THE RINGING WORLD

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'THE RINGING WORLD.'

During the past week to hundreds of ringers has come, mingled with a sense of regret for the loss of Mr. Goldsmith, the thought, What will become of 'The Ringing World'? It is an important and indeed a vital question, for on the answer depends, it is not too much to say, the future existence of the Exercise as it is at present organised.

At the moment there is no answer, and what the answer ultimately will be no one can say, but ringers will read with a great sense of relief the official notice printed on another page to the effect that the Central Council, through its responsible officials, has made arrangements with the parties interested, by which, pending a final settlement, the publication of the paper will be continued. We have no idea what that settlement will be, and we have no intention of indulging in speculation or conjecture; but we do think it necessary to call attention to the seriousness of the situation and to the responsibility which rests on every individual ringer in the matter.

For more than sixty years the Exercise has enjoyed the advantages of a weekly journal entirely devoted to the interests of change ringing, and during the ten years before that another paper, 'Church Bells,' reserved at least one page every week for ringing matters. So that there is no man now living who can form from personal experience any idea of what the Exercise would be like without a weekly journal. Those seventy years formed the period during which the Exercise was rescued from the dying condition into which earlier circumstances had reduced it, the period in which by far the greatest development in the art took place, and in which that organisation was evolved, with its culmination in the Central Council, which has united ringers with ringers, given them a status, and brought them into co-operation with the Church, without which, in these days, the art would have no chance of survival. How far the development was directly due first to 'Church Bells,' then to 'The Bell News,' and lastly to 'The Ringing World,' is not easy to say, but this at least is certain: as the societies and the Central Council grew up and developed their activities they depended more and more for their ordinary working on the weekly journal. It became almost the only, and certainly the principal, means of communication between the members, so that if it suddenly ceased, they would be blind, and dumb, and impotent.

(Continued on page 266.)

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Privileges men have long enjoyed and never been without they take as a matter of course and do not value, and we fear it is so with not a few ringers. It would need the stoppage of 'The Ringing World' to make them realise what its value has been to them. No doubt the lesson would be a salutary one, but at what a cost it would have been learnt! If by any mischance 'The Ringing World' should have to cease publication, the hopes of it being revived within a measurable time, or of another being started in its stead, would be small indeed.

Our readers should ponder these things, and if they value in any way the art of change ringing, they should realise that each one of them individually is concerned in the matter and bears his share of responsibility. It is not the concern only of those who are leaders and are most active. It concerns everyone. It will not avail for a man to say, I care little for peal ringing and would be quite content with the service and practice ringing my own tower would give me without my going further afield. Those men in the long run are just as much dependent on the well-being of the Exercise at large as are the active peal ringers. The men who think, and in some cases not without reason, that the one important thing is the parochial band and its service ringing, are narrowly selfish and disloyal to the Church if they obstinately refuse to recognise the obligations laid on them by the fact that they are members of an Exercise which is co-extensive with the belfries of the whole country.

What then can and should the average ringer do? At present we cannot say, nor indeed is it our province to say. It is possible, and even probable, that shortly the Exercise will be called upon by those in authority to make some effort and to face some sacrifices to meet the emergency. When the call comes each ringer must be prepared to do his share cheerfully and willingly. If each does do his share the individual sacrifice and effort needed will be surprisingly small, though the total result will be gratifyingly large.

Meanwhile, readers can do much to help to tide over the difficulties in administration which are inevitable in the present circumstances, if they will send in reports of meetings promptly, if they will write letters giving their opinions on current topics, and if they will exercise patience and forbearance, remembering that an editor who uses a blue pencil or rejects a contribution does not do so from any personal motives, but because he has to consider the interests of his readers at large and to maintain a certain high standard.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

At the meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths last Saturday the Master (Mr. E. G. Fenn) paid tribute to the loss ringers had sustained by the death of the Editor of 'The Ringing World.' Mr. Goldsmith had always been a good friend to the society and had rendered immense service to the Exercise at large. It was hoped that every endeavour would be made to keep 'The Ringing World' going.

The treasurer reported that he had met the surveyor of Southwark Cathedral, who stated that licence was being applied for permission to remove the bells to the west end of the church and brick them up. Mr. Roberts congratulated the officers on their efforts in this matter.

In accordance with Rule 4, it was proposed by letter by Mr. Donald Clift, seconded by Mr. Wilfred Williams, that Mr. Royston G. Bryant, of Stapleton, Bristol, be elected a member. This was carried unanimously.

The members present were the Master, Secretary and Treasurer, Messrs. J. H. Shepherd, G. N. Kilby, H. Hoskins, C. W. Roberts, E. A Young, J. Strickland, E. C. S. Turner, F. Collins, C. Kippin, C. Mayne, E. J. Lewis Cockey, J. A. Trollope, F. C. Newman, L. Fox, R. F. Deal, W. J. Davidson, R. Stannard, H. J. Miles, E. C. Hartley, R. Spears and G. N. Price.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 22, 1942, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes.

AT 45, WALSINGHAM ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor size 16½.

MRS. J. THOMAS...	1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	5-6
*ALBERT M. TYLER	3-4	MRS. E. K. FLETCHER ...	7-8

JOHN THOMAS 9-10

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. First peal of Grandsire Caters on handbells as conductor.

[This peal was reported in our last issue in an incomplete form.]

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 2, 1942, in Two Hours and Two Minutes,

AT 50, RUDOLPH ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor size 15.

EDWIN JENNINGS	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3-4	ERNEST C. S. TURNER... ...	7-8

Conducted by HAROLD G. CASHMORE.

BURGESS HILL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.)

