset	...	2	6
St. Mark's Tower, Swindon	...	6	0
St. Margaret's Tower, Swindon	...	5	0
St. Andrew's Tower, Blunsdon	...	10	0
St. John's Tower, Wroughton	...	2	6
Mr. C. H. Howard, Master, Essex Association	1	1	0
Mr. J. Tyler, St. Stephen's, Bristol	...	5	0

Total to date ... £25 0 0

Further subscriptions will be acknowledged from time to time.—G. Condict, 15, Westbourne Road, Easton, Bristol.

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STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., with an appendix by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., etc., etc.

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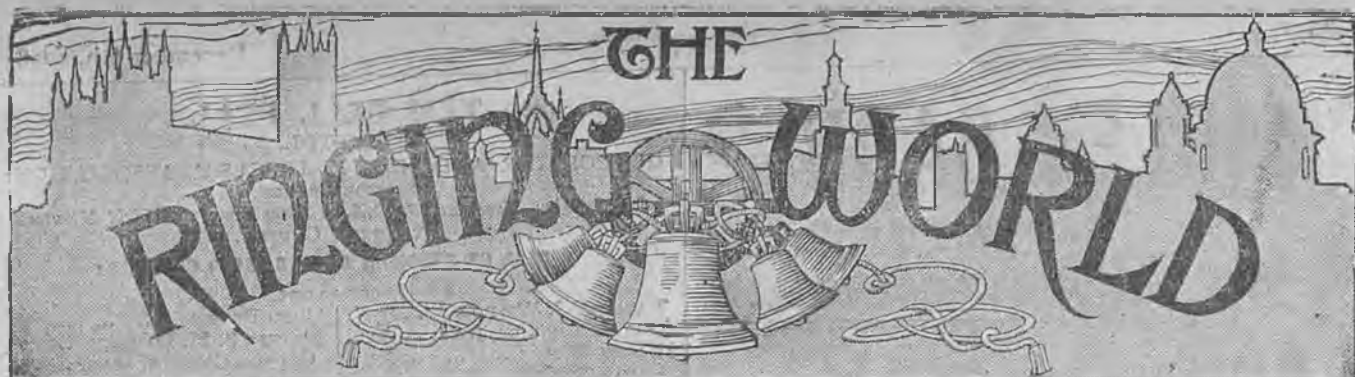
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WOLFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Messrs GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 6th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

FROM MUNITIONS TO BELLS.

All the well-known bell foundries of this country were, during the war, transformed into munition factories, and they are now, as rapidly as may be, returning to their peace-time occupations. This transition period is certain to be one of difficulty, for the expansion caused by the demand for munitions of war, obviously cannot be maintained in the return to the peaceful arts. Nevertheless, we hear that already some of the foundries are getting many inquiries for bells and restorations.

In the latter direction there should doubtless be great opportunities for the bell makers, for there are very few peals that have been overhauled since 1914, and the neglect which could not be obviated since then must have increased very greatly the number of rings of bells which are in need of attention. There ought, too, to be no lack of new work, for every parish will be seeking fittingly to perpetuate the memory of its fallen sons, and there is certain to be a goodly proportion of instances where a new peal of bells, or an addition to an existing ring, will suggest itself as a suitable memorial. Indeed, it is up to ringers to see that this suggestion is not lost sight of when the question is under consideration in their own or neighbouring parishes. Many opportunities may similarly occur for putting in a word in season when memorials to individuals are contemplated. As a matter of fact there ought to be much work for the bell founders in this direction, but they have the right to expect the help of the rank and file of the Exercise, who are in personal touch with church authorities, in bringing this particular subject to notice at the opportune moment. After all, the bells of old England have a warm spot in the hearts of the people, whether they understand—as few of them do—anything of the art as we know it, or not. The bells appeal strongly to them, and Handel has declared that the bell was the Englishman's national instrument. For centuries this has been the ringing-isle, and deep down in the soul of the Englishman is his love for the music of the belfry.

It ought not to be difficult, therefore, with all the advantages that bells may claim as a specially suitable form of memorial, to advocate successfully the erection of bells in our churches to perpetuate the memory of those who have fallen. While putting forward a proposal which would doubtless find acceptance in many cases, ringers would have the further satisfaction of knowing that they were advancing their own art and also assisting in the reconstruction of an industry which all of us must desire to see not only restored to its pre-war importance, but raised to an even greater position of prosperity.

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MODERN WORK.

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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and Worcester Cathedrals etc. etc.

TEN BELL PEAL.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(BRISTOL BRANCH.)

On Thursday, November 28, 1918, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATER, 5019 CHANCES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

RAYMOND J. WILKINS ... Treble	* JOHN BROWN 6
GEORGE CONDICK, JUNR. ... 2	† SAPPER S. M. DAY 7
† HARRY WAY 3	GEORGE CONDICK, SENR. ... 8
EDGAR GUISE 4	JOHN A. BURFORD 9
* ARTHUR WALLACE 5	* WALTER WALLACE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOHN A. BURFORD.

* First peal. † First peal of Stedman Caters.

Sapper S. M. Day was elected a member of the Association before starting.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SHIPLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, November 16, 1918, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

HORACE HUTLEY Treble	HERBERT HAIGH 5
THOMAS B. KENDALL 2	JOHN JOYCE 6
JOSEPH BROADLEY 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
WILLIAM JOYCE 4	GEORGE A. O. NETTLETON ... Tenor

Composed by the late CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by THOMAS B. KENDALL.

Rung in celebration of the cessation of hostilities

BARKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 23, 1918, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 22½ cwt. E flat.

THOMAS FAULKNER Treble	FRANK C. NEWMAN 5
ERNEST J. BUTLER 2	JAMES NORRIS 6
ARTHUR WORBOYS 3	ROWLAND FENN 7
ERNEST G. FENN 4	CALEB FENN Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by CALEB FENN.

Rung as an act of thanksgiving for the preservation of our country from invasion, our Church from material damage and also for the Divine protection of all Barking Ringers serving through the War.

CARDINGTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 30, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

MISS EVELYN STEEL Treble	JOSEPH CHURCH 5
GEORGE EITE 2	CPL. GEORGE BENNETT, R.E. 6
CHARLES CHASTY 3	CHARLES WM. CLARKE 7
WILLIAM DAVISON 4	WILLIAM STAPLETON Tenor

Composed by GEORGE HUGHES.

Conducted by CHARLES WM. CLARKE.

CORRECTIONS.

The ringer of the 2nd in the peal at Harborne on November 15th should be J. W. Tilley, not Lilley as printed.

THE PEAL AT WORCESTER.

Will you favour me with space to make two corrections in connection with the peal of Grandfire Caters rung at All Saints', Worcester, on Armistice Day? First this should have appeared as a Worcester and District Association Peal. I suppose after over four years' immunity from writing peal reports one gets out of the way of it. Secondly, in my footnote I stated it was fifty-two years since a peal was rung in Worcester composed by its conductor. This I now recall is wrong, as on February 21st, 1905, I conducted a peal of Canterbury Major composed by myself.—Faithfully yours,
W. PAGE.
Worcester.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 26, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
At the Parish Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THORSTAN'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

ALFRED F. HILLIER Treble	CHARLES L. ROETLEDGE 5
JOHN B. RICHARDSON 2	ERNEST E. FERRY 6
JOHN FOREMAN 3	WILLIAM W. SINCLAIR 7
BENJAMIN C. DIXON 4	JOHN STUART Tenor

Conducted by E. E. FERRY.

Quickest peal on the bells.

Rung to celebrate the recent signing of the Armistice. All belong to Newcastle Cathedral Guild except the ringer of the 2nd, who belongs to Gosforth, and of the tenor who is a member of the local band.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 30, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

J. W. WASHBROOK Treble	TITUS BARLOW 5
HARRY CHAPMAN 2	SAMUEL GREENHALGH 6
THOMAS B. WORSLEY 3	JOHN POTTER 7
JOSEPH WINTERBOTTOM 4	AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

Rung to celebrate the coming of age of Pte. A. A. J. Trippier, Grenadier Guards, eldest son of the ringer of the tenor, also a birthday compliment to Mr. James George.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 30, 1918, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ROBERT ELLAM Treble	CHARLES SENIOR 5
JOSEPH BROADLEY 2	FRANCIS BARKER 6
HERBERT DRANSFIELD 3	JOSEPH RANGELEY 7
WILLIAM E. H. ASH 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

Rung in honour of the signing of the Armistice.

This peal contains the 6-4-8 course ends and is now rung in Yorkshire for the first time. It was the 40th peal by the ringer of the 4th and the first peal by the ringer of the 5th for 20 years.

SIX BELL PEAL.

ASH PRIORS, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 1, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

A. C. HARVEY Treble	J. WYATT 4
G. COLES 2	A. TOUT 5
W. CLAPP 3	W. SEALEY Tenor

Conducted by A. TOUT.

* First peal and first attempt.

The ringers of 1st and 5th are from Milverton, 2nd from Wilton, 3rd from Halse, 4th from Fitzhead and 6th from Bishop's Lydiard.

Rung to commemorate the cessation of hostilities.

MORTLAKE.—For thanksgiving service, on Sunday, Nov. 17th, at St. Mary's Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 46 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, W. H. Stevens 2, H. Barrett 3, C. Hunt 4, H. Cook 5, W. H. Wood 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, Pte. S. Meadows, A.S.C., 8.

LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

BLOCK OR LEAD LINK—WHICH?

Dear Sir,—In the last few days I have examined again Mr. Davies' pamphlet on 'Lead Ends,' and I think I have discovered wherein lies the difference between him and me, and, I believe, a great many others who think like me. Mr. Davies in all his letters dealing with the question of the 'link' in Grandsire, has referred to the 'lead link,' and it has been with his ruling as to the lead link that I have failed to agree with him. Mr. Davies is tenacious in argument, and I do not know whether I shall succeed in convincing him of error, but I say now that Mr. Davies, in the present correspondence, has mixed up 'lead link' with 'block link.' Let me quote from his own pamphlet. In laying down the conditions for a method he says: 'The method must be capable, by the regular making of its normal places, of producing as many of its own blocks, sets, or divisions as there are working bells.' A little later he goes on to say:—

'In methods with a hunt or hunts there is one, and only one, position of the hunt affording an opportunity for a choice in the succession of rows. . . . In the Plain Bob method this possible break occurs after the hand stroke lead of the treble. . . . The form of the row at the treble's back stroke lead being thus fixed, the form of all the succeeding rows to and including the treble's next ensuing hand stroke lead is irrevocably fixed. The whole number are bound together, each row in its own place, as by a bond of iron. They constitute a fixed solid. We, therefore, term it a "block." In Grandsire and odd bell methods generally having hunt bells, the block division comes one row earlier.'

Again, in a summary of the principles underlying the structure of a method, Mr. Davies gives: 'The division of every method into sets of rows, for which in methods with a hunt the best name is "blocks," owing to the fact that the occurrence of any of the rows implies that of the whole block. A block is of the same length as a treble lead, though not in all methods conforming with it.'

The underlining is mine, for that sentence emphasises my present point that a block and a treble lead are not the same, and that whilst I have been talking about the place that joins the 'leads' in Grandsire, Mr. Davies has been talking of the place which joins the 'blocks.' Whether Mr. Davies is content to accept this I do not, of course, know, but I am satisfied upon the point, as I am sure your readers will be if they examine the question, and particularly Mr. Davies' letter in your issue of October 25th, and, therefore, I shall have nothing further to say upon it. The block link may be the 7th's, but the lead link is undoubtedly the 3rd's.

Before I close I feel I must say a word with regard to the exception which Mr. Davies takes to my quoting his opposite statements on the question of the 'bob' being part of the method. He does not deny that a few weeks ago he wrote 'a plain lead and a bob are equally the method,' because that fits in with his present argument, but because his considered statement in 'Grandsire' is a direct contradiction, staring at him in cold print, he now tells us that the 'meanest capacity' ought to have known that when he wrote 'where there are no plain leads the method ceases to be Grandsire,' he did not mean what he said. No subtlety of the litterateur's art, no charge of unfairness against a critic, and, indeed, nothing but the frank withdrawal of the assertion, if it is wrong, can alter the meaning of that line of print in 'Grandsire.' Mr. Davies knows it, he might as well have admitted it, and the pity is, not that I adopted the argument, but that Mr. Davies should try to wriggle out of an awkward position by trying to put the responsibility on the capacity of those who having seen what Mr. Davies said, did not know that it was not what he meant.—Yours, etc., D. SMITH.

[This letter was unavoidably held over for a fortnight, owing to the demands upon our space by the Armistice ringing.—Ed.]

A BIRTHDAY PEAL.

In celebration of the 21st birthday of Pte. A. A. J. Trippier, of the Grenadier Guards, eldest son of one of Manchester's most respected ringers, Mr. Amos Trippier, a peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Pendleton on Saturday. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. James George, of Birmingham. After the peal the ringers adjourned to the Bull's Head Hotel, Eccles, where they were entertained, so far as D.O.R.A. permitted, by Mr. and Mrs. Trippier and their son, and a very pleasant evening was passed. The best wishes of the company were extended to Pte. Trippier, and he and his parents were heartily thanked for their hospitality.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY.

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association have started a fund to help forward the above memorial, and appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

THE LATE BERTRAM PREWETT'S PEALS.

The late Bertram Prewett's peal list was a remarkable one, and but for the war he would long since have carried the total into four figures. When he fell in action he had rung 953 in methods ranging from Minor to Cambridge Surprise Maximus, and of these he had conducted 236. The following are the details:—

	Rung.	Conducted.
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	3	—
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	5	1
Stedman Cinques	52	3
New Cambridge Surprise Royal	3	—
Cambridge Surprise Royal	16	4
Kent Treble Bob Royal	13	1
Stedman Caters	123*	16
Grandsire Caters	1	—
Bristol Surprise Major	61†	17
London Surprise Major	66	—
New Cambridge Surprise Major	11	5
Cambridge Surprise Major	11	5
Superlative Surprise Major	104	43
Norfolk Surprise Major	1	—
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	37	13
Kent Treble Bob Major	39	27
Oxford Treble Bob Major	7	3
Bob Major	8	4
Stedman Triples	247	88
Grandsire Triples	10	1
Peals of Minor	2	—
On Handbells—		
Stedman Cinques	28‡	—
Stedman Caters	33	—
Stedman Triples	12	5
	953	236

* Including 18,927 (record), † including 15,264 (record), ‡ including 6,063. Rung in 240 towers, in 37 counties.

As a tribute to the memory of Capt. R. E. Stavert and Rifleman B. Prewett, of Bushey, and Pte. W. J. New, of Isleworth, who have all fallen recently in the war, the bells at Isleworth Parish Church were rung, half-muffled, for morning service on November 3rd. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but failed after 40 minutes' ringing.

Sapper F. W. Naunton, of the R.E., B.E.F., and Driver C. V. Ebberston, A.S.C., of Blackheath, write to express their great regret at the death of Rifleman Prewett. 'We shall never forget,' they say, 'the happy times we spent together during the months he was stationed at Southwold, Suffolk, and during which we rang four peals together. He rang his last peal at Wrentham, Suffolk, on May 14th, 1916, and in this we both took part. We can safely say we have lost one of the best and truest friends a man can have, and, although he is taken from us, we can safely say that as long as we live he will never be forgotten; we are sure that the deepest sympathy of every ringer who knew him will go out to his widow and aged parents.'

A MILITARY TOUCH.

At St. Mary's Church, Dover, recently for Sunday evening service, 720 Bob Minor was rung by a company comprised of entirely army ringers: Bomb. G. Hubert, R.G.A., 1. Corpl. S. Wade, R.E. (conductor) 2, Pte. J. Harrison, L.C., 3. Pte. H. Price, A.P.C., 4. Corpl. H. C. Saywell (1st Vol. Batt. Buffs) 5, Sergt. H. J. Saunders, R.E., 6.

FAREWELL TOUCH.

As a farewell touch to Sapper H. Osborne, a member of St. Giles' Society, who was returning to France after 14 days' leave, and also to his brother, the ringer of the treble, who has been discharged, but who is undergoing a further operation, which will render him incapable of ringing for some considerable time, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by their father, was rung at St. Giles' Church, Reading, on November 22nd, by: L. T. Osborne 1, A. W. Osborne (conductor) 2, H. Simmons 3, A. Wiggins 4, C. Pulling 5, H. Egby 6, H. Tucker 7, Sapper H. Osborne, R.E., 8.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE. — On Saturday, August 17th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Price 1, R. Drage 2, A. H. Ward (conductor) 3, J. C. Dicken 4, J. Bailey 5, C. Chasty 6, J. Flower 7, W. J. Wileman 8. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar (the Rev. G. P. Crocker, M.A.), who was inducted to the living on the previous day by the Bishop of Southwell. It was intended to attempt a peal for the occasion, but owing to one of the band failing to put in an appearance, a substitute had to be procured, and time did not allow any longer length, owing to evening service.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX. — On Sunday, August 18th, for morning service, 360 Oxford Treble Bob: P. Almond 1, J. Bowell 2, G. Lancaster 3, E. Eady 4, W. J. Nevard (conductor) 5, G. Jennings 6. Arranged for Mr. G. Lancaster, of Swindon.

