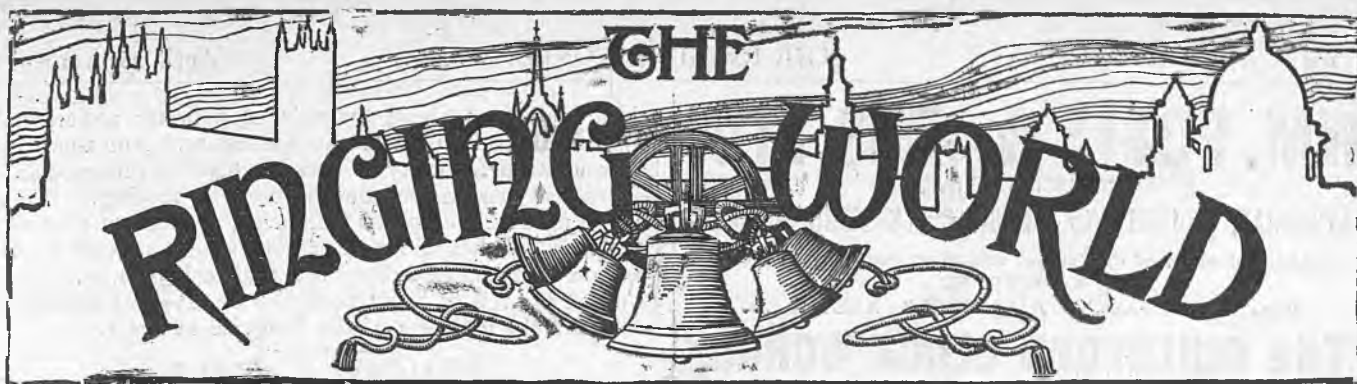




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FRIDAY, APRIL 26th, 1940.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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A FRIENDLY MEASURE.

The Guildford Diocesan Guild, at their annual meeting on Saturday, clinched by resolution a reciprocal arrangement with the Surrey Association which, we think, creates an entirely new departure in the relationship between territorial ringing associations. Nearly the whole of the diocese of Guildford lies within the county of Surrey, and while, in the days of the old Winchester Diocesan Guild, out of which the Guildford Guild was formed at the splitting up of the diocese, there was a kind of tacit understanding between the two societies as to their spheres of influence, when the Guildford Guild came on the scene the position was altered, particularly in regard to the towers at the north-eastern corner of the diocese, which up to that time had largely thrown in their lot with the county association. Happily, when the reorganisation took place twelve years ago, the coming of the Guildford Guild was met by a most cordial attitude on the part of the Surrey Association, and the good relationship then established has not only been maintained, but has improved as time has passed. It has been recognised that the two organisations can exist side by side without friction, and can serve the common purpose, although in part the operations overlap. The good feeling has now been cemented by each society resolving to invite a representative of the other to serve upon its Executive Committee. It is an example of how a position, that might have involved clashing interests, can be turned to good account, by uniting the two societies in a stronger bond of fellowship—a fellowship that has already shown itself in the frequent holding of joint meetings and a personal intercourse between members that has been welcomed and appreciated on both sides.

There are not, of course, many societies in quite the same relative positions as the Surrey Association and the Guildford Diocesan Guild, but there is London and the suburban areas, where, as we have said before, something is long overdue to solve a state of affairs which is leading nowhere, to put it mildly. Then there are areas in which localised societies are operating within the sphere of larger organisations. All have the same objects in view and all are intent upon improving the status of ringers and ringing, but, while the membership of the competing societies is drawn from the same personnel, there is little or nothing done to unify or co-ordinate the efforts of the societies. We do not suggest that what has been done in Surrey is, in itself, the solution of any difficulties that may exist among organisations whose territories overlap, but the course, if adopted elsewhere,

(Continued on page 194.)

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might well be a stage towards even better understandings and more useful work in the future. And there will be every need for unity of action when the time comes to re-establish the belfries on the pre-war footing. There will be no place for petty jealousies, or even of aloofness one from another if ringing is to return quickly to the position it occupied before the outbreak of war. Unity of effort as well as of purpose will be essential among all who have the interests of the Exercise at heart.

TEN BELL PEALS.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, April 17, 1940, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5187 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt.

FRED HAYES	 Treble	WILLIAM H. PLUMRIDGE	... 6
MISS KATH. E. FLETCHER	... 2	REV. R. F. R. ROUTH	... 7
MISS DOROTHY R. FLETCHER	... 3	CAPT. J. H. FREEBORN	... 8
RALPH COLES	 4	HARRY WINGROVE	... 9
ROLAND BIGGS	 5	EDWARD CROXFORD	... Tenor

Composed by J. H. FREEBORN.

Conducted by FRED HAYES.

Rung in honour of Gunner Plumridge, of H.M.S. Ajax, for some time a local probationer, son of the ringer of the 6th, also to celebrate the Allied victories around the Norwegian coast.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PRITTLEWELL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

* BERTRAM C. HINES	 Treble	FRANK B. LUFKIN	... 6
ERIC B. HARTLEY	 2	* EDWARD T. SITCH	... 7
* RUSSELL G. SPEARS	 3	REGINALD W. DARVILL	... 8
ALBERT E. NORTH	 4	HORACE J. MANSFIELD	... 9
JOHN H. SITCH	 5	ROBERT C. HEAZEL	... Tenor

Composed by GEO. HAYWARD.

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Royal. Fiftieth peal as conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BLAGDON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb.

GEORGE POPNELL	 Treble	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD	... 5
MISS NORAH G. WILLIAMS	... 2	FRANK SKIDMORE	... 6
MISS MARGARET PACK	... 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE	... 7
ALBERT M. TYLER	 4	DONALD G. CLIFT	... Tenor

Conducted by DONALD G. CLIFT.

LEWISHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

HARRY WARNETT, SEN.	 Treble	GEORGE A. PARSONS	... 5
CHARLES H. WALKER	... 2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	... 6
THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	... 3	EDMUND MOUNTER	... 7
HARRY WARNETT, JUN.	... 4	JAMES BENNETT	... Tenor

Conducted by HARRY WARNETT, SEN.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

BERT C. COCK	 Treble	CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY	... 5
CLAUDE SNOWDEN	... 2	RONALD SUCKLING	... 6
BERNARD W. PETTIT	... 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	... 7
HILDA G. SNOWDEN	... 4	H. WALTER SMITH	... Tenor

Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION
AND SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN FLINT... ..	Treble	JOHN H. BROTHWELL	5
TOM BROTHWELL	2	F. BERNARD DITCHER	6
*JACK G. BROTHWELL... ..	3	JOHN THORPE	7
JOHN E. TURLEY	4	ERNEST THORPE	Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

* First peal in the method.