On Wednesday, June 3, 1942, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT RESTORMEL, JANES LANE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

MISS OLIVE HAIRS	1-2	R. GORDON CROSS	5-6
FRANK I. HAIRS	3-4	MRS. F. I. HAIRS...	7-8

Composed by H. HOWLETT. Conducted by R. GORDON CROSS.

Rung in honour of the birth of a son to the wife of the conductor. Mrs. Cross is also a member of the above society.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT KINGSTON.

About forty ringers visited Kingston-on-Thames on Whit Monday to attend a meeting of the Surrey Association. Beddington, Croydon, Epsom (Christ Church), Kingston, Leatherhead in the North-Western District, and Chichester, Ealing, Harrow, Guildford, Kingsbury, Reigate and Ruislip were among the places represented.

Handbell ringing began at about 3.15 and continued in a variety of methods until about 4.30, when the party dispersed to various restaurants in the town for tea. Later more ringing was heard before evensong at 6.30. A short business meeting was then held in the choir vestry, at which the District Master, Mr. D. Cooper, took the chair.

It was decided to leave the arrangement of the next meeting, to be held probably in July, in the hands of the committee. It was agreed to hold the usual ringers' rally at Leatherhead on August Bank Holiday, if possible jointly with the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Guild.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the tower and bells, for conducting the service and for his inspiring address, and to Mr. F. E. Hawthorne for other arrangements.

Ringing on handbells and also on the eight silent tower bells then continued until about 8.30.

REBUILDING OF COVENTRY CATHEDRAL.

A SUGGESTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—According to the public press it is announced that Sir Giles Scott, the architect of Liverpool Cathedral, is to prepare plans for the rebuilding of Coventry Cathedral.

Having in mind actions of a similar nature being taken in respect of many other churches, etc., which have been damaged, or even new churches to be built, I am wondering whether any of your readers, possessing the necessary qualifications, would be willing to write an article, or series of articles, with a view to possible publication in a journal issued by an association whose interests are directed towards architecture and surveying, and of which I am a member.

The subject matter would, of course, deal with bells and bell hanging, and would give information on stresses and strains transmitted to the fabric of the tower, control of noise and other useful knowledge for the architect that would, at least, lead to the restoration of some lost peals of bells. Further details would be given by me.

T. J. LOCK.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

A QUESTION OF AUTHORSHIP.

Mr. Edwin Barnett's recent letter giving the figures of two peals of Stedman Triples—one by James W. Washbrook, the other by Joseph J. Parker—raises a very interesting question of the authorship of one of the best five-thousands in the method. Mr. George Williams has thrown a good deal of light on the matter, but the story will bear telling in even fuller detail.

About the beginning of the year 1889 the study of the composition of Stedman Triples, which had been neglected since Thomas Thurstans' peal was rung in 1846, attracted the attention of some of the best brains in the Exercise, notably Arthur Heywood, Henry Earle Bulwer, James W. Washbrook and Joseph J. Parker.

The first two worked in collaboration, the others independently, and there is no reason to think that one of them gained anything from the others' investigations, though they all reached pretty much the same conclusions, as indeed men of their ability were bound to do.

The four men had first to find out something about the problems involved in Stedman Triples composition and to discover the solutions, for all that sort of thing was a sealed book to the Exercise at large. Heywood was the first to publish a new peal. His No. 1, a ten-part, appeared in 'The Bell News' of May 25th, 1889, and to it he added a note which marked one of the standards by which he was working. 'The author obtained another ten-part peal, but does not present it, for, containing several sets of six consecutive bobs, it is not fit to be rung.' After that he published at regular intervals the various compositions which appear in C. D. P. Davies' 'Stedman.'

Washbrook evidently had already deeply studied the problem, for on June 1st, 1899, he published a letter in which he explained quite accurately and quite clearly the general principles on which twin-bob composition is based. For this he certainly owed nothing to Heywood, and it would be a mistake to suppose (as is natural) that the great advance in the composition in Stedman Triples was due entirely to Heywood's 'Investigations,' for they were not published in 'The Bell News' until the middle of 1890.

Bulwer began to publish peals in September, 1889. They were stated to have been composed between May and August.

J. J. Parker contributed an article giving peals and explanations of composition in November, and on December 7th Washbrook published his No. 1, the composition referred to by Mr. Barnett. He did not say when he composed it, but he called it at Braughing on November 22nd.

In the following January, Parker continued his articles and included this paragraph: 'The following four-part which I discovered on September 20th—and which is the only one of the kind containing thirty four-bob sets—has already appeared in another form by Mr. Washbrook; but as I am inclined to think that I discovered it first and as I had it ready for publication when Mr. Washbrook's appeared, I shall take the liberty to give it.' Then follows the other peal mentioned by Mr. Barnett.

The facts seem clear enough. Both men composed the peal independently and almost at the same time. Washbrook was the first to ring it and the first to publish it. He may also have been the first to compose it, for though Parker was quite honest and quite fair in what he said, he was only 'inclined to think' he had the priority. When C. D. P. Davies published his book on Stedman he quite properly attributed the peal to Washbrook, and the same has been done in the later book by J. A. Trollope.

DEATH OF MR. J. W. MELDRUM.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. J. W. Meldrum, of Liverpool. He had been one of the ringers at St. Francis Xavier's many years ago, but did not take an active part in ringing until 1920, when he joined the Lancashire Association. He was an ex-chief inspector of Liverpool Police and was one of the earliest members of the National Police Guild. Although he had not rung a large number of peals, he was a real enthusiast, and seldom missed a meeting or practice in the Liverpool district. He was an unattached member of the Lancashire Association, but identified himself chiefly with Walton-on-the-Hill on Sundays and St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Tuesday nights.