ARMISTICE TOUCHES.

LUTON, BEDS. — At the Parish Church, on Nov. 11th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: A. J. Smith (first quarter in the method) 1, F. Hunt 2, A. King 3, W. H. Sibley (of St. Peter's, Northampton) 4, T. Blackburn 5, J. Rookwood 6, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 7, T. Kendall 8. Also 2,176 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 25 mins.: A. J. Smith 1, F. Hunt 2, B. Wilson 3, L. A. Goodenough 4, T. Blackburn 5, T. Kendall 6, J. Rookwood 7, A. King (conductor) 8. — On Nov. 12th, the occasion of the Mayor and Corporation attending Divine service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes), in 50 mins.: B. Wilson 1, F. Hunt 2, A. J. Smith 3, W. H. Sibley 4, T. Blackburn 5, J. Rookwood 6, A. King (conductor) 7, T. Kendall 8. In addition to above, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung. — On Nov. 15th, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was attempted, but a shift course occurred after ringing nearly three hours: A. J. Smith 1, F. Hunt 2, B. Wilson 3, L. A. Goodenough 4, T. Blackburn 5, T. Kendall 6, J. Rookwood 7, A. King (conductor) 8. Owing to a sudden bereavement, Mr. Harry Wood could not participate in the ringing.

BARNES. — At St. Mary's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, in 50 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, C. Hunt 3, W. H. Stevens 4, H. Cook 5, Pte. S. Meadows, A.S.C., 6, F. Sker-ington (conductor) 7, W. H. Wood 8. This was also the 18th anniversary of the conductor's wedding.

ISLEWORTH. — At the Church of All Saints, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 4, 6, 8 covering: E. Webb, G. A. Ransom, T. Beadle, W. Etherington, H. W. Lidbetter, H. Brooks, A. Sheard, W. Dickens and C. Richens. — On Sunday afternoon, Nov. 17th, for thanksgiving service, at which the district Council attended, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: J. Green 1, C. Edwards 2, W. Etherington 3, T. Beadle 4, C. Bird 5, H. W. Lidbetter (conductor) 6, C. Tricker 7, A. Sheard 8.

SWINDON, WILTS. — On Monday, Nov. 11th at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): G. W. Townsend 1, A. Lawrence 2, R. W. Hyner 3, T. Robinson 4, T. Rickells 5, E. Bishop (conductor) 6, C. J. Gardiner 7, A. E. W. Smith 8.

HORLEY, SURREY. — On Monday, Nov. 11th, 720 and 400 of Plain Bob and 500 of Grandsire Doubles: S. Lamway, F. Voice, A. Songhurst, G. Hollingsbee, P. Etheridge, G. Ilman, T. Whitmore, taking part, conducted by G. Ilman.

LINDFIELD, SUSSEX. — After having been 'clocked' for about 18 months, Lindfield bells were heard again in their full musical tones on Armistice Day, several old ringers, with the assistance of Mr. Watts, being got together for the occasion.

ARDINGLY, SUSSEX. — On Armistice Day, two 720's of Bob Minor were rung by the local band, assisted by Mr. H. Tomsett, of Lindfield.

SEELY OAK. — On Monday, Nov. 11th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 42 mins.: W. Dowler 1, W. Bryan 2, H. Withers (conductor) 3, W. Ball 4, E. J. Dowler 5, J. Eaton 6, G. Pigott 7, J. Johnson 8.

EDGBASTON. — On Tuesday, Nov. 12th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: J. Johnson 1, C. Webb 2, E. J. Dowler 3, V. Hennis 4, G. Pigott 5, H. Withers (conductor) 6. — On Sunday, Nov. 24th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob Minor: J. Johnson 1, W. Bryan 2, H. Withers 3, V. Hennis 4, G. Pigott (conductor) 5, J. Eaton 6.

BRISTOL. — On Tuesday, Nov. 12th, the bells of St. Nicholas were rung, and the following took part in some Kent Treble Bob Royal: W. Lansdown 1, Mrs. E. J. Wilson 2, F. G. May 3, A. Maggs 4, A. Pearce 5, P. W. Wade 6, J. Richmond 7, H. T. Howell 8, Pte. J. Nicholls 9, 1. Long 10.

CLIFTON, NOTTINGHAM. — On Wednesday, Nov. 13th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: W. J. Sevier 1, Rev. C. J. Sturton 2, W. J. Bowden 3, A. B. Moss 4, W. Clifford, junr. 5, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor: W. J. Sevier (conductor) 1, Rev. C. J. Sturton 2, W. J. Bowden 3, F. R. Scott 4, W. C. Hunt 5, W. Clifford, junr. 6. Also a touch of Kent Treble Bob.

ASHTED, SURREY. — On Thursday, Nov. 14th, at the Church of S.S. Mary and Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1280 changes), in 50 mins.: E. E. Dodd 1, A. L. Brown 2, J. Wyatt 3, H. Boxall 4, W. Marks 5, E. Hull 6, A. Dean (conductor) 7, A. S. Dixon 8. Rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal.

BRAINTREE. — On Saturday, Nov. 16th, at the Parish Church, a date touch (1918 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. (composed by G. R. Newton): F. Webb 1, C. H. Howard (conductor) 2, G. Lindredge 3, G. Metbourne 4, W. H. Dyson 5, E. F. Slade 6, W. H. Hammond 7, L. W. Wiffen 8. For evensong, on Sunday, Nov. 17th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. H. Howard 1, G. Lindredge 2, H. J. Collins 3, G. Metbourne 4, W. H. Dyson 5, H. F. Cooper (conductor) 6, E. F. Slade 7, W. H. Hammond 8.

STOCKPORT. — At St. George's Church, on November 17th, for the evening thanksgiving service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 55 mins. Afterwards, two courses of Stedman Triples: J. Booth 1, G. Astbury 2, T. Jackson 3, W. Jackson 4, H. Menkin (conductor) 5, G. D. Warburton 6, G. Marshall 7, F. Welch 8.

VICTIMS OF INFLUENZA.

A LONG EATON RINGER AND HIS WIFE.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death from pneumonia, following influenza, of Second-Lieut. Seneschall and his wife, only three days separating their decease.

Second-Lieut. Seneschall, who was 24 years of age, earned his commission for good service at the front, and had for some time been stationed at Saltfleetby. He was recently home on ten days' leave prior to going to France. Returning to Saltfleetby, he took his wife with him that they might spend his last few days in England together. Unfortunately, shortly after leaving Long Eaton, both were victims of the terrible disease, which caused their death.

The funeral took place on November 23rd, at Long Eaton Cemetery, soldiers acting as bearers. Muffled touches were rung on the bells on both the Saturday and Sunday.

As a ringer Lieut. Seneschall was very quick in grasping methods, and had a future of great promise. His place in the belfry will be difficult to fill.

DUFFIELD LADY RINGER'S DEATH.

On Sunday, November 17th, the funeral of the late Miss Emma Flower took place in the Little Eaton Church. Miss Flower, who was a ringer at Duffield Church, was the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Flower, Eaton Bank, Duffield, and she was only 27 years of age, and passed peacefully away after a very short illness, being another victim of the influenza scourge. As the cortege left the residence of Mr. Flower, the bells of Duffield Church were rung muffled. The service was choral, the hymns being, 'Angel voices ever singing,' a favourite of Miss Flower, and 'Jesus, lover of my soul.' The Vicar of Little Eaton impressively conducted the service, and as the body was carried to its last resting-place by four of the Duffield church bell ringers, the organist played appropriate music.

Miss Flower was for several years assistant at the Duffield Branch of the Co-operative Society, and the very high esteem in which she was held by the members of this important branch was evidenced by the large number who took the journey to Little Eaton to pay their last token of respect. The floral tributes were very beautiful.

Miss Flower, by the courteous carrying out of her duties during her work in Duffield, had earned the respect of all she came in contact with, and her untimely death has caused quite a sensation of loss in the village, especially amongst the members of the Co-operative Society, who, with the staff, are erecting a stone as a token of esteem and of their appreciation of her valued services.

Miss Flower's father is an old ringer at All Saints' Church, Duffield, and rang many peals with the late Sir A. P. Heywood. The deceased young lady had all her father's enthusiasm for ringing, and only a month before her death rang the treble to 120 Grandsire Doubles, at which both herself and her father were highly delighted.

DEATH OF A MALDON RINGER.

With regret we report the death of Lieut. Russell Finch, at the age of 25, which took place at the Isle of Wight, from pneumonia. Deceased, who was a ringer at Maldon, Essex, joined the Queen's Own 24th London Regiment in September, 1914, and after being in France most of the time returned to England about five months ago to train for a commission, which he had just received in the 22nd London Regt. when he contracted influenza, which eventually resulted in his death.

The funeral took place at St. Mary's Church, with full military honours. The deceased's fellow ringers were present at the graveside, and after the funeral rang 720 of Oxford Treble Bob with the bells deeply muffled, the following taking part: E. Mansfield 1, R. Hutson 2, A. Mansfield 3, G. Mansfield 4, H. J. Mansfield (conductor) 5, C. Tabor 6. Messrs. A. South and F. Chalk were suffering from influenza, and were thus unable to pay their last respects to the deceased officer, who before joining the colours was a regular Sunday ringer. He is the third ringer that St. Mary's has lost during the war.

FATHER AND SON AS CASUALTIES.

Pte. L. H. Moore, sen., of Pill, a member of the Bath and Wells and Gloucester and Bristol Associations, serving with the R.E.F. in North Russia, has been admitted to hospital with both legs fractured in an accident sustained on Oct. 21st.

Corpl. L. H. Moore, junr., of Pill, who is also a member of the Bath and Wells and Gloucester and Bristol Associations, who is serving with the 1st Batt. Lincoln Regt. in France, was wounded in the right arm and left leg on September 29th, this being the second time he has been wounded. He is now on special furlough from hospital.

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DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM T. HORNE.

LOSS TO THE OXFORD GUILD.

The High Wycombe belfry, as well as the ringing fraternity generally, has suffered a severe loss in the death of Mr. William Thomas Horne, who passed away on November 22nd. He succumbed to an attack of influenza, collapsing rather suddenly from cardiac failure. The deceased, who was 47 years of age, had been in the employ of Mrs. Reynolds, of Totteridge, for some three years; and in his vocation of a gardener had carried out his duties in a conscientious manner. He had made many friends in the little hamlet, and was always ready to assist any who desired information in connection with their gardens or allotments. He was also very assiduous in his work of collection for the Red Cross Society.

The late Mr. Wm. T. Horne was an enthusiastic ringer. He came to the Wycombe district from Chalfont about three years ago, and was elected a member of the Wycombe All Saints' belfry. He proved a great acquisition to the local tower, being a keen and expert campanologist, courteous and genial and ever anxious to lend assistance. He was a consistent and regular attendant at the Sunday ringings and practices. As a qualified instructor of the Oxford Guild, he had rendered valuable services to various towers. At Amersham, in particular, he was greatly esteemed for his good work. As a young ringer in a letter received from this district said: 'We shall miss him, for he was a right good fellow, ever willing to help a young hand forward.' As a peal ringer and conductor he was exceptionally reliable. He had rung many peals; his last peal in the Wycombe belfry being a very fine one of Stedman Cinques.

It was one of his chief delights to ring in different towers, and his record shows that he had rung in about a hundred belfries. His last touch was at Wycombe belfry on Armistice Day, and he was among the first arrivals on receipt of the news. Throughout the whole of the Guild Mr. Horne was greatly respected and admired for his genial qualities. In addition to other societies, the late Mr. Horne was a member of the Middlesex County Association, and the Royal Cumberland Youths.

The funeral took place at the Wycombe Parish Church on Thursday of last week, the sad obsequies being conducted by the Rev. C. H. Ridsdale, M.A. (President of the Ringers), and the Rev. J. W. C. Moore. There were many ringers present, who, besides the local men included: Messrs. J. C. Trues (Marlow), J. Blackmore (Beaconsfield), W. Goodchild (West Wycombe), G. H. Gutteridge and Miss E. A. Fuller (Fulmer), Messrs. Wm. Henley (Stoke Poges), W. H. Fussell (secretary of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch), F. Boreham, Jos. Evans and John Evans (Hughenden), and others. The police and special constabulary (of which deceased was a member) were also represented by colleagues desirous of showing respect. The ringers and others formed a guard of honour at the entrance to the church, and after the cortege had passed, fell in behind the immediate family mourners. Appropriate funeral music was rendered on the organ by Mr. George F. Andrews, A.R.C.O., and during the service, the hymn, 'Abide with me,' was feelingly sung. At the conclusion of the last sad rites at the cemetery the ringers returned to the church, where muffled touches were rung on the bells. On Saturday the bells were again rung muffled, an opportunity being thus given to those unable to be present at the funeral to take part, and many availed themselves of the occasion. The 'whole pull and stand,' corresponding to the deceased's age was performed; and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Kent and Rob Major, etc., rung. On Sunday the bells were rung half-muffled.

The floral emblem from the ringers was a handsome cross, bearing the inscription: 'To a good comrade. With the sincere and heartfelt sympathy of the Church Bellingers—' Called to higher service.'

Many expressions of sympathy and condolence with those who are left to mourn their loss have been received; and Mrs. W. T. Horne and family are very grateful for all the kindly tokens of sympathy and respect.

G. T.

MISCELLANEOUS TOUCHES.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on August 18th, for evening service, a date touch (1918 changes) of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. and 9 mins.: J. Goodsell 1, W. Franks 2, E. J. Pannett 3, W. H. Perry 4, T. Booth 5, W. Hoad 6, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 7, T. Hoad 8.—On Monday, August 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: F. Morgan 1, W. Hoad 2, E. J. Pannett 3, C. Tribe 4, T. Booth 5, E. B. Crowder (conductor) 6, A. E. Edwards 7, T. Hoad 8.

LONG ASHTON.—On August 24th, at Long Ashton Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): Mrs. J. Thomas (first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples) 1, Pte. J. Thomas 2, Edgar Guise (conductor) 3, A. Tennet 4, H. J. Brown 5, G. Yeo 6, J. Caple 7, H. Bridle 8.

REIGATE, SURREY.—On Sunday, August 25th, at the Parish Church, 490 Grandsire Triples, for evening service, as a farewell touch to H. Evans, who was leaving to join the colours on the 28th: E. Dewy 1, H. Ewing 2, H. Jordan 3, S. Thomas (conductor) 4, W. Argent 5, W. Clayton 6, F. Rice 7, A. Lorkins 8. Mr. S. Thomas, from Sheffield, was on a visit to Reigate to see his son, who is wounded and in hospital there.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Town Hall on Saturday, Dec. 7th. Bells available from 3.30; meeting at 7 p.m.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Estab. 1673.—Meetings for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on December 10th, St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on December 12th, at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on December 17th, all at 7.30 p.m. The sum of rs. 8d., which entitles members who have not met the society twenty times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—W. T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 7th (12 bells). Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at dusk. Subscriptions due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

LADIES GUILD.—WESTERN DISTRICT.—A meeting will be held at St. Phillip's, Bristol, on Saturday, December 7th. Bells available from 2 until 7 p.m. Divine Service at 4.30. Tea in the schoolroom at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Members and friends cordially invited. Will those who require tea kindly notify me not later than December 2nd?—N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

"BRISTOL'S OWN" Lady Handbell Ringers will, by arrangement, give a few handbell selections after the business at the Ladies' Guild meeting at Bristol on Dec. 7th.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, December 7th. Bells ready at 3; service at 5; meeting at 5.30. Members intend being present please send word to Sec.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Stoke on Saturday, December 7th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Tea in the Church Institute at 5.20 p.m.; please notify Mr. S. Churton, 11, Lonsdale Street, Stoke-on-Trent, of how many intend to be present not later than Wednesday, December 4th.—J. Johnson, Hon. Sec., 51, Dunrobin Street, Longton.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting is to be held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday, Dec. 7th.—Ringing from 2.30; service at 4.15; tea, followed by business meeting in the Schools at 5. Ringing from 6 onwards.—C. A. Phillips, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, December 14th, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7 o'clock. Subscriptions are now due. Reports to hand.—John H. Haydock, Branch Secretary, 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. W. H. Thompson), at West Ealing, on Saturday, December 14th. Tower open 2.30. Short service at 5; tea at 6 o'clock, followed by further ringing.

All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Hitchin on Saturday, December 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m.—F. R. Bacon, Hon. Sec., The Laurels, West Hill, Hitchin.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Western District will be held at St. Chad's, Headingley, on Saturday, Dec. 21st. Bells (8), tenor 20 cwt., available from 2.30 until 9 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in Men's Club, Weetwood Lane (only cups of tea provided); business meeting immediately after tea. All ringers welcome.—Percy L. Cooper, Hon. District Sec.