DRAYCOTT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes;

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

*ALAN D. STEEL	Treble	JOHN CARTLEDGE	5
EDWARD STEELE	2	ALFRED GEORGE BASS	6
WILLIAM PERKINS	3	†CHARLES H. PAGE	7
WILLIAM CARNWELL... ..	4	FREDERICK SHELLEY	Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES H. PAGE.

* 50th peal. † 150th peal. First peal on the bells since the two trebles were added by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. Rung as a farewell peal to William Perkins before leaving to join the Royal Air Force.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BRIGHTWELL, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, March 29, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Agatha,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores, eight 360's (Lindoff's) and four 240's.

Tenor 11 cwt.

*MICHAEL A. GIRLING	Treble	†GODFREY H. LEWINGTON... ..	4
†FRANK C. CASTELL	2	†C. JOHN CASTELL	5
OLIVER G. BARNARD... ..	3	FREDERICK BROOKER	Tenor

Conducted by OLIVER G. BARNARD.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal away from tenor.

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 13, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

FREDERICK WATSON	Treble	FRANK T. LONG	4
GEORGE A. CHARLTON	2	WILLIAM A. WOOD	5
FRANK BAILLESS	3	JOHN H. BAILLESS... ..	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. BAILLESS.

First peal as conductor. Rung as a farewell to Dr. Cyril Bardsley, the retiring Bishop of Leicester.

NEWTON, PORTHCAWL, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Monday, April 15, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 extents, with 10 callings.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

WILLIAM SURMAN	Treble	TREVOR M. RODERICK... ..	4
ALFRED HANNINGTON... ..	2	ALFRED E. WILLIAMS... ..	5
ERNEST STITCH	3	ALBERT E. BACON	Tenor

Conducted by E. STITCH.

Rung half-muffled as a memorial to the Rev. Daniel Fisher, late Vicar of St. Paul's Church, Grangetown, Cardiff, and James E. Partridge, a ringer at this tower, who were laid to rest in the churchyard earlier in the day, and to John Elias, a churchwarden for many years, who died on the previous day.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.—On Sunday morning, April 21st, for Princess Elizabeth's birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. H. Curtis 1, S. Greenfield 2, L. Atfield 3, A. V. Corden 4, E. Treagus 5, A. Holden 6, L. Stilwell (conductor) 7, H. J. Doick 8.

SOMERLEYTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Plain Bob, two of Kent and two of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*ERNEST A. LONG	Treble	†GEORGE T. BUSSEY	4
WILLIAM R. BARBER	2	GODFREY G. WALPOLE	5
STANLEY FENN	3	DONALD A. LONG	Tenor

Conducted by GODFREY G. WALPOLE.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal and first attempt.

SAPCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Bob Minor. Tenor 10 cwt.

ALFRED BALLARD... ..	Treble	FRANCIS R. DEACON	4
JOHN H. BAILLESS	2	WILLIAM A. WOOD	5
CECIL E. CARR	3	GEORGE A. NEWTON	Tenor

Conducted by G. A. NEWTON.

Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. F. Roe and Miss N. Marshall.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford and four of Kent. Tenor 13 cwt.

MISS H. OAKSHETT	Treble	*DOUGLAS G. BROWN... ..	4
HUGH MACKINDER	2	GEORGE W. FOGDEN... ..	5
MAXWELL F. OAKSHETT	3	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	Tenor

Conducted by A. S. RICHARDS.

* First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells since the addition of a treble in June last.

BROMYARD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 20, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 callings. Tenor 16 cwt.

*GEORGE CORBETT	Treble	ALFRED S. TOMKINS... ..	4
*GEORGE ROSS	2	*THOMAS COOPER	5
JOHN H. THOMAS	3	FREDERICK MERRICK	Tenor

Conducted by J. H. THOMAS.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. Rung as a farewell peal to Preb. W. N. Potter, who is taking up duties as Vicar of Kingston.

HANDBELL PEAL.

HEVINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 15, 1940, in One Hour and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Residence of W. C. MEDLER,

A PEAL OF SPLICED OXFORD AND KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising seven extents.

JACK N. A. PUMPHREY... ..	1-2	WALTER C. MEDLER	3-4
ERIC DURRANT	5-6		

Conducted by J. N. A. PUMPHREY.

First peal as conductor. First 'spliced' handbell peal by all and for the association.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The April meeting was held at Shelley on the 13th, when members were present from Cawthorne, Felkirk, Friezland, Holmfirth, Hoylandswaine, Kirkburton, Meltham, Wath and the local company.

At the business meeting, at which the Vicar (the Rev. J. J. Broadhurst) presided, one new member, Mr. E. Pammenter, of Rawmarsh, was elected, and it was decided to hold the annual shield contest in July as usual.

Further ringing followed until 8.15 p.m. in a variety of Plain and Treble Bob Minor methods.

The next meeting will be held at Sandal on Saturday, May 11th.

MORE ABOUT PROOF.

FALSENESS IN ODD-BELL METHODS.

In unsymmetrical methods, the rows in the second half of a lead, going backwards, are not produced in the same manner as are the rows in the first half, going forwards, and therefore, unless there is some additional safeguard, internal repetition is not only possible but extremely likely.

Here are the figures of Double Eastern Bob Major, the method to which we referred some weeks ago. If we prick out a lead beginning with 17685432, we shall find that the third row is 78165432, which is the same as the fourteenth row in this lead. We thus have internal repetition, although the lead heads and ends are different. In proving this method we must, therefore, look to see if there are any additional safeguards.

Actually, there are, and so we may be reasonably sure, though the figures are lost, that the peal rung by the Society of Eastern Scholars in 1752 at St. Margaret's, Westminster, was true.

The method is produced by backstroke work only. That is to say, all the internal places are made at hand and back, and are substitutes for the hand and back leading and lying. The regular succession of the nature of the rows is, therefore, not broken. Two even rows are followed by two odd rows throughout the peal, and as a result the rows in the second half leads, with the treble in any position, are of the opposite nature to the rows in the first half leads with the treble in the same position. So long, therefore, as no singles are used, internal falseness which does not show at the lead ends is impossible, and composition and proof by natural course ends can be used as freely as in symmetrical methods.

Further, the lead, which in the above example is false against the plain course, can only occur if the tenors are reversed, and that, of course, would seldom or never happen.

This gives us another safeguard, which, in Treble Bob methods, is of the utmost value (as we shall see later). So long as 1, 7 and 8 do not fall twice into the same relative positions within the plain course, no internal falseness is possible, even when singles are used. And when those three bells do fall twice into the same relative position, if one row is even and the other odd, no internal repetition need be feared when bobs alone are used.

Seven, nine and eleven bell methods on the Plain Principle are usually rung with two hunts, or, as we say in the belfry, with a treble and a bell-in-the-hunt. For some reason or other these methods, apart from Grandsire, have never been very popular with ringers, though some of them are quite excellent and interesting to ring. It may be that they are much more difficult to call than the ordinary Major methods.