Always willing to help when called upon, he was of a most kindly disposition and will be very much missed. He leaves a widow and family to mourn their loss.

MR. WALTER PERKINS.

FIFTY YEARS A BELLRINGER.

Fifty years ago on May 29th, 1892, Mr. Walter Perkins began to ring at Finedon. In 1902 he moved to Irthlingborough and he had ever since been associated with St. Peter's belfry. His first peal, on September 28th, 1895, was in the same tower, and following it he has taken part in 416 peals, of which he conducted 114. They were in a great variety of methods up to London Surprise Major, and included 10,176 Treble Bob Major at South Wigston in 1901. One hundred and forty-three were at Irthlingborough, the rest in 82 other churches.

From 1910 to 1921 Mr. Perkins was secretary of the Wellingborough and District Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Association, and from 1915 to 1920 a member of the Central Council. He celebrated his golden wedding in April, 1938, and rang his last peal at Staverton on July 6th, 1939.

JOHN HOLT.

(Continued from page 259.)

HIS FINE COMPOSITIONS.

John Holt called peals of Grandsire Caters at St. Martin's and Cinques at St. Bride's. The latter belfry was still the College Youths' stronghold, but however great their interest in the tower may have been, they had either not the desire, or not sufficient influence, to exclude rival companies. No peal of Cinques had been rung there since the College Youths' first performance in 1725, unless one was included among the forgotten peals by the London Scholars, who, as part donors of the two trebles, had a special interest in the belfry.

Twice in the year 1751 Holt and his band visited Hillingdon, a village adjoining Uxbridge at the western extremity of Middlesex, where there was a good band of ringers and an old tradition of ringing. On April 9th they rang 5,040 changes of Bob Major 'immediately after ringing 5,800 Double Bob Major, the whole being 7 hours 30 minutes.' We may, perhaps, assume (though the record does not definitely say so) that the two peals were rung as one without interval or setting the bells, or altering the positions of the band. Joseph Dickenson, who both before and after was a member of the Society of Eastern Scholars, rang the 24 cwt. tenor unassisted. On the second visit in August the company rang 5,040 changes of Double Bob Major 'with the sixth at home and in the Tittum Course twelve times each.'

On February 16th, 1752, the society rang at St. Margaret's, Westminster, 5,040 changes of Court Bob Major, 'being the first that ever was rung on those bells.' Holt conducted from the third, and the other bells were rung by James Davis, William Underwood, James Albion, Oliver Ellingworth, James Vickers, James Newby and John Lloyd. This William Underwood was almost certainly not the man who had been a prominent member of the Society of London Scholars, but his son, who was afterwards to play a prominent part in London ringing, and especially in the Society of College Youths. Apparently this was his first peal. Both father and son, however, were ringing at the time.

Shoemaking, which was John Holt's occupation, is a sedentary one, and to a large extent mechanical, so it gave him great opportunities for thinking. Intellectually he was far above the average, and it was quite natural that he should turn his attention to composition and to the solution of such problems as then fronted the Exercise. The popular methods at the time were Bob Triples and Major, and Grandsire Caters, and in all three Annable's peals held the field. But already some men, notably Joseph Prior, had tried to widen the range of composition and Holt carried on the work. He produced several peals of Bob Major and Grandsire Caters, and one of Bob Triples without a single. These compositions were developments of the plans on which Annable had worked, and though good, are not much more than could have been expected from a competent composer. It was into the problem of Grandsire Triples that he put his best work, and how brilliantly successful he was there is common knowledge.

Grandsire Triples had been introduced towards the close of the seventeenth century and was now rung all over England. It was freely practised in London, but the men there did not use it for peal ringing. Before 1751 only three peals of it are recorded—the Hick Triples by the Union Scholars in 1718, a peal by the Eastern Scholars in 1733, conducted by Mainwaring, and another by the Union Scholars in 1736, composed and conducted by John Denmead. During the same period many peals in the method had been rung in different parts of the country.

Why did the London men, who included the most active of peal ringers, thus neglect a method which they regularly used for short touches? It was not altogether because they had no true peal. They knew of Garthon's composition and Annable's. It is likely they knew of John Vicar's Six-part, and there was the peal John Denmead had called at St. Martin's. Exactly what that was like we cannot be sure, for the figures have disappeared, but the probability is that it was the bob-and-single peal printed in the 'Clavis' without a composer's name, and which has been rung many times during the ages. It has often been ascribed to Holt, but erroneously, due perhaps to the fact that it came from the Union Scholars. It is worth noticing that when Denmead called his peal he rang the sixth.

The real reason why Londoners did not ring peals of Grandsire Triples is, I think, to be found in the composition given in Doleman's 'Campanalogia' of 1702. The book gives a half-peal and goes on to say that the only way to ring a five-thousand was to double it by two singles. No suggestion was made that the peal would be true, but undoubtedly many men took it as such, and it was freely practised. We may be fairly certain that by far the greatest number of the peals of Grandsire Triples rung throughout the country before 1751 were this false composition.

But the London men knew, though the country men did not, that the composition was false, and they 'could not see any satisfaction from repeatedly practising a false peal when so many true ones present themselves in other methods.' The method got a bad name for peal ringing, and the prejudice against it was not dispelled by the appearance of Annable's and Denmead's compositions. It was not until 1771 that the College Youths rang their first peal in the method, after they had rung peals of Double Grandsire.