BISHOP RYDER'S, BIRMINGHAM.—Notice is hereby given that the bells at above Church will be available for united practice on Monday evenings from 7.45 to 9 p.m.—W. H. Carrod, Hon. Sec., Potters Hill, Aston, Birmingham.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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WATH-ON-DEARNE.—At All Saints' Parish Church, Wath-on-Dearne, on Thursday, August 22nd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: Wm. Woodcock 1. J. Panther 2. A. Panther (conductor) 3. H. Chamberlain (first 720 and first attempt) 4. A. Gill 5. G. Walsh 6.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on August 25th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Goodsell 1. E. J. Pannett 2. W. H. Perry 3. E. B. Crowder (conductor) 4. T. Booth 5. J. Crowder 6. A. E. Edwards 7. G. Tribe 8.

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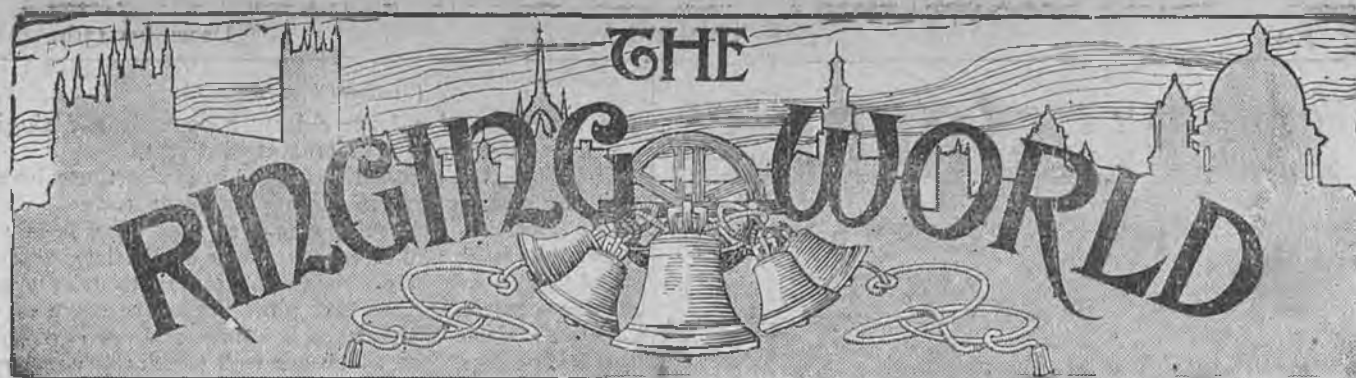
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Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

THE TIME FOR ACTION.

A correspondent asks us to bring forward again the question of reconstruction, and to suggest a scheme which could be generally adopted, as there appears to be a large number of ringing societies who have no plan of action. It is quite true and much to be regretted that many of the important ringing organisations have no definite ideas before them for re-building the practice of ringing in their particular area. Time and again we have returned to this subject in the hope of stimulating action, but peace has arrived with numerous associations content to "wait and see." Many of them, while the war was in progress, made urgent appeals to the members left at home for financial support to recoup them for the lost subscriptions of those with the Forces, but not all of these societies have prepared any organisation to re-establish their fortunes when demobilisation takes place, and those ringers, who have been spared, return again to their homes.

As we have said before, it must not be taken for granted that these men will all rush back to the belfry. The enthusiasts will, of course, do so, but there were hundreds among those who answered the call for whom the belfry had no exceptional attractions, who were, perhaps, not accomplished change-ringers, and for whom a four years' absence will have been sufficient to sever interest in the art. Yet if these men are induced to return to the Exercise they would prove a valuable addition in recruiting the ranks of ringers, and in any policy of reconstruction these are the men who ought first to be sought out. To submit, however, a general scheme of reconstruction, as our correspondent requests, is an extremely difficult task. For one reason, the conditions prevailing in different districts are certain to vary greatly, and a scheme which might answer in one place might be quite ineffectual in another.

From time to time we have made numerous suggestions which, if followed up, would, we believe, lead to a rapid restoration of the Exercise in its old position. Valuable information as to how far associations might help local bands could be obtained by ascertaining how far companies have been depleted, to what extent the standard of ringing, judged by the methods practised, has been reduced, and what steps are being taken to recruit. This seems to be the starting-point for any organised campaign, and with this information before them, associations might offer suggestions for increasing the strength of the bands, such as securing probationers from the C.E.M.S. branches, or the Men's Institutes, and similar bodies, and by providing instructors to help these beginners rapidly into the interesting paths of the art. It would be here

Continued on page 394.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, report and tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

BELLS
FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.**

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS,
BEST BELL ROPES.

REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer.**

60, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway)

Late 155, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Makers to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute
Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough
Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester
and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

(Continued from page 393.)

that the value of a lantern lecture on bells and ringing would be found useful in creating interest.

Then, too, the associations could organise those invaluable combined practices among adjacent towers, which have proved so successful wherever they have been systematically held, and a larger number of district meetings, all of which are inducements to ringers to take a still greater interest in their pursuit. These are some of the directions in which effort can be made, and our correspondent adds two others which are well worthy of consideration, viz., prizes or certificates for regular Sunday service ringing, and certificates to members who ring their first peal. Many other methods of bringing in members and increasing their interest will suggest themselves to those anxious to see progress made, and we are quite certain that much good will be done by discussing the subject at meetings. But there is no time to waste.

TEN BELL PEAL.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, December 7, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE GATERS, 5003 CHANCES;

CHARLES FAULKS Treble	WILLIAM A. COOPER 6
GILBERT GUEST 2	JOHN GOODMAN, JUNR. 7
JOHN GOODMAN, SENR. 3	FRANK G. BURLEIGH 8
HERBERT SHEPPARD 4	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 9
BENJAMIN GOUGH 5	WILLIAM MEER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, JUNR.

The above peal was specially arranged and rung as a compliment to the new Vicar of Dudley, the Rev. A. H. Phelps, M.A., whose Institution and Induction to the Vicariate of Dudley took place on the previous Thursday evening.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 30, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

WM. RHODES Treble	EDWARD CRABTREE 5
FRITH HOPWOOD 2	WM. A. HUDSON 6
WM. CLARK 3	EDWARD CROWTHER 7
GEORGE BRITTON 4	HERBERT PEEL Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by WILLIAM ARTHUR HUDSON.

Rung in celebration of the birth of a son to the Conductor.

The ringer of the 2nd belongs to Bolton, the rest to Birstal.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 30, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14½ CWT.

WILLIAM BATEMAN Treble	GEORGE T. LEADER 5
GEORGE MARTIN, R.E. 2	WILLIAM HENLEY 6
GLADYS BATEMAN 3	GEORGE ALDER 7
WILLIAM H. FOSSELL 4	HENRY BARNEY Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM HENLEY.

An 'Armistice Peal,' rung for the parish and town of Burnham, on the 61st birthday of the Steeplekeeper, Mr. G. Alder.

Mr. Henley's first peal of Grandsire as Conductor. The tenor man kindly came up at short notice to fill a gap in the band caused by the illness of the Composer.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, November 30, 1918, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. E.

*ROBERT EVANS Treble	RICHARD JONES 5
CHARLES R. LILLEY 2	LEONARD HEWITT 6
JAMES L. YORK 3	WILLIAM SAUNDERS 7
ALBERT WOODVINE 4	JACK ASTON Tenor

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES.

Conducted by WM. SAUNDERS.

* First peal. Specially arranged and rung with bells half-muffled as a token of deepest sympathy for all who have fallen during the Great War.

C. R. Lilley hails from St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, and A. Woodvine from Malinslee: the others belong to the local band.

RANMORE, SURREY.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 30, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

EDWARD E. DODD Treble	ARTHUR DEAN 5
ALFRED H. DOBINSON 2	EDWARD HULL 6
HENRY BOXALL 3	*JOHN WHITE 7
JOHN HOYLE 4	ALBERT P. DIXON Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WHITE.*

* The conductor's 50th peal.

COLSTON BASSETT, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, December 7, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 22½ cwt. in D.

*FRANK SPENCER Treble	ARTHUR MACKEERS 5
REV. C. J. SIDGTON 2	THOMAS SQUIRES 6
WILLIAM E. WHITE 3	R. HARRY BARTRAM 7
THOMAS H. KIRKBY 4	WALTER WHITE Tenor

Conducted by R. HARRY BARTRAM.

* First peal.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Sergeant A. J. Wagstaffe (a member of the local band), who died on active service in Syria, October 22nd, 1918, and to Miss Dorothy White (a member of the Cotgrave band), who died November 9th, 1918.

The ringers of the 3rd, 4th, 6th and Tenor are from Cotgrave, 2nd from Orston, 5th from Long Bennington, 7th from Melton Mowbray and the treble from Radcliffe-on-Trent.

SWINDON, WILTS.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(SWINDON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 7, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

At CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr.

*HERRBERT W. BISHOP ... Treble	THOMAS RICKETTS 5
ERNEST BISHOP 2	THOMAS ROBINSON 6
ROBERT W. HYNER 3	SIDNEY PALMER 7
DENNIS W. JACKSON 4	CHARLES J. GARDINER ... Tenor

Composed by A. E. RIDGEWAY.

Conducted by CHARLES J. GARDINER.

* First peal of Major.

SIX BELL PEAL.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE ISHAM SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 7, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising 720 changes of each of the following seven methods, viz.: Double Court Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*MISS LILLY GEARY ... Treble	GEORGE A. BLAXLEY ... 4
E. MAURICE ATKINS ... 2	*ANDREW BLAXLEY ... 5
WILLIAM C. LEWIS ... 3	WALTER T. WILSON ... Tenor

Conducted by E. M. ATKINS.

* First peal.

This is the first peal to be rung in Northamptonshire to celebrate the signing of the Armistice. It was also rung 'in memoriam' to Cpl. Frank Andrew, a much respected member of the local band, who fell in action in the battle of Cambrai on November 30th, 1917, and was originally attempted on the anniversary of this date.

The ringer of the treble is one of the four ladies who nobly came forward to make up the Sunday service band and who started ringing exactly twelve months ago.

HANDBELL PEAL.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.
(ST. CHAD'S SOCIETY.)

On Monday, December 4th, 1918, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
In ST. CHAD'S BELFRY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six scores with ten different callings.

*WILLIAM F. STOCKDALE ... 1—2	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... 3—4
*WILLIAM C. BROOKES ... 5—6	

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

Umpire: R. ROBINSON.

* First handbell peal, also first by the Guild and Society and the first rung in Shropshire.

LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I had intended to have taken no part in the 'Lead End' controversy till I was able to make the full statement I promised, but I have just been reading Mr. Davies' letter in your issue of October 25th, and to pass away a few minutes (in hospital), I will just note one or two points. I say 'without reserve' that the committee was not justified in calling certain methods illegitimate because they do not have the regulation lead ends. If Mr. Clayton's saying this 'fairly takes away Mr. Davies' breath,' perhaps my saying it will have such a paralysing effect that he will cease to write any more nonsense. I have said it now fifteen times, as witness my article of September 20th, but Mr. Davies never reads what he does not want to know. But all this does not in the slightest alter the case for the Bob Major Lead Ends. It will be quite time for Mr. Davies to boast that he has 'proved' that no advantage is gained when he has first understood what Bob Major Lead Ends really are. I have already explained it I know not how many times, but Mr. Davies will not read explanations. I say once more that these lead ends are not selected out of other sets because they are better, but because of natural law they are the natural lead ends of each and every method, and if Mr. Thompson's theory of a sets is true, then these lead ends must be the only natural ones of every round block.

Now for Mr. Davies' last 'incontestably true' facts. His figures all form unalterable blocks. Do they? What of the following:—

1234765	1324765
1327456	1327456
3124765	3124765
3217456	3217456
2371546	2371546

These two are different, and both are Grandsire.—Yours truly,

B.E.F., France, Nov. 12th, 1918. J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

BOXLEY, KENT.—On Sept. 3rd, at All Saints' Church, 720 Bob Minor: Geo. Pound 1. Tom Mannering 2. L. Mannering (first 720 with an inside bell) 3. C. Edwards 4. G. Haddaway 5. C. H. Sone (conductor) 6. Specially arranged for C. Edwards, the bells not having been rung for over twelve months.

COMMEMORATIVE BATTLE BELLS.

WORCESTER PEAL RECALLS OLD CAMPAIGN.

It is particularly interesting at the present moment to recall the inscriptions on the bells at St. Helen's, Worcester, where the Western Branch meeting of the Worcestershire Association was held on Saturday week. The bells were cast by Richard Sanders in 1708, and commemorate Marlborough's victories. Perhaps we may find similarly commemorative inscriptions placed on some of the bells which will be rung to celebrate our triumphs in the way that has just closed. The inscriptions at St. Helen's are as follow:—

Treble.—First is my note, and Blenheim is my name.

For Blenheim's story will be first in fame.

2nd.—Let me relate how Louis did bemoan

His grandson's Philip's flight from Barcelona.

3rd.—Deluged in blood I, Ramilies, advance

Britannia's glory in the fall of France.

4th.—St. Menin on my side engraved be,

And Flanders freed from Gullie slavery.

5th.—When in harmonious peal I roundly go,

Think of Turin and Triumphs of the Po.

6th.—With joy I hear the illustrious Eugene's name,

Fav'rite of Fortune and the boast of Fame.

7th.—But I with pride the greater Marlborough hear,

Terror of Tyrants and the soul of war.

Tenor.—T' immortal praises of Queen Anne I sound,

With union blest and all these glories crowned.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

A meeting of the Western District was held in Bristol on Saturday last at the Church of SS. Philip and Jacob. Ringing commenced at 2.30 p.m., and shortly after that time Miss E. K. Parker unexpectedly arrived, which added to the pleasure of all present. A number of the ladies who were accustomed to six-bell ringing had an opportunity of practising Grandsire Triples, and six others took part in a touch of Stedman Triples. A service was held at 4.30, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. E. M. Thorold, and an interesting address was given by him, the text being taken from the 2nd Epistle of St. Peter, 3rd chapter, 13th verse.

A move was then made to the Schoolroom, where an excellent tea was served by Mrs. Wilkins, Miss Smith and Miss Ray, the party numbering about 40, of which 26 were ladies from Bristol, Paulton and Portishead.

A short business meeting followed, Miss Parker presiding.—It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Weston-super-Mare.—Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar, Mrs. Wilkins, Miss Smith, and to Miss Parker for taking the chair.

The belfry was again visited, and the last touch was one of Cambridge Surprise Major, beautifully struck by seven Bristol gentlemen and one London lady.

At 7.30, a handbell entertainment, kindly arranged by Mr. H. F. Howell, was given in the Schoolroom by 'Bristol's Own Lady Handbell Ringers.' The programme consisted of well known tunes, and was much enjoyed by all. A course of Stedman Cinques by six change-ringers brought the very enjoyable proceedings to an end.

AT THE FRONT IN FRANCE.

RINGER'S MARCH THROUGH DEVASTATED WAR ZONE.

Signaller J. A. Trollope, who is now at a base in France, gives the following most interesting story of his recent experiences, in a letter to a friend:—

'I was for a time on a fixed front at a place which had an evil name for shelling. We used to get it hot and strong, day and night, and one did not walk about for pleasure. The place was lined with guns on one side, and where there were guns there old Fritz used to strafe. Still, if my duccout could not keep out shells, (Heaven be thanked, he never hit it squarely, though he was within a yard or two a good deal over a hundred times), it would keep out rain, and, as I was there some five months we had fixed up comparative comforts. Then we got orders to move, and ever since we have been engaged in open warfare, hard marching, hard working, hard fighting. Sometimes we had cover to sleep under, sometimes we had not; clothes on for a week or two together; wet through and no change or means of drying. The first part was through the old battlefield, the most horrible and desolate place in the old world, a dreadful tangle of battered trenches, shell holes, barbed wire, with smashed debris of all sorts and a sickening stench of dead bodies. Where there were villages there are now mere heaps of battered bricks, not one on another. Then when we got the Boche fairly on the run the marching was long and killing. You don't go just straight forward, but backwards and forwards, in and out of the line till you cover hundreds of miles, and full marching order (with a few additions) is sheer agony to a man like me of small physical strength, and well on into middle age. I stood it as long as I could—longer than I ought, for I was due for leave, and did not want to complicate it by going into hospital. But I got to the limit at last, and on the day that the Armistice was signed, when we were just this side of Mons, I croaked up and had to be carried to a dressing station on a stretcher. From there they sent me down to the base where I am now.

ARMISTICE TOUCHES.