Like the plain methods on even numbers of bells, these are symmetrical; but there is an important difference. The axis of symmetry is not between the two blows of the treble's whole pulls before and behind, but between the whole pulls of the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt. Rounds is the end of one lead and 2135476 is the beginning of the next.

Since the leads are symmetrical about the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt, and not about the treble only, it follows that the symmetry is a safeguard against internal falseness only so long as the two hunts are not disturbed. But that, in practice, never happens, and in composition these methods must be treated as if they were unsymmetrical.

In Triples methods of this sort, since the regular succession of the rows is one even and one odd (all the handstrokes being odd and all the backstrokes being even), the rows with the treble in any one position going up are of opposite nature to the rows with the treble in the same position going down, and no internal repetition, which does not show at a lead end, need be feared so long as we do not use singles which alter the regular succession (odd and even) of the rows. That is the reason why in methods like Oxford Bob Triples, Court Bob Triples and the like, in-course singles such as are usually associated with the name of John Holt must always be used.

But Grandsire is one of this group, and there, as everyone knows, we can use ordinary singles without internal falseness. So we can in Union Triples, which, as usually given, does not pretend to be symmetrical in any way. What is the explanation?

It is this. Though the P block of Grandsire is symmetrical about the two hunts, this symmetry avails nothing to avoid internal falseness. In that respect the method is no better off than Union. But in both of them the B block (the three leads produced by three consecutive bobs) is symmetrical about the treble, and when ordinary singles are used this B block is really the true unit of the composition.

One school of composers used to say very hard things about Union as an unsymmetrical method and one with irregular lead ends. If the B block be taken as the plain course, the method is neither unsymmetrical nor are the lead ends irregular. It is true that it is a plain course which consists of only three leads, and in which the working bells do not all do the same work, but since in it the whole hunt and the half hunt fall into all their possible relative positions, it is a perfect plain course for the purposes of composition. John Garthorn, Benjamin Annable and some of the other old composers knew that.

On nine bells the few methods that are rung are 'pure' Caters methods, and there is not much object in ringing any others. The rows are continuously of the same nature unless and until a single is made. It follows that the rows with the treble in any position going up are of the same nature as are those with the treble in the same position going down. The nature of the rows gives us here no safeguard against internal falseness, nor does the symmetry of the method which is about the two hunts.

All we have to depend upon in the case of methods like Double Norwich Caters is the fact that the three big bells are usually fixed in one position—tittums or handstroke—and so long as they are undisturbed they do not fall within a course twice into the same positions relative to the treble.

So far any liability to internal falseness is avoided. But the changes by which these bells are brought in and out of one of the fixed positions are very precarious and must be carefully tested. And it is always necessary to compare the courses in the tittums with those in the handstroke or other positions. Pure Cater methods require very

(Continued on next page.)

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

A very successful meeting of this district was held at Fareham on Saturday last and was attended by over thirty members and visitors from Alverstoke, Alresford, Bishop's Waltham, Fareham, North Stoneham, Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's), Titchfield, Soberton, Wickham and Lewisham.

Ringling took place during the afternoon, and evensong was attended at which the Guild service was conducted by the Vicar of Fareham (the Rev. B. C. Daniell), who also addressed the members. Tea was served at the Rosemary Cafe, and the business meeting held afterwards, presided over by the Vicar, supported by the Master (Mr. G. Williams), general secretary (Mr. F. W. Rogers) and district secretary (Mr. F. W. Burnett).

The Very Rev. E. N. Porter-Goff, Provost of Portsmouth, and the Vicar of Fareham were elected honorary members, and also some new ringing members.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Catherington on July 13th and a practice meeting at Curdridge on May 25th.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and for being with them at the tea and meeting. In reply, he said it was the first time he had been connected with bells and ringers, and he was pleased at his introduction.

Ringling during the day consisted of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Cambridge, London and Bristol Surprise Major. Three young boys from Titchfield, pupils of Mr. L. H. Page, with another member rang two courses of Stedman Triples double-handed.

PROOF OF ODD-BELL METHODS.

(Continued from previous page.)

careful and thorough proving. But the whole of that part of the composition which is out of course is absolutely free from falseness with that part which is in course.

With the exception of Grandsire and its now obsolete variations, Reverse and Double Grandsire, no eleven-bell methods on the Plain Principle have ever been practised, nor does it seem very likely that any ever will be practised. The general proof of them is the same as that of Triples methods, but the increased number of fixed big bells renders internal falseness very unlikely and in any case easily avoidable.

RINGING JUBILEES CELEBRATED AT LEWISHAM.

SERVED UNDER SIX VICARS.

The peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Lewisham on Saturday last and recorded elsewhere was specially arranged to commemorate 50 years' service at that belfry and church by Messrs. Harry Warnett, sen., and Charles H. Walker.

For two men to be regular service ringers at one tower for 50 years is not by any means a record, but when one has held the office of towerkeeper and captain of the local band for 43 years and the other secretary for about a quarter of a century, it is something which both may justly look back upon with pride.

Mr. Walker, while carrying out the duties of secretary in a most diligent and efficient manner, has never aspired to conducting beyond calling one quarter-peal, being content to leave it in the capable hands of his old friend, and although Mr. Warnett has held the reins at St. Mary's for 43 years, any visiting ringer who is able to do so is almost invariably invited to call a touch.

During 50 years Messrs. Warnett and Walker have served under six vicars and numerous curates, and during that time no hitch has ever occurred between the belfry and the east end of the church.

Mr. Warnett, who reached the age of 77 on March 13th last, called the Original in last Saturday's peal, a fair test of memory for a man seven years over the allotted span. Included in the band were Mr. Warnett's son, Harry, who has been a ringer at Lewisham for 38 years, and Mr. Tom Groombridge, sen., of Chislehurst, with 49 years' ringing to his credit, and still going strong in spite of a recent severe accident.

In addition to his son, one of Mr. Warnett's grandsons (Richard Barley) belongs to the band at St. Mary's, but he is not yet quite up to peal ringing standard.

CHELMSFORD RINGER'S DEATH.

The death occurred recently of Mr. John Wood, for many years a member of the Chelmsford Cathedral band. The deceased was well known in central Essex, where he rang many peals varying from Minor to Stedman Cinques.

He was born at Great Waltham, where he began his ringing career, subsequently moving to Boreham and afterwards to Chelmsford, some 25 years ago.

The interment took place at the Borough Cemetery at Chelmsford, when a course of Bob Major was rung on handbells over the grave. Ringers present included Messrs. G. Green, H. Edwards, A. H. Everett, L. J. Clark and H. Warn.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Ringers are requested to study the notice columns carefully, as rationing restrictions and other unlooked for changes have made alterations necessary in previously announced arrangements.