It is also not unlikely that the early bob-and-single peals were not generally approved of as 'proper' Grandsire Triples. With their rigid plan they seemed to be (what indeed they usually are) peals in a different method with a 3-lead course, and men had a separate name for that method—Gogmagog.

Ringers would not have denied the general right of these peals to be called Grandsire, but they looked on them in much the same way as we do now on multi-bob peals of Stedman. What they wanted was a five-thousand in which the bobs were freely arranged as they were in the touches they rang. In fact, Doleman's peal would have been just the thing—if it had been true. Singles, generally, were disliked, but there would have been no insuperable objection to them if they were thought necessary.

To-day, with our knowledge of the Law of Q Sets, to compose a one-part peal of Grandsire Triples is no very arduous undertaking, but it was far otherwise in John Holt's time. He had to deal with an entirely unexplored problem; his brain was a mathematical one, but he was totally untrained, and he, perforce, had to

work by intuition and empirical methods. Yet he must, of course, have had some general scheme in his mind. The number of ways in which you can arrange bobs and plain leads in a 5,040 is so almost inconceivably great that no mere hit-or-miss plan is ever likely to bring success. What his scheme was cannot be known, but there is one which would be likely to occur to anyone in his position. It is to take the fifteen-lead blocks produced by the 3-lead-course plan, and try to unite them by omits instead of by singles.

Annable had already experimented with this without success, and in itself it is not very promising, yet it well may have been Holt's starting point, and some confirmation may be found in the fact that in the peal the sixth is never called Before.

The Original was composed some time before the middle of 1751 and on Sunday, July 7th, in that year the Union Scholars rang it at St. Margaret's, Westminster. The band was—James Davis, James Albion, Jacob Hall, Thomas Jackson, James Vickers, James Newby, John Lloyd, and George Fleury, and Edward Davis at the tenor. Holt, thinking it too great an undertaking to call the peal and ring at the same time, sat in the belfry and conducted from manuscript.

It seems strange that two men should have been needed to ring the tenor behind, for just about the same time both before and after, several men turned it in to Major. As I have said, the Union Scholars seem to have been short of heavy bell ringers. Fleury had rung St. Bride's tenor single handed to Cinques, but he needed help to ring Wycombe tenor behind the Triples. But in those days big bells varied so much in their hanging and from time to time according to the weather, that no reliable comparisons can be made.

A board was put up in the belfry to record the performance of the Original. Some fifty years ago it was restored and now hangs in the base of the tower which serves as the main porch of the church.

No record of the peal appears in the peal book and this has given rise to some conjecture. Osborn thought it was not entered because it was considered irregular for the conductor to ring and not call. Jasper Snowdon thought it was because Annable did not approve of the composition. Neither reason is convincing. The Union Scholars had rung the peal and they had recorded it on an expensive tablet. It is not likely they would have boggled at entering it in their book, or would have paid undue attention to the hostile criticism of a rival belonging to another company. The probability is that it was entered, and in after years when the book became dilapidated someone took it away to keep as an interesting curio. The peals were not numbered and there is no means of checking any loss of pages.

According to tradition the one-part was the first of Holt's Grandsire peals to be composed, and the ten-part and the six-part came later. That seems probable, for although the Original seems the more complex, the others, and especially the ten-part, are by far the finer productions.

(To be continued.)

THE MUSIC OF STEDMAN CATERS.—Of all methods on nine and more bells, Stedman Caters, when properly treated, lends itself to produce the best variety of musical combinations. As commonly rung with the treble a fixed bell, it is small wonder that critics decry the music as inferior to that of Grandsire.—Sir Arthur Heywood.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Congratulations to Mr. E. H. Lewis, whose birthday was yesterday.

Last week we published the report of a peal of Grandsire Caters at Enfield with only four names. The correct thing is to put the blame on the conductor who sent in the report or, failing him, on the printer, but (strictly between ourselves) it was the man who read the proofs who really was at fault. In the circumstances perhaps he may be forgiven.

The first peal of St. Blaise Surprise Major was rung at Holy Trinity, Guildford, by the Winchester Diocesan Guild, on June 8th, 1927. Mr. A. H. Pulling conducted.

The last peal on the old bells of Coventry Cathedral was rung on June 9th, 1883. The tower, which was almost the only part of the church to escape destruction in the heavy air raid, now contains a chime of modern bells not hung for ringing.

A landmark in the history of peal ringing was reached 15 years ago yesterday, when, at Warnham in Sussex, Law James' composition containing 5,408 changes of Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major was rung for the first time. Mr. John S. Goldsmith took part in the performance.

Grandsire on even numbers is now considered to be a bastard system (to use Sir Arthur Heywood's description of it), but at one time it was very popular in the Birmingham district, and perhaps not without reason. The St. Martin's men rang 5,040 changes of Maximus on June 12th, 1815.

Nottingham men rang the first peal (one of Grandsire Triples) on the bells of Ashbourne Church in Derbyshire on June 13th, 1821. They walked the 27 miles, there and back, and had a free fight with the local men in the churchyard.

Fifty years ago yesterday two peals were rung, one was Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. George Williams, the other Holt's Original, conducted by Mr. John Austin. Both men fortunately are still with us.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL
OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS.

Important Notice.

Through the kindness of the Executors of the late Mr. Goldsmith and the co-operation of the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., the publication of this paper is being continued for the present.

This will enable steps to be taken to safeguard its future.

E. H. LEWIS, President.
GEO. W. FLETCHER, Hon. Secretary.

THE RINGERS' CONFERENCE.

The Ringers' Conference was the last thing connected with change ringing in which the late Mr. J. S. Goldsmith took an interest. He was enthusiastically in favour of the idea, which he believed would do an immense amount of good by stimulating thought and keeping alive interest in these slack days. He personally drafted the rules, from his sick bed he carried out the duties of chairman, and he corresponded by letter with many of the people who were helping.