CHESTERFIELD.—The signing of the armistice was celebrated by the ringing of the bells at the Parish Church during the afternoon and evening. Touches in various methods were brought round, and the bells were 'fired' at intervals. The following ringers took part:—Messrs. Knights, Thyng, Allwood, Nuttall, Jacobs, Savage, Bennett, Thompson and Hollis, and Mr. Coles, of London. In the evening a long length of Bob Major, and on the Saturday following a peal of Major (which has been duly recorded) were rung to celebrate the event, both being conducted by Mr. Knights.

WILLESHALL, STAFFS.—The bells at St. Giles', Willenhall, were rung and 'fired' on Armistice Day, by Mr. Webb (churchwarden), Mr. Edmund Vaughan (of the local Food Committee), Mr. Geo. Wolverson (past warden), F. W. Perrens, R.A.F., C. Waitlater, E. Horton, A. E. Read, W. E. Wathen, H. Fox, W. Wathen, junr., R. Davis, J. Evans, R. Pearson, and the Rev. Harford. The ringers also attended the thanksgiving service in the evening, for which they rang.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Monday, Nov. 11th, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: H. G. Naish 1, R. Whittington 2, Mrs. R. Whittington 3, J. Howes (conductor) 4, R. J. Dawe 5, C. Slade 6, J. N. Frossell 7, J. Chandler 8.

EARL SOHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Nov. 11th, the bells were 'fired' and short touches of Bob Doubles rung by: W. Miller, junr., 1, W. Miller, senr., 2, C. Lovett 3, W. G. Crikner 4, H. W. Crikner 5, N. Miller 6.

OSWESTRY, SALOP.—On November 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1266 changes): G. Thompson 1, R. T. Evans 2, J. Hughes 3, R. Martin 4, R. Edwards 5, G. Williams 6, E. Jones (conductor) 7, G. Beaton 8.—On Sunday, Nov. 24th, for Divine service in the evening, 672 Stedman Triples: R. Edwards 1, R. Martin 2, J. Hughes 3, A. H. Winch 4, E. Jones 5, G. Williams 6, R. T. Evans (conductor) 7, G. Beaton 8.

AT LIVERPOOL.

On Monday, Nov. 11th, at mid-day, the bells of the Municipal Buildings were rung, and during the day the peals at the Churches of St. Nicholas and Walton-on-the-Hill were also rung.—On Tuesday, November 12th, on the occasion of the thanksgiving service, which was attended by the Lord Mayor, councillors and other representative citizens, touches of Grandsire Caters were rung, and the full peal of twelve were also rung in 'Queen's' and 'fired' both before and after service.

On Thursday, November 14th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Tuebrook, but was lost through a rope breaking. Afterwards a quarter-peal in the same method was brought round.—On Sunday, November 17th, at the same church, both for morning and evening service, the bells were rung in touches of Stedman Triples by ringers from various churches in the city at the express wish of the Vicar. These bells have not been rung for five years previous to this; nor, judging by the appearance of the belfry, had anyone entered therein during this period. It is hoped now that the war is over a hand will be formed at this church, and that ringing will be resumed there with as much success as in former years.

The ringers that took part in ringing at the various towers during the week were: H. Counce, W. Davies, G. Fisher, W. Fisher, J. Megan, J. Lamb, G. R. Newton, H. H. Barker, J. Martin, T. Gilmour, J. Wilkinson, J. W. Bell, H. Ludkin, E. J. Brooks (Kidderminster), W. Booth, G. Woodhall, H. Fyles, E. Breese, R. Walker, S. Stewart, J. Turner, W. Hughes, H. Harrison, F. S. Macey (Sittingbourne), and J. Elton.

VOLLEYS FOR 'THE BOYS.'

At Workson, on Sunday, October 20th, on the occasion of a visit by Miss Winifred Hague, of Rotherham, 224 of Grandsire Triples, 224 of Bob Major and 224 of Kent Treble Bob Major, by the following: Miss W. Hague, R. Wright, H. Weaver, H. Cartwright, E. Clark, A. Johnson, W. Roberts, S. Eastland, J. T. Wilson, G. Hardwick, W. Haigh (conductor).

On Armistice Day, November 11th, 360 of Bob Minor, 224 and 168 of Grandsire Triples: the bells were also fired at intervals (in nine volleys each) for the King and Royal Family, Mr. Lloyd George, Presidents Wilson and Clemenceau, Marshal Foch, Sir Douglas Haig, and all the other leading Generals and Kings and Presidents of the Allied Nations, and Dominions. The boys in blue, together with the Naval Flying Corps, were not forgotten. 'Volleys' were also given for Serjeant W. H. Johnson (wounded), Serjeant Tom Anderson, Cadet A. Beek, Wireless Operator S. C. Walker, and Pte. Tom Bartholomew, all members of the Priory company, whose naval and military duties prevented their attendance. Volleys were also fired for the fighting lads of Workson, including Christopher Peck and George H. Haigh (conductor), formerly members of the company. On Sunday, December 1st and Monday, Dec. 2nd, 1008 of Grandsire Triples and 360 Bob Minor were rung to honour the departure of Horace Weaver, who is leaving Workson for Wigan. He is a promising young ringer of 15 summers, who by dint of hard work and assiduous perseverance can ring six and eight bells in four methods. He is a most popular colleague and oblique in every way. In a few well-chosen remarks, the conductor of the ringers (Mr. H. Haigh) wished him good luck and 'God-speed' in his new sphere of employment.

THE LATE PTE. W. J. NEW.

By the death, in Salonica (as reported in our issue of November 8th), of Pte. W. J. New, 25th Durham Light Infantry, the Exercise has lost a most enthusiastic member. He was one of those young men (writes a correspondent), that set an excellent example in the districts where change ringing is very little practised, and he showed what perseverance will attain. He was taught to ring by his father (the village blacksmith), at Leigh, Dorset. Not content with 'stoneys' ringing, he soon learnt the rudiments of change ringing, and taught the local band the art. After serving his apprenticeship (as a gardener) he moved to Bverecech, and there he assisted the ringers. Thence he went to Dublin, which gave him the opportunity he longed for. He joined the Cathedral band, and under the guidance of that pastmaster (Mr. G. Lindoff) he soon scored his first peal, this being Stedman Caters on St. Patrick's Day, 1902. He also became proficient on twelve bells. His stay in Ireland was about two years, and during that time he visited all the churches with bells he possibly could. Returning to Dorset he used to visit several of the towers, especially the villages where 'stoneys' was rung, to introduce change ringing. He next went to Mdhurst, where he rang peals of Minor in the Treble Bob Methods, and greatly assisted the local band. From there he moved to Panshanger and Lewin Waters (Herts) and conducted peals of Doubles, finally going to Isleworth where the lamented Bertram Prewett called his (Mr. J. New's first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. He also rang in the first William peal of 'Stedman Triples.' He was a member of the Salisbury, Middlesex, Sussex, Herts, Royal Cumberland and Irish Associations, for all of which he had rung peals. As a gardener he took the greatest interest in flower and plant life and everything appertaining to the great architecture of the universe. While in Salonica he sent bulbs and specimens of plants to the Royal Horticultural Society. As a dear friend of nearly 20 years I could not let pass his death in his country's cause, without paying a tribute to his memory, and as a brother ringer I always kept in touch with him and rang with him whenever possible. He was a great reader, and loved good works, and the county of Dorset, with its beautiful scenery, was always dear to him. He held advanced views, and his high standard of living was all that could be desired, and won him the greatest respect and love. The ringing world is infinitely poorer by his death, but he has left us an example of a life well spent.

The Vicar of Leigh (the Rev. T. L. Jenkins), himself a ringer, writes of him: 'It was in the little Church of Leigh that he learnt the elements of the art which he so dearly loved, and in which he afterwards became such a proficient. He was very patient as an instructor as I can testify. I should like to say more about his consistent life as a Churchman; he was never satisfied without moving others to church. I never missed him more than the afternoon when we had the greatest difficulty in getting a scratch team together to ring the bells in celebration of the signing of the armistice, and, we trust, the beginning of the peace of the world, for which we have prayed so hard and fought so long. We have lost five of our ringers, three of them in the war, and the last, Willie New, who died after over two years of active service at Salonica, on October 19th, 1918. R.I.P.

SOLDIERS' 720's AT DOVER.

Two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob have been rung at Dover by members of H.M. Forces. The first was at St. Mary's Church on Nov. 20th, by: Corpl. Saywell, 1st. Vol. Bata. Buffs. 1; Pte. G. W. Inskip, Royal Fusiliers, 2; Pte. A. E. Sharman, Royal Fusiliers 3; Sergt. W. H. C. Mellin, R.A.F., 4; Corpl. H. Price, A.P.C., 5; Gunner W. Welling, R.G.A. (conductor), 6; Bdr. G. Herbert, R.G.A., tenor covering.

The second was at St. James's new church, on Saturday, Nov. 30th: Pte. J. W. Harrison, Labour Corps, 1; Pte. G. W. Inskip, Royal Fusiliers, 2; Sergt. W. H. P. Mellin, R.A.F., 3; Pte. A. E. Sharman, Royal Fusiliers, 4; Corpl. H. Price, A.P.C., 5; Gunner W. Welling, R.G.A. (conductor), tenor. This is believed to be the first 720 in the method on the bells.

NEWPORT, I.O.W.—On Monday, Nov. 11th, after a thanksgiving service at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples by the following Sunday service ringers: W. Johnson 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Upton 3, W. Scott 4, A. Callaway 5, H. Phillips 6, H. Jennings (conductor) 7, J. Simmonds 8.

SHIPLAKE, OXFORDSHIRE.—A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at SS Peter and Paul's Church on Sunday, Nov. 17th, for the thanksgiving service: A. Sheppard 1, C. P. Oliver 2, W. G. Porter 3, Sergt. H. L. Garfath (Royal Air Force) 4, J. H. Brock 5, W. J. Fuller 6, G. Cleave (conductor) 7, C. Prior 8.

TWO DEVON PEALS TO BE RERUNG.

Messrs. W. and J. Aggett, bell hangers, of Chagford, Devon, have received instructions to rerung the bells of Highweek, near Newton Abbot, in iron frames, etc., and augment them to a peal of eight. They have also orders to rerung the peal of six at Kingsteignton, near Newton Abbot, and recast the tenor, which has been cracked for several years.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at the Old Church, Smethwick, on Saturday week. The bells were available from 3.30, and the ringers also took part in the beautiful Guild service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Astbury), who also gave a very interesting address on St. Andrew's Day. At the close of the service, an adjournment was made to the churchroom where a bountiful tea was in readiness for those members present, much regret being expressed at the small number who attended to do justice to the good things provided, through the kindness of the Misses Pigott and Mr. J. Pigott.

At the business meeting, over which Canon Astbury presided, the Secretary made special reference to the loss the Guild had sustained, and especially the Sedgley band, by the sudden death of Mr. William Mills, and it was resolved that a letter of condolence and sympathy be sent from the meeting to the widow and family, the resolution being passed in silence by the members standing.

Three life members and one performing member were added to the roll, and the next meeting, which is the annual, will be held at Dudley.

At the close, a vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for conducting the service in church, and presiding at the meeting; also for the use of the tower and bells and churchroom; also to the Misses S. and K. Pigott and Mr. J. Pigott for the bountiful tea provided; for their services in waiting upon the members, and for making the necessary arrangements.

Afterwards the bells were kept going merrily during the evening.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

THERINGTON, ESSEX.—On Sunday, August 18th, for evening service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. Jennings 1, W. J. Hazell 2, J. Bowell 3, W. J. Nevard 4, G. A. Andrews (conductor) 5, G. Lancaster 6. Also 720 Double Court: G. Jennings 1, W. J. Hazell 2, J. Bowell 3, G. Lancaster 4, G. A. Andrews (conductor) 5, W. J. Nevard 6; and a touch of Kent Treble Bob. After service, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, W. J. Nevard conducting. G. Lancaster hails from Swindon; W. J. Hazell, Lower Edmonton, London, and were paying a visit to their old district. The rest of the company belong to Therington, Great Bentley, Great Bramley, and Tendring.

YORK.—On Sunday, August 25th, for morning service, at the Minster, 594 Grandsire Cinques: T. Haigh 1, F. Earnshaw 2, Percy Johnson (Leeds) 3, P. Firth 4, E. Rickatt 5, G. Horner 6, Sergt. E. Morris (Leicester), conductor, 7, J. Thompson 8, A. C. Fearnley 9, T. Hodgson 10, A. Haigh 11, W. Ayre and H. Ineson 12.

BRISTOL.—At the Church of SS. Philip and Jacob, on August 28th, in 43 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): Miss Annie Brown (first quarter) 1, John Thomas (Edmonton) 2, W. Lewis 3, E. Guise (conductor) 4, E. J. Brown 5, F. Tyler 6, H. Way 7, F. Harris 8. Arranged for Miss Annie Brown, to celebrate her 19th birthday.

CHICHESTER, KENT.—On Friday, August 30th, at 68, White Horse Hill, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor: David Brett Smith 1, R. B. Smith (conductor) 2, Jack B. Smith (first 720) 3, P. B. Smith 4, T. B. Smith 5, C. B. Smith 6.—On Sept. 10th, 720 Bob Minor: D. B. Smith 1, P. B. Smith 2, Jack B. Smith 3, C. B. Smith 4, T. B. Smith 5, R. B. Smith (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, Sept. 29th, 720 Bob Minor: David B. Smith 1, P. B. Smith 2, R. B. Smith (conductor) 3—4, T. B. Smith 5, C. B. Smith 6. Rung in celebration of the 12th birthday of Cyril Brett Smith.

OLD WINDSOR.—At St. Peter's Church, for evening service, Sunday, September 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: G. Guttridge 1, G. H. Guttridge 2, A. Mason (first quarter as conductor) 3, Pte. W. Burden 4, W. Henley 5, A. Blake 6, Gunner W. Welling 7, J. Burt 8. Composed by the late Mr. Geo. Watson, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

NORTON-LE-MOORS, STAFFS.—On Sunday, Sept. 1st, 720 Bob Minor, for Matins: Miss Alice Preston 1, W. C. Lawrence 2, J. E. Wheelton (conductor) 3, E. E. Johnson 4, G. E. Lawrence 5, C. Preston 6. This was Miss Preston's first 720 away from her own tower. It was also the first 720 on Norton bells in which a lady has taken part.

SHIRESBURY (SALOP) GUILD.—On September 1st, on the occasion of a visit by Mr. J. E. Sykes, 168 of Stedman Triples: G. Byolin (conductor) 1, W. Brooks 2, G. Scarratt 3, J. E. Sykes 4, W. Stockdale 5, C. R. Lilley 6, A. E. Fullick 7, H. Jones 8. Also three leads of Kent Treble Bob Major, 180 Grandsire Caters: W. Brooks 1, G. Byolin 2, G. Scarratt 3, W. Stockdale 4, Pte. F. Taylor 5, G. Jones 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, A. Fullick 8, J. E. Sykes 9, H. Jones 10. For evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: G. Byolin (conductor) 1, W. Brooks 2, G. Scarratt 3, C. R. Lilley 4, W. Stockdale 5, G. Jones 6, A. Fullick 7, H. Jones 8. 280 Kent Treble Bob Triples: G. Scarratt 1, G. Byolin 2, W. Brooks 3, G. Jones 4, W. Stockdale 5, A. Fullick 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, H. Jones 8.

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NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Hitchin on Saturday, December 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m.—F. R. Bacon, Hon. Sec., The Laurels, West Hill, Hitchin.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. W. H. Thompson), at West Ealing, on Saturday, December 14th. Tower open 2.30. Short service at 5; tea at 6 o'clock, followed by further ringing. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, December 14th, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7 o'clock. Subscriptions are now due. Reports to hand.—John H. Haydock, Branch Secretary, 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Estab. 1673.—A meeting for practice will be held at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on December 17th, at 7.30 p.m. The sum of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not met the society twenty times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—W. T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Great Chart on Saturday, December 21st. Bells available from 3 o'clock.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Practice at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, Saturday, December 21st, at 5 p.m.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Giles-in-the-Field, W.C., on Saturday, December 21st, 1918. Ringing from 3 p.m. Short service 5.30 p.m., followed by tea, if necessities can be obtained. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Matlock on Saturday, December 21st. Bells available all the afternoon.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Western District will be held at St. Chad's, Headingley, on Saturday, Dec. 21st. Bells (8), tenor 20 cwt., available from 2.30 until 9 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in Men's Club, Weetwood Lane (only cups of tea provided); business meeting immediately after tea. All ringers welcome.—Percy L. Cooper, Hon. District Sec.

LLANFAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Llandaff on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th. Bells available all the afternoon. Business meeting, 4 o'clock. St. John's bells, Cardiff, available from 10 to 3 and from 7 to 9.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and John W. Jones, Hon. Secs.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A district meeting will be held at East Retford on Boxing Day, December

26th, when the bells of East Retford (10), Ordsall (6), West Retford (6) will be at the disposal of ringers from 10.30 a.m. to 8 p.m. A cordial invitation is given to members of kindred associations to attend, and it is hoped to have a good attendance of members present of the Army and Navy who are having their Christmas leave.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS.