Gunner Plumridge, of High Wycombe, whose father is a member of the High Wycombe band, and who was himself a probationer at the tower, was one of the crew of H.M.S. Ajax when that ship took part in the defeat of the Graf Spee. A peal in his honour was rung at High Wycombe on April 17th.

When a peal of Bob Minor was rung at Croft, Leicestershire, on April 13th, as a farewell to the retiring Bishop of Leicester, Mr. J. H. Baileys, who rang his first peal as conductor, 'completed the circle' at this tower.

At St. John's Hospital Chapel, Winchester, on Sunday, April 14th, after a short service, Mr. and Miss Noice gave selections on handbells. In his address the chaplain thanked Mr. and Miss Noice.

On Saturday, April 20th, the first peal on the bells since the addition of a treble in June last was rung at West Wickham, Kent. The local band had hoped to ring it by themselves, and were making good progress in several Minor methods when the war broke out and separated the band. As more of the remaining ringers will shortly be called to assist in the Allied war effort, it was considered advisable to attempt the peal at the first opportunity, and they are grateful for the assistance of two ringers from Hayes and one from Penge, with whom a good peal was scored at the first attempt.

James R. Haworth was born on April 21st, 1821, and James Pettit on April 25th, 1834. Both were very prominent members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and both lived to a great age. Haworth was reputed to have control for many years of almost all the 'scroff' ringing in London. Pettit was the conductor at St. Paul's and called the first peal on the bells.

The anniversaries of three of the longest peals rung by the College Youths fall within this week. On April 22nd, 1922, they rang 21,363 changes of Stedman Caters at Appleton; on April 27th, 1861, they rang 8,550 changes of Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, and on April 27th, 1868, they rang 15,840 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major at Bethnal Green.

The peal of Grandsire Triples at Blagdon was rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Margery Smallwood, and to Messrs. George Popnell, Robert G. Knowles and William Short. The conductor called the Original for the first time eleven years ago when he was 17 years old, and he has now called it from every bell.

Several other peals were rung on Saturday, but, we are informed, not one of them for Adolf Hitler's birthday.

LADIES IN THE BELFRY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In 'The Ringing World' of April 12th I notice that reference is made to the falling membership resulting from compulsory military service. In the same issue is a report of the jubilee meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, held at Taunton on Easter Monday, at which meeting an earnest appeal was made for more ringers.

At this same meeting, two members voiced their disagreement with the suggestion that ladies should be encouraged to take up the Exercise. It was stated that the introduction of lady ringers in the past had resulted in a falling-out of many men ringers. Apparently the remainder of the meeting agreed with these remarks, as no one is reported to have answered them.

I can only say that the Exercise is far better off *without* this type of ringer; the man who would rather give up ringing altogether than see a lady in the belfry would be very unpopular in this part of Somerset. It does not require anyone of great intelligence to see for himself the difficulty many towers have in getting people to take interest in the bells, this trouble having been very apparent for many years.

Let me say that the three or four ladies I have met in my campanological rambles were able to handle a bell as well as any man, and in a variety of methods at that. To confirm this, one has only to look up the weekly peal reports in 'The Ringing World.'

Would it be considered unfaithful to the Bath and Wells Association if I, one of its newest members, were to say that I am heartily ashamed of those at our annual meeting who said that 'lady ringers were not wanted'?

W. E. CHALLICE.

Watchet, Somerset.

RINGER ELECTED CHURCHWARDEN.

At St. Peter's Church, Barton, for evening service on March 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: S. Wood 1, J. Goddard 2, W. Goddard 3, J. Atkinson 4, H. Eastoe 5, J. Chapman 6, A. W. Hoodless (conductor) 7, F. Green 8. Rung as a compliment to Dr. Percy Birtwhistle, an honorary member of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, on his being re-elected churchwarden for the 33rd year in succession, also to Mr. H. Eastoe, ringer of the 5th, on his election as churchwarden. The quarter-peal was also a birthday compliment to the 2nd ringer on attaining his 20th birthday.

On Sunday, April 14th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: S. Wood 1, J. Goddard 2, W. Goddard 3, J. Atkinson 4, H. Eastoe 5, O. Duddy 6, J. Chapman 7, A. W. Hoodless (conductor) 8.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. INTERESTING ARRANGEMENT WITH SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Difficulties in Chertsey District.

Judging by the attendance at the annual meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild at Ayers' Hall, Guildford, on Saturday, the Exercise is able to carry on despite war troubles. Only from one district, Chertsey, were serious difficulties manifest. Mr. J. S. Goldsmith presided, supported by Mr. J. Corbett (Bagshot), hon. treasurer, and Mr. G. L. Grover (East Clandon), hon. secretary.

The hon. treasurer's statement showed receipts amounting to £39 9s. 8d., including £10 10s. from affiliation fees and £23 7s. 9d. in contributions from the districts. The expenditure amounted to £29 7s. 7d., leaving a balance in hand of £39 18s. 2d.—an increase of £10 2s. 1d. on the year. The Benevolent Fund has a balance of £65 13s. 4d. and the New Cathedral Bells Fund amounts to £35 10s. 6d.

The hon. treasurer said the Guild's balance had increased to £10, due partly to the fact that their delegates had not sent in any expenses for attending the Central Council meeting. The Cathedral Bells Fund had increased by £14, and this included an anonymous donation of £5 received through Mr. Heath (S. Nicolas', Guildford). The meeting approved of the balance on the Cathedral Bell Fund being invested in National Savings Certificates.

In their annual report, the committee stated that there were 122 honorary and 381 ringing members. The total number of subscribing members was higher than last year, but this was due to the increase of honorary members, largely through the efforts of Mr. W. James, of Cobham, and Mr. C. M. Martin, of Bramley. The number of ringing members, however, showed a falling off of 24, 16 of this number being in the Chertsey District. Since the formation of the Guild the Chertsey District had been a source of constant anxiety to the officers, and there had been years when the number of subscribing members had fallen lower than the present total. This year, however, the seriousness of the position was made more apparent by the fact that, after meeting its obligations to the Central Fund, the district was left without a working balance, and unless there was some really strong and immediate revival of interest, the district could not possibly continue in a solvent state.

'A review of the history of the Chertsey District,' continued the report, 'seems to indicate that its handicap has always been that there has not existed consistently within its area a tower which has taken the lead in its activities, and which, by the accomplishments and enthusiasm of its members, has been acknowledged as the centre of the district's life. Fortunately, in each of the other districts there has always been one, if not more, of such centres. Although the committee has in mind that the bells at the main tower of the Chertsey District are unringable and that the Hersham band, probably the most proficient practising band within the area, has, as a band, seceded from the Guild and realises that the formation of a centre of enthusiasm in the Chertsey area is at the moment none too easy a task, the members feel that there are sufficient enthusiastic and efficient ringers in the area to make a strong effort in this direction.'