When he died it was only fitting that the Conference should be suspended temporarily, but the idea is too good a one and contains too many possibilities for it to be dropped prematurely. We should, therefore, like to carry it on, but there are one or two difficulties out of which our readers must help us. We have one or two 'speeches' on Mr. C. T. Coles' resolution and the National Association already in type, but anything else that has been sent in is, in the particular circumstances of the time, not available. If, then, readers would like the Conference to continue we must ask them to forward again any matter they have already sent in. We do not know how far the movers of the resolutions not yet debated have sent in their opening speeches, but in all cases we ask them to do so again. We are sorry to give them the trouble, but they will not mind, we feel sure, when they realise that they will be helping us to carry on in the very difficult circumstances of the present time. Similarly any reader who has any contribution to make, whether on the subject of the National Association or any other germane matter, should let us have it without delay. We need some help of this sort at the present and we need it at once.

FIRST THINGS FIRST.—The young ringer's first object must be to manage his bell, over which he must have entire control before he attempts to join in peal with others.—C. A. W. Troyte.

THE LATE MR. J. S. GOLDSMITH.

FUNERAL AT PYRFORD.

On a lovely summer day last week, when the leafy Surrey lanes were looking at their best, all that was mortal of John Sparkes Goldsmith was laid to rest in the churchyard at Pyrford. The number of people who had gathered to pay their last respects taxed the accommodation of the small church to the utmost, but it is quite safe to say that it would have been increased three-fold had it not have been for the restrictions and difficulties of travelling. Ringers were present from all parts of the country and many of the local residents.

The service in church, which was taken by the Vicar, the Rev. C. A. Hamilton, began with the ringers' hymn, 'Unchanging God Who livest,' and the 23rd Psalm,

THE LATE JOHN S. GOLDSMITH

'The Lord is my shepherd.' In place of the familiar passage from St. Paul, the lesson, read by the Rev. F. A. Woodard, Vicar of Horsell, was from the Revelation of St. John the Divine, the account of the vision of the great multitude which no man could number which stood before the throne, clothed with white robes and palms in their hands. The second hymn was 'Thine for ever God of love.'

The burial office at the grave and the committal were taken by Canon G. F. Coleridge, and the coffin was laid upon that of Mr. Goldsmith's wife, who died some years ago.

At the conclusion a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on Mr. Goldsmith's handbells over the open grave by Mrs. Fletcher 1-2, E. H. Lewis 3-4, A. H. Pulling 5-6, A. Walker 7-8.

The family mourners were: Mr. John H. Goldsmith (son) and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Renshaw (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. E. C. Goldsmith (brother), Mrs. J. Muzzell (cousin) and Mr. E. C. Goldsmith, junior (nephew), Mr. W. Head (brother-in-law).

Among the many personal friends were Miss Q. M. White, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Gribble, Mr. G. E. Mason and Mr. H. G. Mason, Mr. L. Jenkins (director of the Woodbridge Press, Ltd.), representatives of the Woking Urban Council and other public bodies of Woking.

MANY RINGERS PRESENT.

Among the ringers present were: Mr. E. H. Lewis (President of the Central Council), Mr. G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary of the Council), Mrs. Fletcher, Mr. A. A. Hughes (Whitechapel Foundry), Mr. C. F. Johnston (Croydon Foundry), Mr. A. B. Peck (representing the Ancient Society of College Youths), Mr. Rupert Richardson and Mrs. Richardson, Mr. C. T. Coles (Middlesex Association), Councillor A. Paddon Smith, J.P., and Mr. Albert Walker (St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham), Mr. George Williams (Winchester Diocesan Guild), Mr. George Cross and Mr. George Steere (Society of Royal Cumberland Youths), Mr. G. L. Grover, Mr. Alfred Pulling, Mr. C. Hazelden, Mr. J. Corbett and Mr. A. Harman (Guildford Diocesan Guild), Mr. R. T. Hibbert (Oxford Diocesan Guild), Mr. J. Hardcastle (Yorkshire Association), Mr. J. W. Jones (Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association), Mrs. Fergusson (Hertford County Association), Mr. G. W. Massey, Mr. E. G. Talbot and Mr. H. V. Young (Surrey Association), Mr. E. Alexander Young, Mr. W. H. Fussell, Mr. J. H. Shepherd, Mr. C. W. Denyer, Mr. E. Barnett, Mr. C. Denyer, Mr. Leslie W. Bunce, Mr. C. Deane, Mrs. Hazelden, Mrs. Harman, Mrs. Massey, Mr. A. V. Bristow, Mr. R. Jonas, Mr. E. G. Heath, Mr. S. Petter, Miss K. Avenall, Mr. H. Chaffey, Mr. F. Cherryman, Mr. E. Sherwood, Mr. A. H. Smith, Mr. W. E. Enticknap, Mr. W. J. Robinson, Mr. W. J. Whiting, Mr. F. Nye and Mr. J. A. Trollope.

FLORAL TRIBUTES.