HANDBELLS wanted from G. 25 or C 22. Chromatic preferred.—Apply "H.," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

CLERK AND SEXTON Wanted for country parish; salary £15 and fees. A roomy house and large shop and garden, suitable for carpenter, etc., available, rent £12.—Full particulars from Rector, Martley, Worcester.

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MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association have started a fund to help forward the above memorial, and appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.—On Sunday, Sept. 8th, for evensong, at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, 504 Stedman Triples: W. Haigh 1. V. Rowland 2. Q.-M.-S. W. Cave (conductor) 3. Miss E. M. Goodship 4. Sapper T. Bartholomew 5. W. Easter 6. Corpl. E. J. Ridler 7. S. Figgess 8. Also short touch of Grandsire, conducted by W. Haigh.

GAINSBOROUGH.—On Sunday, Sept. 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Major (1264 changes), in 48 mins.: Ellis Credland 1. F. S. W. Butler 2. W. Dickenson 3. J. C. Tinker 4. J. T. 5. C. H. Baker 6. H. Torr 7. Walter Ayre (first quarter-peal as conductor) 8. Rung us a farewell to the conductor, who was leaving the district for London.

CARDIFF.—At St. John's Church, on Sept. 8th, for evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Cater (1259 changes), in 52 mins.: S. Dawe 1. J. Harris 2. W. Bolton 3. W. Biss 4. F. Chamberlain 5. H. Page (Feutre) 6. A. Rowley 7. J. Aldridge 8. W. Coombes (conductor) 9. S. R. Barker 10.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1919.
Gentlemen.

The re-soning of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

THE OPPORTUNITIES OF CHRISTMAS

This year, the first for half a decade, we shall be able to celebrate Christmas without the overshadowing thought of war. For the first time for five years the bells will once more ring out their age-honoured message of "Peace on earth, goodwill to men." After the stress of a war, which has been the most terrible and the most stupendous in history, there will be an added emphasis in the note of peace which will pour forth from the belfries next week, when the great Christmas festival is kept. Maybe, the "peace on earth" which the bells will herald will be a final peace. Time alone will reveal this, but when we realise that the thoughts of men are turned now in the one direction of how this can be attained, it is not too much to say that those who join in ringing the bells at this new peace-time Christmastide, will be taking part in a celebration of unique interest.

The restraints having been lifted, there is every reason to hope that throughout the country there will come with Yuletide a great recrudescence of ringing. Towers, which the necessities of war-time have closed, are opening again, and with the prospect of many ringers from overseas being home on Christmas leave, there will be opportunities for a spirited revival in many parts of the country. The sound of the bells merrily pealing will be in keeping with the spirits of the people, but we must not overlook the fact that their sounds, in the poet's words, will to many a home "bring sorrow touched with joy." At the same time there will be nothing which will recall the happy times of the past and rekindle the spirit which is characteristic of Christmas more readily than the bells.

Let ringers, therefore, be up and doing during this festive season. There will never be an occasion, we feel sure, when the sounds of the bells will be more gladly welcomed than in this first Christmas after the passing of the shadow of a great calamity. And not only will the bells be welcomed where they are rung, but it is quite certain that in the places where their notes are absent there will be disappointment among an expectant public. If it is only for short spells at any one tower, every effort ought to be made to get the bells of every belfry rung during the festival, and where some of the ringers are absent, some such co-operation as that introduced for celebrating the armistice might well be organised. Ringers from neighbouring towers might amalgamate and pay a round of visits, for the opportunity which this Christmas presents ought not to be lost. Never in history has there been a time when the nation was more ready than it is to-day to welcome

The bells and chimes of motherland, of England, green and old.
That out from grey and ivied towers, a thousand years have tolled!

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS write with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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ARMISTICE PEALS.

The following six peals were scored by visitors and friends during a Ringing Week in Shropshire, organized by Mr. William Mead, of Clun, to mark the successful termination of the war by Great Britain and her Allies.

CLUN, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND
THE ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, December 4, 1918, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (Birmingham Variation).

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. in F.

REV. V. A. CRESSWELL ... Treble	ALBERT A. HUGHES ... 5
JAMES H. SHEPHERD ... 2	JAMES E. GROVES ... 6
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... 3	JAMES GEORGE ... 7
WILLIAM SHORT ... 4	*WILLIAM MEAD ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

It is exactly 250 years ago since the re-cast ring of five bells and the restored tower were opened, after having been destroyed by fire during the Civil Wars.

Arrangements for this attempt were specially made by the St. George's Society to celebrate the cessation of the European war.

First peal upon the bells. * First peal.

CLUN, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Friday, December 6, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT ST. GEORGE'S VICARAGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 size in D.

JOSEPH PIGOTT ... 1-2	*WILLIAM SHORT ... 5-6
JAMES E. GROVES ... 3-4	JAMES GEORGE ... 7-8

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Umpire: MR. W. H. FUSSELL. Witness: MR. F. H. SHEPHERD.
Believed to be the first peal in the county upon handbells retained in hand. * 650th peal.

CLUN, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Friday, December 6, 1918, in Three Hours and One Minute.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

JOHN CARTER'S No. 35. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. in F.

JAMES H. SHEPHERD ... Treble	WILLIAM SHORT ... 5
JOSEPH PIGOTT ... 2	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... 6
JAMES GEORGE ... 3	SAMUEL GROVE ... 7
JAMES E. GROVES ... 4	*REV. HAROLD J. SCOTT ... Tenor

Conducted by SAMUEL GROVE.

First peal in the method on the bells. * First peal.
The band belongs to the St. George's Society, Clun.

CHURCH STRETTON, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND
ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, CLUN.

On Saturday, December 7, 1918, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 0 qrs. 5 lbs.

JOSEPH PIGOTT ... Treble	JAMES E. GROVES ... 5
WILLIAM SHORT ... 2	SAMUEL GROVE ... 6
JAMES H. SHEPHERD ... 3	JOHN CLARKE ... 7
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... 4	JAMES GEORGE ... Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

A 'peace' peal for the town of Stretton. Rung on the 247th anniversary of the dedication of the Church.

First peal in the method on the bells.

CLUN, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Sunday, December 8, 1918, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. in F.

JOHN CLARKE Treble	JAMES H. SHEPHERD 5
JOSEPH PIGOTT 2	SAMUEL GROVE 6
WILLIAM SHORT 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 4	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

The first peal of Major upon the bells.

WISTANSTOW, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, December 9th, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 0 qrs. 14 lbs. in F.

WILLIAM SHORT Treble	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 5
JOSEPH PIGOTT 2	JOHN CLARKE 6
JAMES GEORGE 3	SAMUEL GROVE 7
JAMES H. SHEPHERD 4	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor

Composed by JAMES PRITCHARD.

Conducted by JOSEPH PIGOTT.

First peal in the method on the bells, and rung as an 'Armistice' peal for the parish of Wistanstow.

* 500th peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MOORSIDE, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
AND OLDHAM DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 30, 1918, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

HAROLD LAWTON Treble	SAMUEL BUTTERWORTH 5
ALBERT CLEGG 2	SAMUEL STOTT 6
EDWIN B. SHAW 3	CHARLES E. PLATT 7
HERBERT BARLOW 4	JAMES GARLICK Tenor

Composed by THOMAS THURSTAN.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

Rung as a birthday peal to Mr. John Butterworth, father of the ringer of the 5th.

GUISELEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 8, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

FREDERICK W. DIXON Treble	ARTHUR HEDSON 5
JOSEPH BROADLEY 2	FIRTH HOPWOOD 6
JOSEPH WAITE 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
WILLIAM B. SMITH 4	JOSEPH A. SYKES Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS.

Conducted by FREDERICK W. DIXON.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Sergt. J. B. Jackson of the Guiseley Company, who died in a German hospital in June.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Owing to Christmas falling in next week and the consequent necessity of going to press two days earlier, communications intended for publication should be sent in as soon as possible, and nothing for the next issue can be accepted after the first post on Monday.

GOSFORTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 10, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt.

HERBERT MARKWELL Treble	BERT HORTON 5
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE 2	ALFRED E. HILLIER 6
LIEUT. JOHN F. BIRD 3	BENJAMIN C. DIXON 7
WILLIAM W. SINCLAIR 4	JOHN S. RICHARDSON Tenor

Conducted by C. L. ROUTLEDGE.

Rung to celebrate the Armistice.

The treble ringer's first peal with this Association. He is from Enfield in Suffolk and has been engaged for some months on the Tyne with munition work, and has rendered useful service to ringing in Newcastle and District.

BROMLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 12, 1918, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, BROMLEY COMMON,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ALBERT E. NEWICK Treble	GEORGE DURLING 5
WILLIAM A. MARTIN 2	ROBERT BRETT SMITH 6
FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON 3	WALTER SMITH 7
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 4	ISAAC EMERY Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by ISAAC EMERY.

For calling see K.C.A. report, 1909. Peal No. 1475.

The conductor has now rung each of St. Luke's bells to a peal.

First peal of Bob Major on the bells.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 11½ cwt. in F sharp.

F/S. F. A. HOLDEN, R.A.F. Treble	WILLIAM E. SPICE 5
RICKS PAINE 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER 6
SPR. R. F. DEAL, R.E. 3	WILLIAM HAIGH 7
CHARLES WINNER 4	EDWARD FRIEND Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM HAIGH.

Rung to commemorate our glorious victory of the Allies, also a birthday compliment to Mrs. F. A. Holden.

First peal since 1911 for Richard Deal, who returned from Australia in 1915, to join H.M. Forces.

RICHMOND, YORKS.

On Saturday, December 14, 1918, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

† ALBERT MORTON Treble	RALPH S. LONG 5
GOULDEN J. LUNGLEY 2	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT 6
T. HENRY HARDY 3	GEORGE W. PARK 7
* VICTOR WEBB 4	WILLIAM J. RAWLINGS Tenor

Conducted by MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT.

First peal in the method on the bells.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

The ringer of the treble is a member of the local band, the ringers of the 2nd and 7th belong to Darlington, Durham, whilst the ringers of 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 are soldiers stationed in Catterick Camp, and hail from Leicester, Kidlington, Grimsby, Bushey, and Greenwich, London, respectively.

YORK.—On Sunday, Sept. 15th, for evening service, at St. Mary Senior, R shophill, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, by: H. N. Imeson 1. Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. (conductor), 2. W. Fountain 3. P. Firth 4. E. Rickett 5. A. C. Fearney 6.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry
Established
A.D. 1670.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.



Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehangings, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

A UNIQUE PERFORMANCE.

The peal records this week contain an interesting and unique performance, Miss Edith K. Parker having called a peal of Stedman Triples from the tenor. Few of the most accomplished ringers can claim to have done this, and the Exercise will join in congratulating Miss Parker on her achievement.

BOXING DAY.

Ringers are invited to join a trip (by tram-car and short walks) to three eight-bell towers, and one ten-bell tower on December 26th, starting at Acton at 10.30. On receipt of a postcard full details will be forwarded by W. Lawrence, 'Auburn,' Wimborne Gardens, West Ealing, W.13.

RINGER'S DEATH IN FRANCE.

At Washborough, Lincs, on Tuesday, Dec. 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Pte. F. Powell, who died whilst in France: T. Kent 1, H. Knott 2, J. W. Ash 3, T. Clarke 4, J. Walden (conductor) 5, W. Walker 6, J. Hufton 7, W. Clarke 8.

GUISELEY RINGER DIES IN GERMANY.

News has just been received in Guiseley that Sergt. J. B. Jackson, one of the ringers of St. Oswald's Church, died in June last in a German hospital, while a prisoner of war. The deceased was an excellent ringer on both tower and handbells, and will be greatly missed. He had rung 85 peals in various methods. On Sunday week a half-muffled peal, recorded in another column, was rung to his memory.

Seven members of the Guiseley company served with H.M. Forces.

CORPL. JOHN ARMSTRONG BACK.

A cheery postcard has come to hand from Corpl. John Armstrong of Southgate, Master of the North and East District of the Middlesex Association, who has been a prisoner of war in Germany since March. He writes from Dover under date of December 12th: 'Glad to say I am back again in the land of bells, and hope to be among them soon. I arrived yesterday, and I hope to be home soon. I am glad to say I am feeling much better than when amongst the Boche. Wishing you and all ringers a happy Christmas, with better times to come.'

DEATH OF LIEUT. WASHBROOK.

The deep sympathy of the Exercise will go out once more to Mr. J. W. Washbrook, who has lost yet another son through the war. Lieut. Mark Washbrook was 20 years of age, and had been serving with the Forces since he was 16. Just before the conclusion of hostilities he was attending the burial of one of his men, when a shell burst near by, severely wounding Lieut. Washbrook in the head. He was conveyed to hospital, but died without regaining consciousness, except for very brief periods. This is the third son which Mr. and Mrs. Washbrook have lost in the fighting.

LADIES' GUILD MEETING.

A very successful meeting of the Ladies' Guild was held at Shore. Owing to the influenza epidemic the attendance was not so large as had been anticipated, but nevertheless the ringers who did attend had a very enjoyable time. Ringing started at 3.30 p.m., and, with the exception of a short interval for tea, continued till 7.30. Many of the ladies who usually ring on six bells had an excellent opportunity for some eight-bell practice, and took full advantage of it. A good tea was served at the village inn, at which about 20 sat down. It is hoped to hold another meeting in this district in the near future.

THE YOUNGEST ARMISTICE RINGER.

To the Editor.
Dear Sir.—Seeing in 'The Ringing World' of November 22nd a report that Mr. J. Heathorn rang on the day the Armistice was signed, at the age of 84, I thought it would be of interest to your readers to know that Miss F. C. Daniels, son of Mr. J. S. Daniels, steeple keeper of Emmanuel Church, Sireatham, aged 10 years last October, also rang for the Armistice. For one so young, he handles his bell remarkably well. He commenced ringing in October, 1917, and rang for the capture of Jerusalem. It would be of interest to know if any other ringer of younger age rang for the Armistice. I might mention that he is the fourth generation of ringers in his family.—Yours sincerely,
L. ATFWATER.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Sept. 15th, for evening service, 720 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, T. Watson (conductor) 3, Miss Stuart 4, T. Stuart 5, W. S. Forshaw 6, J. Burrows 7 (cover).—On Sunday, Sept. 22nd, for morning service, 608 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, T. Watson 3, Miss Stuart 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For evening service, 640 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Stuart 2, J. Huddleston 3, T. Watson (conductor) 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows 8.

SUGGESTED REVIVAL OF THE 'ANGELUS.'**PROPOSAL AT SALISBURY GUILD MEETING.**

The annual meeting of the Wimborne Branch was held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday week. Ringing started by 2.30, and the bells were kept going with short touches and rounds till 4.15, when the service took place. Prayers were read by the Rev. F. L. Edwards (secretary of the Guild), and a helpful address given by the Rector (the Rev. H. Lawrence Phillips), who is also vice-chairman of the branch. Mr. Brett kindly presided at the organ. Tea followed in the schools, about 70 members and friends sitting down. Among those present were Mr. A. F. Martin Stewart (past Master), Mr. C. H. Jennings (secretary of the Dorchester Branch), Q.-M. Sergt. Cave, R.E., and members from Bournemouth (St. Peter's and St. John's), Dorchester (St. Peter's), Lytchett Minster, Okeford Fitzpaine, Poole, Salisbury (St. Martin's), Shillington, Shroton, Sturminster Marshall, Swanage, Wool, Wyke Regis, etc. Three or four ringers were home on leave, one from France, another from Mesopotamia.

The balance sheet, which showed a Victory Bond in the balance in hand, was passed, the officers were re-elected, and some 20 new members proposed, including the Rector and the company from Shroton (captain, Mr. J. W. Harvey), who will considerably strengthen the Guild in the northern part of the Branch.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards brought up the subject of the permanent revival of the ringing of the Angelus on at least one day in the week—Friday—as a memorial of the men of each parish who had given their lives for their country.

Mr. Jennings (secretary of Dorchester Branch) offered the good wishes of the sister branch for another year's work, and the proceedings closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector.

The ringing afterwards lasted (till nearly 9 p.m.), short touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Kent being brought round, and ending with 5 courses of Double Norwich rung by: C. H. Jennings 1, C. W. Goodenough 2, G. W. Granger 3, Donald Williams 4, A. F. Martin Stewart 5, Lewis Wiffen 6, F. W. Townsend 7, Q.-M. Sergt. Cave, R.E. (conductor) 8.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT WEST EALING.**

Although the weather was by no means cheering, twenty-one members and friends met at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Saturday afternoon, on the occasion of a meeting of the Middlesex Association. Short touches in methods up to Kent Treble Bob were the order of the day, and one rung before the service is worthy of mention. This was 192 Grandsire Triples in which the three ladies took part: Miss Dora Feltham 1, Miss Edith Jones 2, Miss Norah Williams 3, Mr. Payne 4, C. R. Walker 5, W. A. Alps (conductor) 6, E. F. Pike 7, Harvey Beadle 8. A short service, with music, was held at 5 o'clock, when the Vicar (the Rev. W. Halliday Thompson, LL.D.) officiated. Miss Feltham (Hillingdon) presiding at the organ.