COMMITTEE'S APPEAL.

'Quite a number of proficient ringers living in the district are at the moment, from one cause or another, not attached to an active service band, and the committee appeals to all these ringers to unite together in an effort to create a centre around which the life of the district can revolve.'

'The committee is strongly of opinion that any attempt to vitalise the district must emanate from within, and unless some drastic and prompt steps are taken the Guild may be left with no alternative but to liquidate the district and either transfer the towers to other areas or leave the few enthusiasts to continue as unattached members of the Guild.'

The report stated that the Benevolent and Cathedral Bells Funds continued to grow steadily, but did not receive the unanimous support of the whole Guild, and a further appeal to the rest of the towers was made.

Referring to the depletion of the number of ringers through the war, the report said that those members who were left in civilian occupations would need to apply every possible ounce of their energy and every possible minute of their spare time to the task of ensuring that a real live organisation is kept in being to form the foundation from which a fresh start may be made after the war.

District meetings, said the report, had disclosed the strong feeling that members of H.M. Forces should retain the privileges of membership without having to pay a subscription, but the committee, being charged with the efficient and solvent working of the Guild, had to point out that this waiving of subscriptions would be at the expense of the general funds of the Guild, and felt sure that members at many towers would wish to be associated with the expression of gratitude more directly than through this channel, and that they would, out of their own pockets, make good to the general fund the subscriptions of members of their own band which would otherwise be remitted.

Twenty-four peals were rung during the year, one of which was on handbells. The tower bell peals were rung in 14 towers in the diocese and two outside. Nine members (a pleasing increase from last year) secured a first peal and one his first as conductor.

In welcoming many new honorary members and thanking the older ones for their continued support, the committee ventured to say that in these difficult times honorary members, incumbents and church officials generally would, in many instances, have to be content either with less frequent service ringing or ringing of perhaps a lower standard at their churches than that to which they have been accustomed, and the committee hoped that all supporters of the Guild would appreciate the difficulties which faced local bands, and that, in spite of any disappointments, they would continue to support their ringers and this organisation, and help to ensure that with the return of less unsettled times there would still be in the Guildford Diocese a live ringing organisation ready and equipped to commence the task of refilling the gaps which the committee feared must inevitably appear.

RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT WITH SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Presenting the annual report, the Chairman said they had been fortunate in getting a larger number of honorary members—particularly through Mr. James (Cobham) and Mr. Martin (Bramley). Ringing members had, however, dropped from 405 to 387. He impressed upon all towers the importance of recruiting new members. Deplored the position in the Chertsey District, the Chairman invited suggestions for the improvement of the district, which, he said, had reached an unfortunate position. With regard to the reciprocal arrangements with the Surrey Association in order to further friendly relations, the Surrey Association had already adopted a resolution that a representative of its Guild should sit on their Executive Committee.

In reply to Mr. F. C. Hagley, Mr. F. E. Hawthorne said they had not many towers in the Chertsey District where they could practise. Within the last fortnight he had been approached by the Vicar of Thames Ditton to arrange for the training of nine learners.

The report and accounts were adopted.

The following officers were elected: President, Bishop of Guildford; vice-presidents, Mr. W. Harrison, Bishop Golding-Bird, Archdeacon Newill and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith; Master, Major J. H. B. Hesse; hon. treasurer, Mr. J. Corbett; hon. secretary, Mr. G. L. Grover; hon. auditor, Mr. R. Hasted.

The following new members were elected: Mr. and Mrs. M. Hodgson and Mr. A. J. House (Aldershot), Mr. V. H. Smith (Godalming) and T. M. White (Guildford Cathedral).

On the proposition of Mr. C. Ernest Smith, a reciprocal resolution similar to that proposed by the Surrey Association whereby a representative of that association sits on the Executive of the Guild was carried. Mr. A. Harman was appointed the Guild's representative on the Surrey Association.

NO SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM SERVING MEMBERS.

There was a considerable discussion on a resolution exempting members from subscriptions while serving in His Majesty's Forces. Eventually the meeting agreed to the following resolution submitted by Mr. G. L. Grover:—

'As a token of appreciation of the services to the country of members of this Guild and other ringers who are serving or who from time to time serve with H.M. Forces, it is resolved that no subscription shall be demanded from: (1) A member who at the date of this meeting is an annual subscribing ringing member; (2) a ringing member elected at or after this meeting and whose usual home address is within the diocese; (3) a ringing member elected at or after this meeting whose usual home address is outside the diocese and who pays a first annual subscription during such time as any such member is serving with H.M. Forces. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the rules contained or implied, any such member shall retain the full privileges of membership.'

Mr. A. C. Hazelden seconded the resolution, which was carried.

It was decided to hold the summer festival at Raunmore, Dorking, on either July 6th or 27th.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. J. Corbett to the general secretary for his work, and a similar compliment was paid to the district secretaries on the proposition of the chairman.

Previous to the meeting there was ringing at the Cathedral Church and at S. Nicolas' Church. The Guild service at S. Nicolas' Church was conducted by the Rector of S. Nicolas' (the Rev. P. R. Lobb), who attended the tea and was thanked for his services.

SILVER WEDDING.

To celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Wicks, of Wimbledon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Leonard's, Streatham, on April 14th, for evening service: Miss G. Green 1, E. L. Miles (conductor) 2, C. A. Button 3, E. E. Bish 4, T. W. Welbourne 5, T. H. Taffender 6, J. W. Chapman 7, S. Gardner 8. Mr. Wicks was unable to take part owing to A.R.P. duties.

VETERAN RINGER'S ACHIEVEMENT.

Mr. A. W. Baldwin (late of Fakenham, Norfolk) has rung his first quarter-peal of Stedman at the age of 77 years. This was on Sunday, April 7th, for evening service at Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor, Cirencester, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): A. W. Baldwin 1, F. J. Lewis, sen. 2, H. L. Cooke 3, F. J. Lewis, jun. 4, H. S. Parsons 5, W. A. Godwin 6, W. H. Hayward (conductor) 7, F. F. Bloxham 8.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Upwards of sixty members and friends attended the annual meeting of the Warwickshire Guild, held last Saturday at Nuneaton. Various methods were rung until 4.30, when a short service was held in the Lady Chapel of the church, conducted by the Vicar, Canon J. L. White, assisted by the curate, the Rev. T. B. Purves.

In a brief address, Canon White welcomed the members to Nuneaton as fellow-workers in the Church. Ringers, he said, rarely got thanks for their labours and were often grumbled at. He quoted the preface to Miss Dorothy L. Sayers' book, 'The Nine Tailors.' 'From time to time complaints are made about the ringing of church bells. It seems strange that a generation which tolerates the uproar of the internal combustion engine and the wailing of the jazz band should be so sensitive to the one loud noise that is made to the glory of God.' Personally he felt that a service in church not preceded by the ringing of the bells seemed as strange as being without the choir. 'Bells catch our thoughts and express them for us as nothing else could. May you realise the greatness of your vocation and work together for peace in this troubled world by your inspired ringing, but above all for the glory of God.'