The many beautiful floral wreaths included those sent by the following: From his Children and his Grandchildren; Mrs. R. Renshaw and family; Mary; Central Council of Church Bellringers; Rupert and Mrs. Richardson, Surfleet; Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Hughes; Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Lewis; J. A. Trollope; Councillor A. Paddon Smith; the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild of Change Ringers; Mr. E. Denison Taylor; Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and Ringing Members, Staff, Gillett and Johnston; St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher; Mr. and Mrs. J. Parker; the Surrey Association of Change Bellringers; Guildford Diocesan Guild; Aldershot Tower; Guildford Diocesan Guild, Leatherhead District; Farnham District; Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers; Mr. and Mrs. Corbett; Mr. and Mrs. Grover; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Walker; Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Bayley (Neon); Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Gribble; Old Woking Bellringers; Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Coles; Enid, Surfleet; Woking District Meat Trades; Mr. C. Goldsmith; Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Mason; Bert and Phyllis; Mr. and Mrs. Harman, Gwen and Silvia; Ringers St. John the Baptist, Wonersh; Mrs. Cattell; Mr. and Mrs. Collins and Dick; Mr. and Mrs. Morris; Cousins at Southover; Nellie and Bill, Newhaven; Woking Food Control Committee; Woking Food Officers and Staff; Mr. J. Wise; Mrs. Celman and family; Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Gibbons, Evelyn and Derek; an old friend; Mr. and Mrs. Nye and family; Mr. and Mrs. Clarke and Silvia.

(Continued on next page.)

THE LATE MR. J. S. GOLDSMITH.

(Continued from previous page.)

Mr. J. H. Goldsmith and Mrs. Renshaw wish to convey their grateful thanks to the many friends for their expressions of sympathy in their great loss and for their tributes to their late father.

The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Mr. J. Corbett, of Bagshot, and were admirably carried out.

MR. GOLDSMITH'S RINGING CAREER.

Mr. Goldsmith, when he died, was 64 years old and, far more so than in the case of most leading ringers, his time and activities had been devoted to the cause of change ringing. A full account of his life would therefore be both absorbingly interesting and instructive to our readers, but, unfortunately, we do not possess the necessary material to write it, nor, in any case, would it have been possible to do justice to such a subject amid the emotions and the anxieties of the last few days. We must content ourselves with a general sketch as near as possible to the right thing as we can make it.

John Sparkes Goldsmith was born on January 13th, 1878, in the parish of Southover, Lewes, where his father was parish clerk. The Goldsmiths had been connected with the church for many years and John was the fourth generation that had been ringers. One of the earlier members, grandfather or great-grandfather, had taken part in one of the first peals on the bells.

Mr. Goldsmith's father died in his early boyhood, but his mother carried on the duties as parish clerk, and one of her ambitions was that the connection between the family and the belfry should not be broken. She employed her son to toll the bell for deaths and funerals, and as soon as ever he was old enough, she almost insisted that he should become a ringer.

EARLY EXPERIENCES.

Not long since, in 'The Ringing World,' behind a thin veil of anonymity, he told us of some of his early experiences. 'From a time almost as long as I can remember,' he wrote, 'I was allowed to take part in the chiming, and I frequently also chimed the death knell.'

When he began to learn change ringing he took to it with enthusiasm, and in later years he still remembered the thrill with which he joined in the early morning ringing and how important he felt on his first Christmas Day as a bellringer. In those days, with the other ringers, he used to practise tune ringing, and he never quite lost a liking for it. Up to a few months before his death he would occasionally get together some of his friends and neighbours and instruct them how to ring simple tunes on the fine peal of handbells presented to him by Mr. A. A. Hughes.

The band at Southover fifty years ago, like all country bands, had no idea of anything beyond Grandsire Triples, but they had a full share of enthusiasm and skill. John Goldsmith quickly became their equal in all respects, and on April 8th, 1893, when he was no more than fifteen years old, he rang the treble to Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples and followed it up by three more peals that year—one of Grandsire and two of Plain Bob. His second peal was composed and conducted by Mr. George Williams, and thus began a close friendship which lasted unbroken through the years and was well illustrated by Mr. Williams' presence at the funeral last week.

Early in 1894 Mr. Goldsmith rang his first peal away from the treble, and shortly afterwards his first peal of Stedman Triples. Mr. Alfred Turner, who is still at Southover, called the one and Mr. Williams the other.

All these peals had been at Southover, but now Mr. Goldsmith began to go about the county of Sussex peal ringing with the more energetic ringers of the neighbourhood. On November 27th, 1894, when he was still only sixteen years old, he rang at the first attempt his first peal as conductor. A board in Southover belfry records the feat.

PEAL RINGING ACTIVITY.

The year 1895 brought peals of Grandsire Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Grandsire Caters. On April 6th, 1896, he called Union Triples at Ringmer. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who was at the time curate at Ringmer, took part in this peal. In the same year Mr. Goldsmith rang in three peals of Superlative, a method then practised by only one or two of the most advanced bands in the country. Mr. Frank Bennett took part in two of them and the third, at Crawley, was a farewell peal to Mr. F. Dench, who was leaving the town to join the Rochester Row band in London.

On the second day of the year 1897 Mr. Goldsmith rang the sixth to a peal of Stedman Caters, a method for which he had always afterwards a great affection and which he used to say he understood better than any other. The first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major followed shortly afterwards at Steyning. In this he rang the tenor, a position he very seldom occupied during his life, though he was a strongly built man, with the breadth of shoulder and frame of an athlete. In the same year, 1897, he called his first peal of Stedman Triples and rang his first peals of Cambridge Surprise Major and London Surprise Major. These performances led to a paragraph in 'The Bell News' referring to him as probably the most brilliant of the young ringers at the time. A second peal of London Surprise commemorated his twentieth birthday.

A BUSY YEAR.