On a return to the belfry, the District Master, Mr. T. Beadle, read a letter from the Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. C. Chandler), who was unable to be present.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for giving his sanction to hold the meeting, to the representative of the tower for making all the arrangements, and to the lady for the help she had rendered at the service.

Ringers were present from Acton, Brockley, Bromley, Camberwell, Harlington, Hammersmith, Hillingdon, Hornsey, Isleworth, Witney and Willesden, including P. W. Norton, J. A. Dart, A. Beckesale, R. Holloway, W. Hewett, I. Emery, G. H. Head, J. R. Rooze, H. Stevens, A. Harding, C. Edwards, and W. L.

PETERBOROUGH RINGERS' ENJOYABLE TRIP

Eight of the twelve ringers of St. Mary's, Peterborough, were able recently to accept the invitation of the Rev. W. A. Mandall, Vicar of Langham, a former curate of St. Mary's, to ring on the nice peal of six bells at Langham Church. On their arrival the visitors were met by the Vicar and his ringers, Messrs. Baker, Shillaker, Miss C. Munday, and others. The bells were soon going to Kent Treble Bob Minor, and a well-struck 720 was rung by: G. Barker 1, Kathleen Jutson 2, W. Waldron 3, H. Waldron 4, J. J. Jutson 5, F. Rowlinson 6. Other touches of Oxford and Plain Bob Minor, and Grandsire and Stelman Doubles were rung, in which Elsie Brandon, Ivy Smedley and members of the local company took part. A sumptuous tea was provided by the Vicar, during which he announced they had arranged for the party to ring at Oakham, and as he had intended to give them supper, they should be provided with refreshment on the way home. At Oakham, accompanied by the Langham ringers, the party were met by W. E. Higgs, Sergt. H. Burbeck, and T. Wheeler, and some good touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on this fine ring of eight bells from the Croydon foundry. The thanks of the ringers are extended to all concerned in making the outing a great success.

CLUN AND ITS CHURCH.**THE FIRST PEALS ON THE BELLS.**

Sing Wee merily peace bee to Clvn. 1668. I.M.
(the 4th Bell inscription).

Two hundred and fifty years ago a ring of five bells was cast at the bell foundry of John Martin, of Worcester, for the early English settlement of Clun, to replace much older bells that were destroyed by fire, together with the contents of the tower some time previous to 1647.

Clun was an important town then, with its beautiful castle and, till recent times, enjoyed the dignity of a borough with its charter of 1308. Compared with other neighbouring places which have since superseded it the town was reputed wealthy, and was ever considered to be an old-world beauty spot, lying amidst extravagant woodland scenery and enclosed by numerous hills that form part of the boundary line 'twixt England and Wales. It takes its name from a small river that has supplied a title to three other parishes spread along eight miles of winding rural highway to the nearest railway at Craven Arms Junction—

' Clunbury, Clunton, Conglunford and Clun.

Four happy parishes basking in sun.'

Clun has a long history. Watling Street, a Roman roadway, runs about a half-mile west of Craven Arms, and probably Coxwell Knowle, near Buckhill, was the spot where Caractacus, the great British leader, fought his last battle with the Romans; the camp, known as Caer Caradoc, just above Chapel Lawn, Clun, was the town stormed afterwards by the Roman Army. The next wave of conquest which rolled over the district was the Saxon invasion of Shropshire, about 778, which probably reached the neighbourhood of Clun soon afterwards. The whole of this district was included in the great middle Kingdom of England, or Mercia; it formed the very edge of it, however, and was only held by hard fighting against the dispossessed Welsh, so that Offa, the greatest of Mercian kings, made in 792 the great dyke which bears his name which crosses the Clun Valley three miles west of Clun. An ancient rule is said to have been that any Welshman found east of the Dyke was for the first offence to lose his right hand; for the second his head. The Danish invasion followed and broke up the Mercian Kingdom, till Alfred the Great stemmed the power of the Danes by the peace of Wedmore in 878, and when we next hear of this district it is under the wise and victorious rule of Ethelfleda, the Lady of Mercia, and daughter of Alfred. She is recorded to have erected the Castles of Chirbury, and elsewhere, and it is very probable that Clun Castle is due to her orders, or the first foundations of it. Under the shelter of its Castle would spring up the little town and its church, and indeed the church was not there before the castle. The Saxon Domitian was ended by the Norman Conquest in 1066, and William the Conqueror made Roger de Montgomery one of his most powerful barons. The civil, military and ecclesiastical history of Clun teems with interesting facts, and its gradual decline began early in the 16th century. Leland reported the Castle, a small but strongly-built fortress, as ruinous in 1539, and it was not fit to be put into a state of defence during the Civil War, the town being occupied mostly by Royalist troops, who plundered where they could, and set fire to the church lest it should serve as a place of defence for the Parliamentary troops. Isabella de Say, Lady of Clun, on her death-bed, gave the Church of St. George, Clun, with all its dependent chapels to the Clunian Priory of Much Wenlock in 1199. Formerly there was but one parish church to an area of 16 by 10 miles, the outlying chapels subsequently becoming independent. The civil parish of Clun is still over 20,000 acres in extent. At the dissolution of Wenlock Priory, 1538, the right of patronage of Clun was seized by the Crown, sold at various times, and remains now in the hands of the Earl of Powis.

The Parish Church consists of nave, supported by massive late Norman piers and arcade, north and south aisles with a huge plain western tower, measuring 22ft. square internally, and a large north porch with a chamber over it. There are two early Norman arches intact, the rest is transitional work of much beauty and well-proportioned. The chancel was restored in 1877, and over the east window is a 15th-century wooden canopy. The roof of the north aisle is an impressive piece of medieval carpentry. The pulpit, one mass of hand carving, dates from 1640-50, and some of the seats of about the same date are carved with weird dragons, and line the walls of the south aisle.

The church suffered severely in the Civil Wars, and led to the inhabitants presenting a petition to Parliament in 1647. In 1666 a Royal Brief was issued, after the fashion of those days, for collections in every church throughout England, Wales and Powis, in aid of the rebuilding of the church, which was described as so ruinous as not to be worth repairing, but though money was collected nothing or little was done. In 1877, during the vicariate of Prebendary Warner, it was discovered that the sum of £2,000 and over was still owing to the church under the brief of more than 200 years before.

(To be continued.)

(Continued from page 403.)

BOLTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

JOHN PALFRAMAN Treble	ROBERT WM. JENNISON ... 5
FIRTH HOPWOOD 2	ARTHUR GILL 6
WILLIAM CLARK 3	WM. ARTHUR HUDSON ... 7
ALBERT NORTH 4	HERBERT PEEL Tenor

Composed by EDWARD C. GOBEY, Ilkeston.

Conducted by WILLIAM ARTHUR HUDSON.

Rung in celebration of Election Day.

The ringers of the treble, 2nd and 6th belong to Bolton, the 4th to Mirfield, the 5th to Keighley and the rest to Birstal.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 14, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

*JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ... Treble	WILLIAM G. ANKER 5
THOMAS H. BICKNELL ... 2	WILLIAM J. MEERS 6
MISS KATE PIGOTT 3	JONATHAN PRESTON 7
MISS SARAH PIGOTT 4	JOHN E. PYWELL Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. MEERS.

* First peal in the Method.

† First peal with a Bob Bell.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss S. Pigott of Smethwick and Mr. W. B. Preston, son of the ringer of the 7th.

EDMONTON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, December 14, 1918, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANCES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt.

E. MACRICE ATKINS Treble	EDWARD F. COLE 5
CHARLES V. HARE 2	MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE ... 6
WILLIAM J. PEVARD 3	WILBY J. HAZELL 7
HARRY FOWLER 4	MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... Tenor

Conducted by MISS E. K. PARKER.

Rung to celebrate the signing of the Armistice.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 14, 1918, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS A BECKETT.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble	FRED J. CULLUM 5
JOHN SYMONS 2	(E.A., H.M.S. Vernon) 5
FREDERICK BURNETT 3	JOSHUA D. HARRIS 6
FRED HOLLAWAY 4	SERGE-MAJOR MACKMAN ... 7
	(A. Gym. Staff) 7
	EDWIN J. HARDING Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung as a welcome to President Wilson on his visit to the Allies, and to celebrate the signing of the Armistice. Grandsire had to be rung owing to meeting short for Stedman, and it was the first peal in the method on the bells. Sergt.-Major Mackman is one of the heroes of Mons, where he was badly wounded in 1914.

KIDDERMINSTER.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sept. 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: K. Salter 1, T. J. Salter 2, G. Davis 3, Corpl. C. H. Woodberry (conductor) 4, R. Moy 5, J. Woodberry 6, C. Beaman 7, A. Wright 8. On the following Wednesday, 504 of Grandsire Triples. Arranged for Corpl. C. H. Woodberry, Coldstream Guards, who was home on leave from France.

A STEEPLEKEEPER'S DEATH.

Sergt.-Major John Webb, secretary, steeplekeeper and leading light of the Benhlton (Sutton, Surrey), ringers, died at Ashford, Kent, on November 28th, from double pneumonia, following influenza. He was 35 years of age, and was interred as close to Benhlton tower (with its peal of eight bells) as it possibly could be. The funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon, December 4th. The bells were rung before and after the interment to touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples by: Capt. Freeborn, Messrs. F. Ford, A. J. Perkins, A. Boxall, G. Dean, C. Bance, F. Holder, and W. Joiner, of Carshalton, Mitcham, Beddington and Sutton, the conductors being F. Holder, Capt. Freeborn, and A. J. Perkins. A course of Grandsire Triples on handbells was rung over the open grave by: F. Ford 1-2, Capt. Freeborn 3-4, A. J. Perkins 5-6, W. Joiner 7-8.

In the evening a 500 Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by J. Lambert, the ringers taking part being: J. Lambert, F. Walker, W. Joiner, F. Ford, A. Calver, W. Smith, L. Ferridge, and A. Bandle.

John Webb was an enthusiast, and the writer of these few lines was glad to be able to be of some little service to him when he was struggling with that masterpiece of lob calling—Holt's Original, by 'laying it out' for him in as easy a manner as possible for calling, which he succeeded in doing. He also rang the 7th to a quarter-peal of London Surprise at Mitcham, and had it not been for the war would probably have rung a peal of 'London' by this time, for the opinion of those in the know still holds good that it should be the ambition of every ringer to call 'The Original' and ring a peal of 'London.'

Sergt.-Major Webb is the second ringer of the tower who has 'crossed the bar.' Mitcham has also suffered severely through the loss of the son of Mr. W. S. Smith (a promising young ringer), Ben Morris and D. Drewett (the son of the worthy Master of the Surrey Association); Beddington has lost one, in the person of E. Plowman (a promising lad), and son of Mr. A. J. Plowman.

A. J. P.

On Dec. 9th, Benhlton bells were rung half-muffled, and 720 Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering, was brought round by: A. Boxall 1, W. Smith 2, J. A. Lambert 3, A. Mason 4, A. Calver 5, F. Ford 6, Capt. Freeborn 7, W. Hodges 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church on September 3rd, 672 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Stuart 2, J. Huddleston 3, T. Watson 4, T. Stuart 5, W. S. Forshaw 6, F. Willey (conductor) 7, W. H. Dennison 8. On Sunday, September 8th, for evening service, 720 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Stuart 2, J. Huddleston 3, T. Watson 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

RICHMOND, YORKS.—On Sept. 4th, at the Parish Church of St. Mary, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins.: A. Morton 1, T. Hathaway 2, Bombr. W. Wilson 3, Bombr. A. J. Sanderson 4, R. J. Todd 5, Pte. M. F. R. Hibbert (conductor) 6. Arranged for T. Hathaway, of Otley, Leeds, who was on a visit to Richmond. The ringers of 3 and 4 hail from West Auckland and Workington respectively. On Wednesday, Sept. 11th, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins.: Gunn. V. Webb 1, Corpl. H. W. Cattlewell 2, A. Morton 3, J. T. Frenchum 4, R. J. Todd 5, Pte. M. F. R. Hibbert (conductor) 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to G. J. Frenchum, son of the ringer of the 4th, on his 22nd birthday, four of which have been spent in France. He is also an old ringer at St. Mary's Church. The ringers of 1 and 2 hail from Romford and Kidlington respectively.

BRAINTREE.—On Sunday, September 8th, for Matins, at the Parish Church, 700 Grandsire Triples and a course of Stedman Triples: C. H. Howard (conductor) 1, W. Sadler 2, H. E. Hammond 3, G. Lindridge 4, W. H. Dyson 5, Sergt. E. G. Buesden 6, E. F. Slade 7, L. W. Wiffen 8. For evensong 1248 Kent Treble Bob Major: W. Sadler 1, Sergt. E. G. Buesden 2, C. H. Howard 3, G. Lindridge 4, W. H. Dyson 5, E. F. Slade 6, Lee-Corpl. G. F. W. Williams (conductor) 7.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Sept. 8th, at St. George's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1270 changes), in 43 mins.: H. Wells 1, James Alfred 2, A. Alfred (conductor) 3, H. Smith 4, W. Hindley 5, J. T. Alfred 6, H. Alfred 7, W. Hives 8. Arranged for the ringers of the 4th and 8th, who hail from Leigh.

WORSLEY.—Lancashire Association.—On Saturday, Sept. 14th, at St. Mark's Church, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples was made, and came to grief after ringing one hour and 54 mins. through a missed call. The peal was arranged as a farewell to the Vicar (the Rev. C. B. Hulton), who has accepted the living of Holy Trinity, Southport, and who preached his farewell sermon the following day. The ringers were: Miss Emma Tenge 1, A. Ridyard (conductor) 2, J. Hall 3, F. Stoney 4, Fred. Gundy 5, P. H. Derbyshire 6, J. Porter 7, W. Dawson (Prestwich) 8. The ringers of 2, 3 and 4 hail from Miles Platting; 7 from Walkden; the rest belong to the local company.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Giles-in-the-Field, W.C., on Saturday, December 21st, 1918. Ringing from 3 p.m. Short service 5.30 p.m., followed by tea, if necessities can be obtained. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Matlock on Saturday, December 21st. Bells available all the afternoon.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Western District will be held at St. Chad's, Headingley, on Saturday, Dec. 21st. Bells (8), tenor 20 cwt., available from 2.30 until 9 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in Men's Club, Westwood Lane (only cups of tea provided); business meeting immediately after tea. All ringers welcome.—Percy L. Cooper, Hon. District Sec.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Llandaff on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th. Bells available all the afternoon. Business meeting, 4 o'clock. St. John's bells, Cardiff, available from 10 to 3 and from 7 to 9.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and John W. Jones, Hon. Secs.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A district meeting will be held at East Retford on Boxing Day, December 26th, when the bells of East Retford (10), Ordsall (6), West Retford (6) will be at the disposal of ringers from 10.30 a.m. to 8 p.m. A cordial invitation is given to members of kindred associations to attend, and it is hoped to have a good attendance of members present of the Army and Navy who are having their Christmas leave.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—The peal of ten at St. Mary's will be open to all ringers on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th, at 2 p.m. sharp, until 7.30.—A. J. Perkins, 3, Mellows Road, South Beddington, Wallington.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A meeting will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, January 4th, 1919. Bells available from 3 p.m.—Edward A. G. Allen, 77, Bell Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

ADDRESS.—The address of Capt. J. H. R. Freeborn, is "Bemerton," Cedar Road, Sutton Surrey.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS.

HANDBELLS wanted from G 25 or C 22. Chromatic preferred.—Apply "H.," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association have started a fund to help forward the above memorial, and appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

COACH BODY BUILDERS, COACH PAINTERS, AND COACH TRIMMERS wanted.—Apply Wilton Carriage Co., 107, Waddon New Road, Croydon.

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CHANGE RINGER (married) would like to hear of position of trust in any capacity at a public school or college, or as storekeeper in "Works Dept."—G. Thompson, 12, Hopwood Gardens, Tunbridge Wells.

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

The President of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild of Ringers desires to send greetings to his ringing friends, all the heartier, because the war is over and won. There has been a sadness of farewell in the many muffled peals rung of late; but there is the Christmas message of the bells to come, which he trusts may be but the prelude of a brighter and happier New Year for all.

50, High Street, Portsmouth.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all ringing friends both far and near, is the sincere wish of Spr. F. W. Naunton, 51st A. W. Coy., Royal Engineers, B.E.F., France.

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Hairs wish all their numerous ringing friends a Happy Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year.—83, High Street, Clapham, S.W.4.

The Compliments of the Season and Best Wishes to all ringing friends, from J. Hunt, Waterloo Cottage, Bishops Hull, Taunton.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 406. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27th, 1918.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MEMBER, GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 6th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and gives general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

THE FUTURE.