At the close of the service the members adjourned to the Parish Hall for tea, which was prepared and admirably served by the wives of the ringers and the lady ringers attached to the church.

The business meeting was presided over by Canon J. L. White. An apology was received from the president, Archdeacon R. Brook, of Rugby.

The report for 1939 was presented by the secretary (Mrs. D. E. Beamish) and showed a membership of 317, a decrease of 47 compared with 1938. Eight peals were rung on tower bells and one on handbells.

The report, together with the balance sheet, showing a balance in hand of £22 6s. 7d., was adopted.

All the officers were re-elected.

Three new members were elected, viz., C. Parker (Stoke), H. L. Terry (Ilmington) and L. Kinchin (Mickleton, Glos.). The two last named were ratified following their election prior to a peal.

Meeting places decided upon for the next three months were Church Lawford (May), Bickenhill (June) and Rugby (July). The question of members of the Forces being relieved of payment of subscriptions was raised, and it was unanimously decided to do this for the duration of the war.

Sympathy for a former secretary of the Guild (Mr. A. Wilkerson, of Weston-super-Mare) was expressed by the meeting on learning of his undergoing an operation upon one of his eyes, which had necessitated his giving up his employment.

The Guild has lost through death three old and respected members, Mr. H. Briggs, of Stoney Stanton, Mr. A. W. Wright, of Stratford-on-Avon, and Mr. A. Bramall, of Rugby. The members stood in silence for a few moments as a mark of respect.

The Master (Mr. J. H. W. White), in moving a vote of thanks to Canon White for presiding and allowing the use of the bells, said how sorry the members were to learn of his impending departure. The Guild was always made very welcome at Nuneaton, and the bells were always available for meetings and peal attempts.

Canon White, who is going to Bury St. Edmunds, said, in reply, that he had been pleased to do what he could for the welfare of the Guild and wished it God-speed in its work.

The business meeting concluded, handbells were produced and some well-struck touches of Stedman Caters were rung by F. Price 1-2, F. W. Perrens 3-4, F. E. Pervin 5-6, A. Walker 7-8, D. H. Argyle 9-10.

Tunes were also rung by Messrs. C. H. Webb, his son, Arthur, and P. Stone.

Welcome visitors were Mr. J. W. Cotton (hon. secretary, Midland Counties Association, Burton District), Messrs. Curzon and Clayfield, Messrs. F. Price, W. Davies and Michieson, of Aston, and Messrs. A. Walker, H. H. Fearn and C. H. Stanley, of Birmingham.

Affiliated towers represented were Allesley, Bilton, Bulkington, Chilvers Coton, Keresley, Rugby, Stoke-in-Coventry, Wolvey and the local band.

Further ringing on the tower bells was indulged in until 8 o'clock with varying success, followed by further handbell ringing at a nearby hotel.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The April meeting of the Nottingham District of the Midland Counties Association was held at Bottesford on Saturday week, when the fine peal of eight bells were made full use of during the afternoon and evening. About 30 members and friends were present from Southwell, Sutton-on-Trent, Sandiacre, Billingborough, Fandon, Hough-on-the-Hill, Folkingham, Newark, Nottingham (St. Mary's and St. Peter's) and the local band. The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Little Bob, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge, with rounds, etc., for the beginners.

It was decided to hold the May meeting at Attenborough.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Kirton for arranging a 'topping' tea at an hour's notice, and to the Vicar for the use of the bells, which were much appreciated.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

QUARTERLY MEETING AT ASTON.

A quarterly meeting of St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held on Saturday, April 6th, at the Parish Church, Aston. For many years the tower was looked on as the second headquarters of the Guild, and it was the custom to hold one quarterly meeting there each year, but when the bells became unringable this rule was broken. In 1935 the bells were recast and augmented to a fine peal of 12, so the old order has been revived. About 40 members attended and the bells were kept going in various methods from 3 o'clock.

The Vicar (the Ven. H. McGowan) conducted a short service in the chancel, and in his address cordially welcomed the members to Aston. He referred to the importance and dignity of churchworkers. Whether as churchwardens, sidesmen, lay readers, teachers, choirmen or bell-ringers, they were all part of the whole, and all contributed to the wellbeing of the body of the Church.

An adjournment was then made to the Parish Hall, where tea was kindly provided by the Aston company and full justice was done to it. In these days of food rationing it was remarkable where all the good things came from; ham and green salad, sugar and butter and home-made cakes galore, all willingly and cheerfully prepared and served by the ringers' wives, sisters and sweethearts.

A short business meeting followed, presided over by Vice-President the Ven. H. McGowan in the unavoidable absence of the Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. L. W. Conduct, of Erdington, Maurice Hibbert, now of Sparkhill, and H. Hough, of Worcester. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Solihull on Saturday, July 6th, and the bi-quarterly meeting at St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral on a Saturday in May convenient to the authorities.

Mr. W. C. Dowding reminded members that the National Police Guild were endeavouring to arrange their annual meeting at Banbury some time in May, and should they be successful in doing so he hoped St. Martin's Guild members would do all they could to make it a success. He was sure all present would be pleased to know that Mr. Harold J. Poole, of Leicester, had now quite recovered and had resumed his duties.

A hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Councillor Paddon Smith, to the Vicar for the use of the bells and his address, to Mr. W. Davies and the Aston company for making the local arrangements and providing tea, and to the ladies who had so kindly served it, brought the meeting to a close.

The handbells were then brought out and several good touches were brought round. Later a return was made to the tower for further ringing, to be followed by that meeting in another place where the inevitable reminiscences of a former generation connected with Aston ringing were recalled.

For the information of any visiting ringers who may be in Birmingham, the usual Tuesday evening practices at St. Martin's at 7.30 p.m. have now been resumed. All ringers will be welcomed.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

QUARTERLY MEETING OF SOUTHERN BRANCH.

On Saturday a most successful quarterly meeting was held at Horbling, and some 30 ringers attended from a wide area, the following towers being represented: Peterborough, Market Deeping, Deeping St. Nicholas, Bourne, Morton, Edenham, Rippingale, Billingborough, Folkingham, Swineshead, Donington, Bicker, Wigtoft, St. Mary Abbot's, South Kensington, Heckington, Boston, Southwell and Horbling.

The musical ring of six, installed by Messrs. Taylor in 1929, were available during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going to a variety of methods ranging from Plain Bob to London Surprise.

Shortened evensong was conducted by the Vicar at 4.30, followed by the tea and business meeting. The Vicar, who presided, was elected an honorary member of the Southern Branch. It is hoped to continue the holding of these quarterly meetings, and it was decided that the next should be held in July at Colsterworth. The business concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and the service. The tower was again visited and further ringing took place until 8.15.