In the year 1898 he added to his list Canterbury Pleasure Major, Court Bob Triples, New Cumberland Surprise Major and Treble Bob Royal, as well as a peal in seven minor methods. The Treble Ten was rung at St. Nicholas', Brighton, fully muffled for Mr. William E. Gladstone. That year was one of the busiest in his peal ringing life. In all he took part in 44 peals, which included London, Cambridge and Superlative, and he finished the year with what he always looked back on with pride as one of his best achievements—five peals in two days. On Christmas Eve he had rung Superlative Surprise at St. Peter's, Brighton. On Boxing Day the band started with Superlative at Warnham and followed it up with Kent Treble Bob on the same bells. Early next day Grandsire Triples was rung at Southover, and before midnight Bob Major at Ringmer and another in the same method at Buxted. The band was not entirely the same throughout, but Mr. Keith Hart called all the peals, and two or three others besides Mr. Goldsmith rang in the five. Earlier in the year a four days' ringing tour in Hampshire yielded him six peals, two of Superlative, three of Cambridge and one of Stedman Triples. Mr. George Williams called five and Mr. Keith Hart one.

The next year, 1899, was almost as prolific as the last and added 37 peals. On his 21st birthday Mr. Goldsmith rang his first peal of Superlative as conductor. Fittingly this was at Southover. On March 4th, with a peal of London at Arundel, he reached his 100th, and probably no other man had then had so fine a list for his first century. On May 16th he rang in Mr. George Williams' 400th peal, and on May 20th in Mr. Frank Bennett's 200th peal. Forty years later he took part in the 1,500th peal by each of the two, rung together on the bells of St. Mary's, Southampton, unfortunately no longer in existence.

These two years comprise the most active part of Mr. Goldsmith's career as a peal ringer. Other claims now intervened, and though he was a keen peal ringer till the end, he never had again the same opportunities of scoring a large number. At the end of 1899 his number was 132. When he died it had reached 463. The number for 1900 was thirteen. None was of any particular interest except Mr. Goldsmith's first peal as conductor of the Original. The footnote that the Superlative at St. Peter's, Brighton, on May 19th, 1900, was 'rung in honour of the relief of Mafeking' brings a wry smile to the faces of those who remember Mafeking, and the war of 1914-1918, to say nothing of the present conflict.

A NOTABLE RINGING TOUR.

Queen Victoria died early in the year 1901 and Mr. Goldsmith called two deeply muffled peals of Grandsire Triples, one at Southover, the other at Eastbourne. On May 11th he rang the sixth at Southover and called a peal of London Surprise, to which Mr. George Williams rang the tenor.

A fortnight later he took part in a tour in Ireland, and so began an association in peal ringing with a number of ringers which lasted through the years and was one of his most cherished possessions. Among the men whose friendship was then gained or cemented were Bob Pye and his brothers, William and Ernest, Gabriel Lindoff, William Short, Isaac Shade, William H. Barber and James George. During the tour Treble Ten and Stedman Caters were rung at St. Patrick's Cathedral and Stedman Caters at Christ Church Cathedral. On the heavy eight at Bray in County Wicklow Goldsmith called 5,088 Superlative, the first peal in a Surprise method rung out of England. The tour finished with a peal of New Cambridge Major at Bangor, the first in a Surprise method rung in Wales.

(To be continued.)

(Continued from next column.)

FROM MR. WILLIAM KEEBLE.

It is with great regret that I have read of the passing away of the late Mr. J. S. Goldsmith. His name will long be remembered for his brilliant leading articles and for his unfailing sense of fair play. Also for his courage at all times in defending the interests of the average ringer, and I feel sure his memory will long be cherished by ringers throughout the British Isles and elsewhere wherever ringers forgather to practise the noble art. Gone before, but not forgotten.

Colchester. WILLIAM KEEBLE.

THE LATE MR. J. S. GOLDSMITH.

APPRECIATIONS.

Among ringers all over England the news of the death of Mr. Goldsmith has been received with profound sorrow and has called forth expressions of regret and appreciations of his work and character. The following are typical:—

FROM THE REV. F. LLEWELLYN EDWARDS.

The past week has been a sad time for thousands of ringers throughout the kingdom. Quite apart from those who had the privilege of his acquaintance, the late Editor of 'The Ringing World' was in such close contact with the thoughts and aspirations of his world-wide circle of readers that his passing cannot but be felt by all as the loss of a personal friend.

The editorial note in last week's issue rightly throws into relief those personal and intensely human qualities which commanded the affection and respect of friends and acquaintances. On behalf of his colleagues on the Literature Committee of the Central Council, I venture to seek the opportunity of paying a humble tribute to that aspect of his life and work, with which the name of John Goldsmith will always be most closely associated.

The period during which he founded and conducted 'The Ringing World' was one of widespread and in many ways unprecedented activity and advance on the part of the ringing fraternity. For some 30 years he provided the only general means of communication between ringers throughout the British Empire. The leading articles from his pen week by week were distinguished by fertility of imagination, sound judgment and aptitude of phrase, and served to stimulate thought and action and indeed in no small measure to direct the aims and efforts of all concerned. In the nature of things it must be left to a later generation to assess the permanent value of his contribution to the general life and development of the Exercise, but one thing may be said at once without fear of contradiction. The name of John Goldsmith will long be held in honour as that of a man who for 30 continuous years devoted his skill and abilities to the self-imposed task of promoting the true interests of ringers as servants of the Church of Christ and trustees of a great national heritage, assisting the progress of their art and encouraging the maintenance and advancement of all that is highest and best in its cherished traditions. That task he carried out with a high degree of steadfast purpose, courageous perseverance and self-sacrificing endeavour. Battling against ill-health and the difficulties of these troublous times, he has indeed fallen sword in hand. God rest and reward his gallant soul.

F. LL. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna Rectory, Dorset.

FROM MR. W. SHEPHERD.