Before the next issue of 'The Ringing World' appears we shall once again have stepped over the threshold of a new year; a year in which we may hope to see a great revival of activity in the Exercise. It is with a feeling of relief that the world turns it back upon the last of the war-scarred years to go forward into a future of peace, in which, we trust, progress and prosperity shall predominate. Before us as a nation there are still great problems, and, probably, great trials, which will require all our self-control and natural steadiness to surmount without calamity; but the unity which has gained for us the victory of war will, if it be maintained, achieve for us the victory of peace. Unity in our national life is more than ever essential to the future prosperity of our land, and, similarly, unity in the ranks of the Exercise is more than ever important to the future of ringing.

If our art is to be revived, so that it may resume its forward march from the spot where, in 1914, it was stopped by the war, we must all pull together. There is no room for lukewarmness. There is much leeway to make up, and mere thinking about it will not help matters forward. Some associations are moving, and in this connection the report of what is being done in the Gloucester and Bristol Dioceses is particularly interesting. It should also prove helpful in suggesting to others lines upon which they might proceed. What one should like to see, however, is not isolated but universal action to re-establish the Exercise in its former position. Those who occupy official posts should be the first to move, and their ardour should not be damped if, at first, they fail to stir the whole of their members. Apathy they are bound to meet, and if they let it dominate them nothing but failure can be effected. Overcome the apathy with persistent effort, and then the movement to spread interest in the art will grow and advance until success is achieved.

Let us see the new year, then, marked with a determined revival movement in every part of the country. The associations have it in their hands, by the encouragement and help they can give in all the towers in their particular spheres, unaffiliated as well as affiliated. It is a great mistake to suppose that in a campaign of this kind only those towers which are in union with a society should be considered. A little practical help at a time like this might result in bringing in many a tower at present owning allegiance to no association. The new year, bright with peace, is full of possibilities for the ringing art, and it is up to everyone of us to see that so far as in us lies these possibilities are not wasted, therefore, in extending to our readers the best of all good wishes for 1919, we hope to see them united with us in helping forward this all-important work.

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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS.

Vicar of Broomfield.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

KIDDINGTON, OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

**On Tuesday, December 17, 1918, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,**

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

† JACK JUDGE Treble	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, SENR. ... 5
† LEONARD TOFFREY 2	FREDERICK WEBB 6
MAURICE SMITH 3	CAPT. J. H. R. FREEBORN ... 7
TOM PAYNE 4	G. H. KING Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE HOLIFIELD.

† First peal.

Rung to celebrate the Armistice.

UNION AND GRANDSIRE.

A REPLY TO THE REV. H. LAW JAMES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It was only a day or two ago in referring to some back numbers of 'The Ringing World' that I suddenly lighted for the first time on the letter of the Rev. H. Law James in your issue of 12th October, p. 331. His view is well and plainly set forth. Of course, I must state my view, as otherwise there are possibly those who would suppose that his letter had 'floored' me.

I am well aware that Stedman has been denominated 'Stedman's Principle.' Undoubtedly there is a plan (or principle) underlying it, which is (partly) that all the bells do similar work. But it also contains other plans (or principles) just as important and essential to its constitution, e.g., the alternation of slow and quick sixes, the departure of a bell from the front at the end, and the entry of a fresh bell into the front at the beginning of every six, double dodging, etc. All these plans (or principles), one as important as the rest, when taken together make the 'method' of Stedman. I never could, nor can I now, see any conceivable reason for not calling it a 'method,' like any other method, and such I have consistently tried to call it throughout the treatise on Stedman in the Snowdon series. I, therefore, cannot accept Mr. James' third paragraph, and fail to see any 'principle' in the plain hunting lead. It is, in fact, the one standing example of the absence of principle, except that of obedience to the three fundamental rules. (See Lead Ends pp. 5 and 6.)

We next come to the question of what constitutes a 'Plain Lead.' It is in his definition of this that Mr. James, as I contend, differs from what is practically the universal acceptance of the Exercise, and attempts to tie down the term to the sense described and more or less fully reviewed on p. 8 of 'Lead Ends.' But this will not do. His object is obvious. By 'Plain Lead' in the lips of 99 per cent. of the Exercise is meant, and is rightly meant, a treble's lead without a call. (See 'Lead Ends,' p. 10.) I say that herein Mr. James' object is obvious. What is it? It is that if his definition of 'Plain Lead' be accepted we have to accept also the only lead-ends that it will produce, i.e., Plain Bob (or Grandsire) lead-ends, and Mr. James is triumphant. He is delighted to allow us any amount of intineacy and any number of 'bobs' (according to his definition of that term) within the lead, provided only that they produce his own beloved lead-ends—but woe to you if you have a 'bob' too few! (See 'Lead Ends,' p. 18.)

That the positions of the five working bells at the lead-ends of a plain course of Grandsire Triples, when the two hunt bells are eliminated, happens to fit into the mould of the five bells in the plain hunting lead on that number (see 'Lead Ends,' p. 8) is a mere fortuitous fact, and Mr. James' remarks about it do not seem to me to have any real bearing on the question. Indeed, after reading his paragraph commencing 'And lo!' all that I feel inclined to say is 'What about it?'

And now to come to his argument from Single and Double Court and Single and Double Oxford Bob. Before, however, addressing myself to the argument proper, let me make an observation on an incidental remark which he makes in the course of it. I refer to the clause 'unless we are going to say that Grandsire is the only plain lead which exists.' In Mr. James' sense of 'plain lead,' as defined in paragraphs 4 and 5 of his letter before us (but not at all in the sense of those words as accepted by the Exercise at large) I am inclined to think that leads of Grandsire (and Plain Bob) are the only plain leads that exist. But be that as it may.

Now for his argument. This, omitting his accompanying figures, is as follows. Court Triples and other methods, such as those mentioned just above, having the Grandsire lead-ends, though these last need not necessarily occur in the same order of succession as in Grandsire itself, will, if one or more of their leads be substituted for a Grandsire lead, continually land us in a Grandsire lead-end. Of course they will! What else could they possibly do? It is a self-evident fact. If Mr. James will pardon my saying so, it is no argument at all, being merely a tautology. It is, in fact, nothing more than a roundabout

way of saying that if you keep in the Grandsire circle you do not get out of it!—not much of an argument, in my opinion.

It is important that this should be made quite clear. Let me, therefore, put it in another way. Take the six sets of lead-ends in Appendix II. (p. 24) of 'Lead Ends.' Now it matters not one jot what may be the structure of the interior of any of the leads—they may be leads of twenty different methods—provided that their lead-ends belong only to one of the six sets, no amount of interchanging of leads of the various methods will ever get us out of the circle of lead-ends of that set. This, and all other characteristics of any one set, are equally true of all the sets. I can only repeat what I say on p. 24 of 'Lead Ends'—they are all of equal value, and, I may add, of similar characteristics.

Now, what does Mr. James do? He points out quite truly that, so long as we mix up plain leads from various methods having Grandsire lead-ends, we do not get out of set No. 1 on p. 24. Of course not. It is self-evident. But what does he next do? He proceeds to substitute a lead of Union Triples for one of Grandsire, and then seems to think that he is making a wonderful revelation in showing that we cannot get back into set No. 1: whereas no one but an utter ignoramus would ever suppose that we could do so. If we have a method, or any number of methods, whose plain course lead-ends belong to set No. 1, none of them, nor any mixture of them, will ever get us out of that set. And exactly the same with all the other sets.

Further, Mr. James plainly seems to congratulate himself on having, as he supposes, triumphantly shown that a lead of Union acts as a bob to a lead of Grandsire. It is equally evident that he has forgotten that it is open to anyone else to say, as I emphatically do say, that a lead of Grandsire acts as a bob to a lead of Union. Quite unconsciously he utters the real truth when he says that 'they are not plain to each other.' Precisely so. Grandsire is not plain to Union. Let me paraphrase the conclusion of Mr. James' letter as follows: 'Can we use this lead (of Grandsire) to connect three or more courses of Union Triples together? Will it do the work of a bob?' Answer: Yes.

234567

253746

274653

265374

237465

Twice repeated.

Mr. James' supposed arguments are wholly fallacious.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

CHRISTMAS BELLS, 1918.

(Written in Commemoration of Peace.)

Thousands, many times multiplied, will listen in this Empire during this sacred festival of Christmas to the joyous bells which will ring in their noble spires in token of peace. The interval of their cessation has seemed dull and dreary. No superior factor in the heralding of the entrance of the old conditions of happiness for the subjects of the King will be in evidence this Yuletide, and, looking to the future, we must at once commence to put the belfries, bells, and their legions of ringers in order. Under the most felicitous conditions casualties may occur, for bells, like frail humanity, need at times restoration and repair, and, therefore, discussion at this momentous season is relevant.

In the constructing, furnishing and maintenance of an important belfry the art of graceful designing and the science of careful construction, with well chosen material, should be brought into service; and wise committees, when placing contracts for bell towers or spires, whether Cathedral, Church, or City Hall, will assure themselves that the architect whom they call to their aid for such work shall be of acknowledged understanding in matters campanological, and especially that the bell founder shall be of high repute.

The following information is from a private letter sent to the writer of this article on the theme of tuning bells. 'As an instance of this the case of one of the largest sets of quarter bells in this country come to my mind. The uncertain tone of the hour bell and the lack of harmony in the quarter bells are painfully noticeable. I understand that a suggestion is being made to recast all into a fine chromatic carillon, and to ensure the artistic consummation of such a task I have in my mind an extensive workshop where it could be carried out under the best conditions. A shop of old standing, but increasing in size, one may say, year by year to cope with the work that our far flung and still extending civilisation demands from it.'

A bell cannot hide its defects from the musical public. The smallest flaw is made manifest to all who wish to hear, from the first moment that the bell is rung or chimed. It hangs aloft in a tower or spire pointing to the sky, and it would seem as if the clouds themselves are playing the role of critic by echoing the fault back to mother earth. A few cases of deplorable misfortune attended by fatal results are recorded in history, and go to prove that death and injury to human beings hang ever overhead like the impending sword at Damocles. One may instance the accident at Manchester on March 2nd, 1792, when the bells crashed through the roof while ringing a

sonorous joyous peal, the cause being the decay of the fittings through old age. To make good the damage was a great expense, and the regret of the authorities was deep and sincere. The lesson to be learnt therefrom is that of the old proverb, 'A stitch in time, etc.' for if the authorities had had regular inspection of the belfry made by experts the defects in the fittings would have been discovered, and the sad calamity averted.

At Liverpool, on a Sunday forenoon, February 11th, 1810, the spire of St. Nicholas' Cathedral Church fell, 22 persons being crushed to death. The collapsing spire had only been erected in 1750, thus being not more than 60 years old.

Both the above calamities are reported in the standard history of Lancashire, edited by Sir Edward Raines, of Leeds.

Just a word as to the supposed oldest dated bell in the world. A famous collector from America while in London chanced to call on the founder, who case one of our leviathan time denoters, where he saw this ancient bell. It is now in his museum in California. It is inscribed in Latin as follows: I.H.S. X.P.S. Maria. Quintana: Et Saluator Ma Recerit Ao Di 1247. 'James, Jesus Christ, Mary, Quintana and Salvador made me in the Year of Our Lord 1247.' When this was cast, Louis IX. of France was getting ready for the sixth Crusade 1248-1250, and the Magna Charter had been granted by King John only 32 years. Surely this is worthy of honourable mention. Mr. Miller, the famous collector, of Riverside, California, is my authority in this matter.

Another leviathan bell which once on a time suffered deterioration by the infusion of unappreciated wealth at the hands of the nobles of Russia, viz., 'Tsar Kolokol,' otherwise called the King of the World's bells. First cast A.D. 1651, when the Tsar Alexis Michaelovitch ordered that a bell should be cast of the weight of 320,000lbs., this bell was in use until 1701, when it was destroyed in consequence of a violent fire which broke out in the Kremlin. It was recast with additional metal in 1733, by the order of the Empress Anna Ivanovna. The project of building over the bell a tower in which to hang it was about to be put into execution when, in 1737, the terrible fire which devoured a part of the city, communicated with the constructions of wood which surrounded the bell, and the records of the times relate that, having become extremely hot, the bell cracked when it was reached by the water which the inhabitants, with over-great zeal, threw on it to save it, and which occasioned a contrary effect to that which they expected. The bell is exhibited in the grand square of the Kremlin, upon an octagonal pedestal of granite, the broken piece being placed against the pedestal. The weight of the bell is 432,320lbs., or 193 tons, height 20ft. 7in., diameter 22ft. 8in., thickness 2ft., circumference 75ft. 7in. When the bell was being cast the noble ladies of Moscow threw jewels and other treasures into the molten metal and caused imperfect places in the bell.

In conclusion, let me appeal for the early and complete restoration where necessary of the bells of the Motherland, so that they may take their appointed portion in ringing in the glorious 'Peace on Earth and Goodwill to Men.' The bells of the Parish Church of my native town of Radcliffe may be cited as a peal which was imperfectly repaired and retuned by a northern founder, some years ago, creating much dissatisfaction.

WILLIAM HAMPSON

(Late 'Radcliffe Observer')

BRIGHTLING'S BATTLE BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Having read in this week's 'Ringing World' the article headed 'Commemorative Battle Bells,' I thought it might be of interest to some of your readers to read the following inscriptions on the bells of St. Thomas-a-Becket's Church, Brightling, Sussex:—

- Treble. Waterloo. T. Mears of London fecit 1818.
- Waterloo. This peal of bells was completed Anno Domini 1818 at the expense of John Fuller, Esq. T. Mears of London fecit.
- Talavera. The Revd. J. B. Hayley, Rector. Mr. James Bass, Mr. Henry Hoad, Ch. Wardens. T. Mears of London fecit 1815.
- Salmagundi. T. Mears of London fecit 1815.
- Vittoria. T. Mears of London fecit 1815.
- Pyrenees. T. Mears of London fecit 1815.
- Orthes. T. Mears of London fecit 1815.
- Toulouze. T. Mears of London fecit 1815.

The five bells recast, and a new treble added at the expense of John Fuller, Esq., the member for the county, Anno Domini 1815. In honour of the illustrious Duke of Wellington, his last six victories are here recorded.

T. Mears of London Fecit.

Yours faithfully,

E. J. PANNETT.

WEST RAYING.—On Sept. 8th, for the morning service, 720 R. Minor: C. Brown 1. H. W. Hollier 2. W. Lawrence (conductor) 3. P. Holloway 4. E. Vickery 5. A. Harding 6. A. E. Smith (Aster) 7. No assisted.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

RAISING AND LOWERING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Might I trespass on your space to say a word or two about 'Raising and Lowering' P I have tried Mr. Lawrence's method 2, 5, 7 and 1, 4, 6, 8, on handbells, and was very much struck with the beauty of the two chords, and I think his method infinitely preferable to the monotonous method of letting bells down or pulling them up one by one. Mr. Lawrence's way makes a beautiful finish to a good 'touch' just before evening service, and I have heard it done at a well-known church (where the tower was not considered quite strong enough for 'raising and lowering' the whole peal of eight at one time 'in peal') with magnificent effect. The 3rd can be then lowered as a service bell at the finish.

Of course, raising and lowering the whole of the bell 'in peal' is the best and prettiest way, and ought to be done wherever possible. By a little assiduous practice any band of ringers ought soon to be able to do it well, and the clappers could quite easily be fixed in the centre of the bell by a piece of rope or a 'clapper-stay' while they were still in the learners' stage. I know of a tower where a man is not considered a proper ringer unless he can raise and lower his bell 'in peal' properly. Many a good 'touch' is utterly spoiled by the abominable practice (as Mr. Richardson rightly says) of lowering the bells anyhow 'all of a heap' just before the service begins.

It is not what ringers think, it is what the general public think, that matters, and it is very hard for a ringer outside the tower to hear the caustic remarks that are passed when bells are jangled up or down anyhow, even though he himself may know that a minute or two previously they were ringing a well-struck 'touch' of Cambridge Surprise Maximus!

I know a church where they do not care to practise raising and lowering in peal, as they fix 'clapper-stays' on the clappers and pull them up and down slowly, which is far better than doing it all anyhow.

Failing either raising or lowering in peal, or by chords 'in peal,' I certainly agree that the single-bell method is the best, as advocated by Mr. Richardson. The 'chord' method, as the Rev. L. Edwards says, is especially suitable for heavy 'rings' of bells.—Yours very truly,

ERIC H. S. THURSCOTT, Second-Lieut.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I be permitted to add a few remarks in reference to the proper manner of raising and lowering bells? First of all my contention is that there is one way only of raising and lowering bells and that is in peal.