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A HEREFORDSHIRE RESTORATION.**WITHINGTON'S RING OF SIX.**

The peal of six bells, with a tenor of 16 cwt., at Withington, near Hereford, has been completely restored and rehung with modern fittings, including ball bearings, in a new massive cast iron frame, by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The two trebles have been recast and all the bells perfectly tuned. It is notable that the work has been carried out since the outbreak of war in spite of the difficulty of obtaining the necessary materials and labour.

Some five years ago, after expert examination, the bells were condemned as unsafe and a danger to the tower and spire, and it was decided to cease ringing until funds could be raised for the necessary renovation.

The scheme was in abeyance until last year, when the restoration was made possible by the generosity of one of the churchwardens, Mr. W. G. Farmer, of Withington Court, who has defrayed the entire cost as a memorial to his parents, the late Rev. and Mrs. James Farmer.

The bells were rededicated in the presence of a large congregation by the Bishop of Hereford on Sunday evening, March 31st.

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. W. J. L. R. Haywood), and the Bishop was assisted by his chaplain (the Rev. Preb. C. H. Hodgson). Mr. Farmer's gift included a memorial tablet, which also was dedicated during the service. The bells were rung during and after the rededication by six members of the local band.

The Bishop, in the course of his sermon, gave an exceptionally interesting outline of the history of bells, which, he said, carried on the function of the old silver trumpets used by the Children of Israel in their wanderings. After referring to the part bells played in the Church, the Bishop said that they had also been used, as were the silver trumpets of old, for the purpose of sounding the alarm. So it had been in many Herefordshire parishes in the past, when the Welsh, who were then our enemies and not our friends, crossed the border, the church bells rang, and women and children, and the treasures of the people, were taken into the strong church tower, while the men prepared to defend their homes.

The Bishop referred also to the beauty of the metalwork of the Withington bells now restored so splendidly, and expressed the gratitude of the ringers and the whole parish to Mr. Farmer for his lavish gift.

After the service, full use was made of the bells up to 9 o'clock by visiting ringers from Kington, Ross, Markwell, Hereford, Lugwardine and Lyonshall, assisted by the whole of the local band.

Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have carried out their task in a most admirable manner in difficult circumstances. The firm were represented at the service by Mr. S. R. Roper, who received the congratulations of everyone. The 'go' was pronounced as perfect and the tuning was considered so good that one ringer remarked that 'the whole peal sounded as if all the bells were cast at one time.'

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Eastern Division of the Sussex County Association was held at Eastbourne on April 13th. The tower of St. Saviour's was open at 3 o'clock and ringing took place until 4 o'clock, when a service was held conducted by the curate (the Rev. C. G. Balaam), who, in the course of an excellent address, said he wondered if we were really thankful enough for the freedom we enjoyed in this land of ours; freedom to go unhindered into our churches to worship and freedom to go into our towers to ring our bells with no fear of concentration camps. It was when such freedom was taken away that its blessings were appreciated.

After the service the ringers were entertained to tea by Mr. A. Piper, and the Master of the association, Mr. H. R. Butcher, presided at the business meeting which followed.

The association, said the Master, had suffered a very grievous loss by the death of two prominent members, Mr. A. C. Pankhurst, the hon. divisional secretary, a man who carried out his duties ably and conscientiously, and Mr. W. D. Smith, whose death had caused a great loss to the association.

Mr. C. A. Levett was appointed hon. district secretary, and the committee, Messrs. W. Booth, W. Franks and A. R. Miles, were re-elected.

Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. A. Piper for once again defraying the cost of tea, to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the curate for his address and to the lady who presided at the harmonium at the service.

The Master closed the meeting by thanking Mr. F. Dallaway for his work as acting secretary till a successor was appointed.

During the afternoon and evening the fine ring of eight at St. Saviour's was heard in various methods.

NOTICES.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The following Saturday afternoon practices have been arranged: April 27th, Boreham; and May 4th, Broomfield; all commencing at 3 p.m. All ringers are welcomed to these.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Howden on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (8) available afternoon and evening. Tea, at Manor House Cafe, at 5 o'clock, 1s. 9d. each. Meeting after tea for election of officers, etc.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary Cray on Saturday, April 27th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please support the efforts made on your behalf. St. Mary Cray expects large numbers!—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody cordially invited. Reports to hand.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting will be held at Swithland (6 bells) on April 27th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Buses from bus station, Belgrave Gate. Please come and enjoy a visit to this beautiful bit of country.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Harston on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service, followed by tea at the invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. P. G. Ward. All welcome.—C. W. Cook, Dis. Sec., Newton, Cambridge.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The branch annual meeting has been arranged at Burnham, Bucks, on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Guild service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Annual meeting 5.45 p.m. Hitcham bells (6) available afterwards. — A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Eynesbury on Saturday, April 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The next practice meeting will be held at Dagenham on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (8) from 3.30 p.m. Tea can be arranged for those who desire it.—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Winscombe on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—H. Minifie, Hon. Sec., Royston, Uphill, Somerset.