This is not in any way a difficult matter, providing a band will go to the trouble of practising it, and can be quite easily done on any moderate weight peal on any number up to ten bells. On ten bells the front six would require to be rung up two-thirds of the way (before commencing with the heavy bells) and remain at that point until the heavy bells are rung up to the corresponding height. On six and eight bells it would be much simpler to commence practically at the same time, viz., by raking the bells in rotation, each commencing one pull after the bell in front of it. From past experience I have always found it much better when teaching a band to raise and lower in peal, to practise the lowering first. This gives its own practical lesson in the format on of the compass as the bells swing lower. The chief point in doing so is to have a man ringing the treble that can hear the bells, so that he can control the pace to almost what extent he likes. Also, immediately the heavy bells are below their usual balance there should not be any attempt to keep an open hand stroke with the treble, otherwise the heavy bells will quickly be all in a heap.

On ten bells a good plan is to lower all in peal as long as the heavies can be kept talking, then cease with the four back bells, and finish the lowering of the front six. This effect is very pleasing.

Twelve could be lowered in a like manner, but when the heavies cease to clapper properly the two trebles should be checked immediately, and finish with middle six.

Previous to my coming here, two years ago, and when living at Farnham, Surrey, we always lowered the eight in peal, and once in conversation with a gentleman of great musical abilities, he informed me that the greatest pleasure the ringing gave him was to listen to the lowering of the bells in peal, his remark being that the music was beyond description.

After the outbreak of war, and until my removal here, I came in contact with a very great number of ringers from all over England. I used to meet them at Aldershot and Farnham Parish Churches, and I can safely say that you could not reckon on more than one in twenty that had ever attempted or ever heard bells lowered in peal.

I think myself, it is not a matter for the Central Council but for each individual Association to impress upon its members the necessity of practising it, so as to do away for ever with this terrible system now so prominent of clashing of bells down in any numbers or form, after, perhaps, a most excellent touch has been rung for the service.

Yours faithfully,

Gardens, Cockley Cley Hall, Swaffham.

C. EDWARDS.

TAUNTON.—On Sunday, Sept. 22nd, at St. James' Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: T. Doble 1. J. Maddock 2. F. Millard 3. W. Cording 4. A. Thorne 5. J. Matthews 6. E. E. Burgess (conductor) 7. J. Churchill 8.

FIRST RINGER V.C.

WORKSOP MAN'S CONSPICUOUS BRAVERY.

Many war honours have fallen to ringers during the great struggle, now happily closed, but it was left to the last days of the war to provide the greatest distinction of all. Sergt. William Henry Johnson, a ringer belonging to Worksop, won the Victoria Cross by an exhibition of remarkable courage in the fighting at Rancourt on October 3rd, and the Exercise will join in congratulating him upon having earned the coveted honour. Great satisfaction is also naturally felt by the residents in his native town.



Sergt. W. H. JOHNSON V.C.
(of Worksop Priory Church Company).

Sergt. Johnson, who is a son of the late Mr. Wm. Johnson, is 28 years of age, and prior to enlisting on February 9th, 1916, worked as a miner at the Manton Colliery, Worksop, belonging to the Wigan Coal and Iron Company. He has been serving in France with the 15th Territorial Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters. He was badly wounded in the heavy fighting early in October of this year, in which the Sherwoods so distinguished themselves, and is now in hospital in France. He is married, and has three children. Sergt. Johnson is a member of the Worksop Priory Church company of Change Ringers, and belongs to a well-known Worksop family. He is also a member of the North Nottingham and Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Associations. He is the first Worksop man to win the Victoria Cross, though the old town is able to boast of D.C.M.'s, M.M.'s and Military Crosses.

The official account of the deed for which Sergt. Johnson received the coveted distinction is as follows:—

No. 306122 Sergt. William Henry Johnson, 15th Batta, Notts and Derby Regt. (T.F.), Worksop.—For most conspicuous bravery at Rancourt on the 3rd October, 1918. When his platoon was held up by a nest of enemy machine guns at very close range, Sergt. Johnson worked his way forward under very heavy fire, and single-handed charged the post, bayoneting several runners and capturing two machine guns. During this attack he was severely wounded by a bomb, but continued to lead forward his men. Shortly afterwards the line was once more held up by machine guns. Again he rushed forward and attacked the post single-handed. With wonderful courage he bombed the garrison, put the guns out of action, and captured the teams. He showed throughout the most exceptional gallantry and devotion to duty.

On the announcement by the Vicar of Worksop (the Rev. G. J. A. D'Arcy) of the good news on Sunday evening, the 15th, the ringers rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): R. Wright (first quarter-peal), aged 15 years, 1. H. H. Cartwright 2. A. Johnson 3. E. Clark 4. H. Haigh (conductor) 5. J. T. Wilson 6. Sapper T. Bartholomew, R.E. 7. G. Hardwick 8. On Monday evening the bells were fired in volleys, and touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor and a 720

was rung, the ringers being those above mentioned, together with William Roberts.

Sergt. Johnson joined the Priory company five years ago, and by hard work and steady perseverance he managed to ring greater peals in five methods. He was always aiming at a higher state of efficiency in the more intricate methods, but soon after the war broke out, and the county was wanting men, he willingly volunteered his services, leaving behind him his wife and children, and the Priory ringers weaker by his absence. Always of a bright and cheery disposition, and with a winning smile, he endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact, and was very popular with his colleagues.

In a letter written on December 8th to the writer of these lines, he says: 'I have undergone another operation. I feel so well, that although it will be impossible for me to be with you for Christmas ringing, I live in the brightest hopes of joining the ringers on their annual excursion next Whitsuntide. I must thank you and all the ringers for remembering me on Armistice Day, and for the volleys fired on the bells on my behalf. I can assure you that when I read the account in the local papers I felt very grateful to you all. I have not got on of bed yet, but hope to do so very shortly. Thanking you for all past kindnesses.'

CLUN AND ITS CHURCH.

AND THE STORY OF A RINGING WEEK IN SALOP.

(Continued from page 405.)

The restoration of 1877 was carried out under the direction of Mr. G. E. Street, A.R.I.B.A., and has resulted in the preservation of one of the most beautiful stately parish churches to be found throughout the country; a jewel, hidden amongst nature's scenery, and now embellished with a row of nine pendant flags on each side of the nave representing with dignified simplicity those Allied Nations who have so recently concluded the mightiest war ever known.

Of the church bells we learn that a pebble was added in 1631, but the stability of the bell frame, as well as that of the tower itself, gradually failed, and the peal of six became unringable until 1914, the year of restoration of the tower and bells. A few extracts from old churchwardens' accounts are of much interest, and I would here like to recommend readers to procure a copy of Mr. Mead's 'Story of the Bells' for further interesting information.

1549. 2 June iiiij Bells of one accord.

1553. 15 May Clonne iv Bells.

These two items refer to the earliest bells in the old tower which were totally destroyed by fire, portions of the fused metal having been discovered in the rebuilding in 1914.

	s. d.
1718. To the Ringers at Christmas	5 0
1718. Ringers' expenses, 20 Oct.	3 6
1718. To the Ringers on 29 May	3 6

In 1877 nothing was done to the church tower. Erected probably 700 years ago, it was left by Street's Restoration Committee to another generation of Clun people to carry out, and right worthily have they completed what may best be described as a ringers' paradise. At a public meeting, held in June, 1913, with a view to restoring the tower and bells of Clun, the sum of £168 was raised. Mr. B. Stelly-brass, an expert architect, was called in and estimated approximately £490 for the work of repairs alone, viz.: Bells and clock £125, tower £365. In January, 1914, the stonework of the tower was commenced, and a new ring of six bells considered on February 4th, which were to have new fittings throughout; the funds at that time amounting to £592. In April a balance sheet was issued by the committee, showing assets £653 13s. 2d. in 'monies paid, promises made,' and they had to contend with more difficulties when the architect announced further serious cost of building operations, and Mr. Mead's pressure for two additional bells when the new clock and chiming had been 'generously given by Mrs. Hulme and family. However, on the principle of 'everything comes to him who waits,' the whole work was completed at a total outlay £1,235 18s. 6d., without, be it remembered, recourse to a bazaar, entertainment or amusement of any description—the generous and lasting gift of man to mankind for the glory and honour of God.

The columns of 'The Ringing World' have already well described the beautiful ceremony of the dedication and reopening of the tower and bells on the 16th September, 1914, at a time when the town of Mons were making history for the British Army at the beginning of the great war—and on the anniversary of the writer's humble birth. Altogether a sum of £7,000 has been spent on this edifice, with a parish population, mostly agricultural, of only 1,450. In a work of such importance it is worthy of note that Mr. F. F. Short, marked indefatigably as hon. secretary throughout; whilst Mr. Wm. Mead, change ringer and churchwarden, 1915-17, was ever alert to further the undertaking. The latter's little booklet raised £7 10s. in cash, and an additional £7 10s. in donations. Then again the Vicar (the Rev. R. D. Macher) was exceptional in deciding to go forward with the work, and to have nothing but the very best put into it, thus completing a noble church that will bear inspection throughout the

centuries to come. The successive churchwardens, Messrs. Darrell Townsend, Mead, Newell and Clarke are also well-known townsmen, who have all 'done their bit' in aid of their old parish church.

The solemn sweet harmonious bells,
All other music far excels.

1782 Bowdley's ruined peal board.

The thoroughness of the good people of Clun is revealed in their decision not to have a full peal rung on their new bells—1914—till the war ceased; and on Armistice Day, November 11th last, the question was raised, and the duty of organising a good band undertaken by Mr. Mead in his usual energetic fashion. There are numerous ringers about who do not fully realise the amount of time required to fix up ringing matters, and I may be pardoned if I here repeat a paragraph from the letter of invitation sent to me on the 22nd: 'I had no idea that when I made myself responsible for the "peace peal" that I was letting myself in for such a lot of correspondence.' Accordingly the date was fixed for Wednesday, December 4th, by the St. George's Parish Church authorities, and those invited were requested to report to Mr. Mead the night previous, and as will have been seen by the peal columns of this journal, a worthy representation of the Hereford Diocese Guild and the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham assembled to carry out the local programme, which also included 'joy peals' in several of the neighbouring towns. I cannot do better than give you my notes of the daily routine, and I found the practice of the organisers of some of the old Sussex tours of advantage to our party, viz., stick to the programme as far as possible.

Wednesday.—We were up at 6 a.m. Our organiser had a good night's rest, having been able to count his chickens before going to roost. The churchpeople most hospitably gave the visitors bed and board. Mr. W. Short arrived in time to complete a band for Major after the departure of Mr. A. A. Hughes (representing the White-chapel bell foundry), who was called away to Yorkshire on church bell business.

At seven o'clock a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by Messrs. Shepherd, Pigott, George, Groves, Hughes, Short, Mead and W. Roberts—time, 48 mins., Barnett's composition, with the 24-6-7's (conducted by W. Short) being the first by the two last-named men. Holy Communion was celebrated at 8.15 by the Vicar, to which the ringers as a corporate body presented themselves.

We breakfasted at the Vicarage, where Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Machin allowed us to exceed the usual war rations on generous terms, well knowing that invigorating sustenance was required for the day by their guests. At its conclusion, the Rev. V. A. Cresswell offered thanks to our host and hostess for their kindness, and said how proud our men were to be allowed the privilege of coming to Clun for the first full peal on their new bells. Their thanks were also due to the parishioners, who had so willingly welcomed the visitors, and made them comfortable.

After breakfast several interesting business details were gone through in the Vicar's study and hall. Mr. Hughes was elected an Herefordian; Miss Mead and the Revs. Scott and Cresswell made members of the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, and all the visitors members of the St. George's Society of Clun. A musical set of dinner gongs received attention, Stedman Caters, double-handed and tunes were rung on handbells, followed by a smoke and chat, while the weather, more like spring than winter, enabled us to ramble in the grounds and about the church to our hearts' content. A happy morning ended with 'touches' on the tower bells till lunch was ready. Mrs. Machin's boys—there were ten of them—simply revelled in the standard methods with exactitude, my only regret being the absence of our old friend, Mr. Wm. Gifford, to help 'pitch 'em off'.

The peace peal was successfully attempted in the afternoon, as already duly chronicled, and this was followed by a special evening service in the church at 6.30.

The Vicar, the Rev. W. D. Machin, M.A., conducted the service, assisted by the Rev. H. J. Scott. The surpliced choir was in charge of Mr. W. Tong, who presided at a very fine organ. Suitable hymns were selected: one of them composed in Bucks, and commencing—'Hearkening God who Reigneth.'

The address, to a good congregation, was founded upon St. Matthew iii. 3 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord.'

I sincerely hope that Mr. Machin will be good enough to give it again some day to a Diocesan gathering of bell ringers.

At 7.30 a social gathering was held in the spacious ringing room, when nearly 50 people were present including the clergy, choir, ringers and friends; more touches rung, old views of the church and ancient bell fittings, etc. inspected; and 'Good-night' said all round to end another day of days for Clun.

(To be continued.)

MERTHAM, SURREY. — On Sept. 29th, for the harvest festival, 1320 Grandsire Doubles, in 55 mins.: H. Morley 1, Miss Orlebar 2, E. Atkins (conductor) 3, C. Killick 4, G. Morley 5, W. Francis 6.

THETFORD, NORFOLK. — At St. Peter's Church, for harvest thanksgiving services, 720 Rob Minor: Sapper W. Darlow 1, Sapper R. Deal 2, 2nd Corp. B. Clark 3, T. Fitzjohn 4, Wm. Everett 5, C. Edwards (conductor) 6.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD WOKING.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting of the above will be held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, December 28th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m.; business meeting to follow. All ringers heartily invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 50, Cannon Street, E.C.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A meeting will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, January 4th, 1919. Bells available from 3 p.m.—Edward A. G. Allen, 77, Ball Street Road, Finsbury, Rochester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The annual Branch meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, January 4th. Bells available at 5 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

SHEFFIELD AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, January 4th, 1919. Eight bells available from 3 o'clock or earlier by arrangement. This being an extra meeting, an extra good attendance is desired.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at All Saints' Church, West Bromwich, on Saturday, January 11th. Bells (eight, recently been recast) available at 3. Service in church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. M. M. Connor), at 5.15. Tea (1s.) in the schoolroom at 6. Will those who intend to be present please notify me by Tuesday, January 7th?—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. — (Estab. 1755.)—The annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's Hotel, St. Martin's Lane, Birmingham, on Tuesday, January 14th, 1919, at 7.30 p.m., the Presiding Ringing Master, Alderman G. S. Pritchett, M.A., in the chair. Ringing at St. Martin's from 6 o'clock to 7.15. All subscriptions are due at this meeting. Will members and visiting friends please note for this and subsequent meetings the change of meeting house?—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

HANDBELLS wanted from G 25 or C 22. Chromatic preferred.—Apply "H.," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

Wanted SET OF HANDBELLS (12); Tenor 6½ inches over, in E flat.—Write Lorkin, Somersfield Cottage, London Road, Reigate.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

COACH BODY BUILDERS, COACH PAINTERS, AND COACH TRIMMERS wanted.—Apply Wilton Carriage Co., 107, Waddon New Road, Croydon.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

CHANGE RINGER (married) would like to hear of position of trust in any capacity at a public school or college, or as storekeeper in "Works Dept."—G. Thompson, 12, Hopwood Gardens, Tunbridge Wells.

Enthusiastic **RINGER** requires Situation.—Electrician, institution or private estate, all wiring repairs, experienced maintenance accumulators, capable house and estate repairs, lawn mowers, smithing repairs, domestic utensils, water piping, or devote whole time estate repairs of that nature; no experience Diesels or produce plants; excellent references; would join fellow-ringer in business of above nature, or take good country smith's business, in district where above business obtainable; capital available.—Write "B," "Ringing World" Office, Woking, Surrey.

GREETINGS.

A Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year are the hearty wishes to all ringing friends from C.Q.M.S. J. E. Davis, 242nd A. W. Co. Royal Engineers, B.E.F., France.

Lance-Corpl. C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec. Middlesex County Association, sends from Salonica hearty greetings for Xmas and good wishes for the New Year to all ringing friends.

THANKS.

Mrs. Bertram Prewett desires to thank all the many friends throughout the Exercise who have sent their kind expressions of sympathy with her in her bereavement.—Alderbury, Oxhey Avenue, Watford.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE REV. H. A. COCKEY

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association have started a fund to help forward the above memorial, and appeals to all ringers for voluntary subscriptions, which should be forwarded to Mr. F. K. Howell, Hon. Treasurer, Thornbury, Glos.

LOWER BEBINGTON.—On Sept. 17th, at St. Andrew's Church, 1344 Double Norwich Major: J. Wilkinson 1, J. W. Bell 2, G. R. Newton (conductor) 3, E. Cauce 4, J. Martin 5, H. Ludkin 6, H. H. Barker 7, W. T. Robson 8. Also a further touch of 416 in the same method: J. Wilkinson 1, J. W. Bell 2, H. Ludkin 3, E. Cauce 4, G. R. Newton (conductor) 5, J. Martin 6, E. Breeze 7, H. H. Barker 8.

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