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WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Liss on Saturday, April 27th. Bells of St. Mary's Church (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea in Parish Hall 5 p.m. Business meeting follows. Bells available after meeting until 7 p.m.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles St., Petersfield.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at the Ashton Parish Church on Saturday, April 27th. Bells at 3.30. Meeting 7.—T. Jackson, President.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Acton on Saturday, April 27th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service at 5.15 p.m.; preacher, Rev. Percival Gough. Tea in Church Hall at 5.45 p.m., for which there will be a collection. Business meeting to follow. The bells at St. Stephen's, Ealing, 4 to 4.50 p.m., and Christ Church, Ealing, 7.30 to 9 p.m., also available. — C. T. Coles, Hon. Gen. Sec.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Saturday, April 27th. Tower open 3 o'clock. — I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Nottingham.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Barnby Don on Saturday, April 27th. Bells ready at 3 p.m.—Ernest Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Ringing at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday, April 27th. Meeting time 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at headquarters on Tuesday, May 7th, at 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 27th. Ringing at the Cathedral (12), St. Giles' (8) and St. Peter-at-Gowts (6) from 2 p.m. Service at the Cathedral at 4 p.m. Please note that the tea arrangements advertised previously have been cancelled. Will ringers please make their own tea arrangements? The meeting will be held in the Chapter House at the Cathedral at 6.45.—F. W. Stokes, Hon. Sec., Blankney, Lincs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — A meeting will be held at Witham on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. It is most essential that those requiring tea should notify Mr. A. Evers, 6, Chipping Hill, Witham, Essex, not later than Wednesday, May 1st. Tea will only be provided for those who send in their names.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Maulden on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All will be welcome. Please come. — C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods, Chorley, on Saturday, May 4th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. to those who send in names to Mr. F. G. Bradley, New Road Parade, Whittle-le-Woods, Chorley, by April 30th. No card, no tea! — W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—A meeting will be held at St. George's, Southwark, on Saturday, May 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea at Lyons, London Bridge, 5 p.m., followed by business meeting in church vestry. Please turn up in full force, as we wish to discuss future activities of the district.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cruch St. Midiall on Saturday, May 4th. Bells 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. — R. W. Hayward, 24, Fairwater Cottages, Taunton.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Guild festival will be held at Salisbury on Saturday, May 4th. Annual meeting in the Church House at 2.30 p.m. Guild service in St. Thomas' Church at 4.15 p.m. Preacher, the Rev. P. J. Hayes, Vicar. Tea in the Church House at 5.15 p.m., 1s. each member. Towers available—St. Thomas', St. Martin's (8 bells); St. Paul's, Britford, Coombe Bissett, Wilton, Amesbury (6 bells). Ringers intending to be present should signify their intention to the Secretary by Monday, April 29th, at the latest.—F. Ll. Edwards, Hon. Sec., Kingston Magna Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods, near Chorley, on Saturday, May 4th. Tower open for ringing at 2.30 p.m. Teas arranged for all who notify Mr. T. G. Bradley, New Road Parade, Whittle-le-Woods, not later than Wednesday, May 1st. Everybody welcome, but please remember, no card, no tea.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday, May 4th. Service at St. Nicholas', with address by the Rev. N. L. Phillips, M.A., M.C., 4.30. Bells of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' available 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8.15 p.m. Tea, followed by business meeting, in St. Nicholas' Hall, 5.15 p.m. Cost of tea 2s. 6d. (1s. to members), payable at the table, but supplied by ticket only on receipt of 1d. stamp by May 1st. Half rail fare (maximum 2s. 6d.) allowed to resident members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec., 21, Kenmore Avenue, Brighton 6.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Leek on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. E. A. Ridgway, 11, Shirley Street, Leek, Staffs, not later than Wednesday next. Stone meeting on June 22nd.—Andrew Thompson, 55, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Practice at Hurst, Berks (bells 8), Saturday, May 4th, 5 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Newington on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Ringers' service at 4.30, followed by tea in Schoolroom at 1s. per head. Those requiring tea are asked to advise the undersigned not later than May 1st. A good meeting is expected.—G. H. Spice, 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Tilehurst on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea, 1s. per head, at 4.45 p.m. in room opposite church. Service 6 p.m. Please let me know how many for tea by May 1st.—E. G. Foster, 401, London Road, Reading.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ross District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bridstow on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Number for tea by May 1st to W. Poston, Bridstow, Ross, Herefordshire.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Desford on Saturday, May 4th. Usual times. Please let me know how many want tea (Blue Bell at 5 p.m.) not later than Friday, May 3rd. All welcome.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec., Fosseyway, Croft, near Leicester.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Bi-quarterly meeting for practice, Halesowen (D.V.), Saturday, May 4th. Ringing 3 p.m. to dusk. Tea, Central Café, 5.30 p.m., 1s. per head. Numbers by Wednesday, May 1st, please, or make own arrangements. All ringers welcome and all tastes catered for from Rounds to Surprise.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., 9, Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—West Norfolk Branch.—A meeting will be held at Fakenham on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. (don't forget card).—Wm. J. Eldred, Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—A meeting will be held at Chiddingstone on May 4th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Please notify me for tea, which will be free, by Wednesday, May 1st.—Alec E. Richardson, 24, Norton Road, Southborough.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, May 4th, practice at St. Clement Danes, Strand, 3.15 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 6.15 p.m.; Sunday, May 5th, St. Clement Danes, 10 a.m.—O. L. Ashbrook, Acting Gen. Sec., 17, Harvard Road, Isleworth.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Wroughton (bells 6) on Saturday, May 4th, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., when it is hoped that as many members as possible will attend. Visitors will be welcomed.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Woburn on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided for those who notify me by Wednesday, May 1st. All ringers cordially invited.—Edwin A. Belson, Dis. Sec., 7, Queen Street, Leighton Buzzard.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The first meeting of the year will be held at Ashover on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided at a nominal cost, but it is essential to inform Mr. A. H. Bowler, Eastwood View, Ashover, near Chesterfield, not later than Tuesday, April 30th. We shall be glad to see all old friends and any new ones who will help to make the meeting a success.—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury and District Branch.—A meeting will be held at Swalcliffe on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting. Will those who intend to be present and require tea please notify L. J. Malings, Deddington, Oxon, before Tuesday, May 7th?

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Northampton on Whit Monday, May 13th. Central Committee meet 2.45 p.m. in St. Peter's Parish Room. Service, St. Peter's Church, 3.30. Address by Rev. E. V. Fenn. Tea at Angel Hotel 4.15, followed by the business meeting. Tea will be provided only for those who send names to general secretary by Monday, May 6th. Honorary and subscribing members free, others 1s. 6d. each. Bells available: St. Giles' (10), St. Edmunds' (8) 11 to 1, All Saints' (8), Holy Sepulchre (8) 1 to 3, St. Peter's 1 to 3.30; after the meeting until 7.30, St. Giles', St. Peter's, All Saints', Holy Sepulchre and Kingsthorpe (6).—Robt. G. Black, Gen. Hon. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—The 66th annual general meeting will be held in Exeter on Whit-Monday, May 13th. Service at St. Sidwell's, at 12.15 p.m. Preacher, the Rev. H. Lanyon-Owen (Rector). Dinner at Deller's Café, Bedford Street, at 1 p.m. Admission by ticket only. Members' tickets price 1s., non-members 2s. 6d., must be applied for, with remittance, by May 7th. Business meeting to follow. Towers open for ringing from 11 a.m. to 12 noon and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., are St. Sidwell's (10), St. Thomas' (8), St. David's (8) and Heavitree (8). Visitors are cordially invited. Tickets may be obtained from Fredk. C. Smale (acting hon. sec.), Oakfield, Station Road, Okehampton, Devon.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, May 13th. Service in the Cathedral at 11.30 a.m., followed by the annual meeting in the Chapter House. Lunch (members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d.) will be provided at the Golden Fleece for those who notify me not later than Wednesday, May 8th. A good attendance is requested as the committee's proposals for revision of rules will be put before the meeting. It is hoped that the usual towers will be open for ringing. Full details next week.—L. J. Clark, Sec., 36, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford.

BOWDON PARISH CHURCH.—Practices resumed Thursdays, 7.30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Sunday ringing 10.15 to 10.45 a.m., 6 to 6.30 p.m.—D. Vincent, 6, Stanway Drive, Hale. Tel. Alt. 2333.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held on May 18th, not May 4th, as arranged. Details later.—C. A. Bassett, Assist. Sec.

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