A valedictory tribute is difficult because John Goldsmith was an old personal friend of mine for forty years. During the period he worked for the 'Surrey Times' he managed to secure one column per week for ringing matters, and when we were striving hard with the idea of making handbells popular in Surrey he helped us considerably with his pen. He gave us of his best, his enthusiasm was boundless, always ready to devote his great ability to the service of ringers and ringing. He was loyal, kindly, thoughtful and considerate. As he lived so he served.

When I visited him shortly before his passing I saw a marked change, but he welcomed me. During conversation he was at times the John Goldsmith many of us knew years ago. And now he has passed from us after giving to the Exercise more than full measure of service, in fact he often put service before self and lately had to pay the penalty. A great personality, a fine leader, he will ever be remembered by what he has done. W. SHEPHERD.

Addlestone.

FROM MR. GEORGE R. NEWTON.

I do not know who will read these few lines, but I feel it will be someone who will credit me with sincerity when I say how sorry I am to hear of the death of Mr. Goldsmith. I had only just started ringing in 1896 when I remember his name was prominently brought to my notice. He was either 20 or 21 and his first 50 peals were recorded, including at least one of London Surprise. In those days and at that age it was a great record. I met him many times and never pulled a rope with him, but I always admired his great ability and fine character. We shall miss him more than we at present know.

GEORGE R. NEWTON.

57, Ampthill Road, Liverpool.

(Continued in previous column.)

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THE CURFEW CHIMES OF WINDSOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The other day I wandered into a church, and, seeing a hymn book (Ancient and Modern with music settings), I sat down and began to wade through the tunes of those hymns which are not included in the 'Standard' category, in a similar way to which a ringer will wade through unknown methods and compositions with the hope of raking up something really good and worth popularising.

After an hour or so in this engagement I suddenly stumbled on the solution of a problem which had been a puzzle to me for many years, and my mind was taken back to nearly twenty years ago when it was my thankless task to perform 'sentry go' near the Curfew Tower at Windsor Castle.

Many were the nights when awaiting the guard relief I would stand under the arches and listen to and count the twelve strokes announcing midnight, followed by the dismal chimes.

The tune of those unfamiliar chimes fairly got on my nerves by its weirdness; and soon I knew every note, but, try as I might, I could not connect it with anything I had ever heard before.

I was prompted to ask Tom Smith, Len Stilwell, Tom Farr and other famous locals to enlighten me as to the origin of the tune as played on the clock chimes every three hours, but no one knew definitely, and guesses were varied and my curiosity was never satisfied.

Many times since those days when thinking of Windsor Castle I have remembered those chimes, and until to-day the melody (if it can be called a melody) has remained to me as mysterious as ever.

But let me return to my solitary hour in church scanning the hymn tunes. I came across hymn 352, St. David, Ravenscroft psalms, 1621, 'Christ is gone up yet ere he passed,' and at last the secret of the Curfew Chimes was revealed.

There is was. The same old tune. Definitely old-fashioned. Weary, dreary, dull and dead. I have often wondered how many other people, ringers included, have listened to those chimes and failed to find their meaning, and I wonder whether there are other chimes in the country similar. Following the verse is one change of 'Queens' and one of 'Rounds.' The whole twice repeated! C. W. P.

THE PEARSON LIBRARY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I beg most earnestly to confirm the general conclusions of your excellent 'leader' recently, and I trust it will have good results.

In regard to the unfortunate happenings to such treasures we have the recent 'loss' of the Stedman 'Campanologia,' to the grief of the Hertfordshire Guild, who have been extremely generous in lending it. I may add (sotto voce) it was lent to me a few years ago that I might take a photo of the title-page. The next time I saw it was in the hands of a young St. Albans ringer up for a practice at a St. Clement Danes' meeting!

To read the history of any famous library is to be made aware of astonishing losses and dispersals in past days. And so, I fear, it will continue. Where, for instance, are the Ellacombe and Heywood collections? A 'Stedman' was found (and bought) by Professor E. N. de C. Andrade, D.S., from a semi-underground book store at Dover. Its only provenance I found after acquiring it from the doctor were family arms, as a book-plate, and the initials W.N.E. with 'e donis paternis.' I wonder what the book thought whilst waiting on the dark shelves at Dover for yet another ringer's hand (or perhaps the pulping mill)! And what are its memories of the Rev. Ellacombe and the family?

In regard to the Central Council Library, I remember its being discussed every year and it is steadily growing. There was a proposal that rare or valuable books should be inspected only under the supervision of the local public librarian, as are books of reference. A promising idea.

There was the ringer bookseller of Cambridge, Boutell. He was a benefactor of a certain college. Would it come forward and help us?

Italian Villa, Elstree Hill, Bromley, Kent. E. ALEX. YOUNG.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

On Saturday, June 6th, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. White, of Cotgrave, celebrated their golden wedding, having been married at All Saints', Cotgrave, on Whit Monday, 1892. Mr. White joined the Midland Counties Association in 1887 and has served the association faithfully in various offices until last year, when owing to ill-health he resigned the treasureship. For several years also he was a member of the Central Council. His many ringing friends will extend to him and to his wife their hearty congratulations and best wishes for their continued felicity.

THOUGHTS ON FUTURE PROBLEMS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Matters of vital interest have lately been discussed in your columns, and I am sure they must have aroused widespread attention Some of these matters are urgent—our future as ringers, recruits, services ringing, our relations with the public and the Church. The new post-war order will affect all these. Let us prepare for that time by planning and discussing now.

Foremost is the matter of new blood. Recruits we must have in plenty or we perish as a craft. Now, Mr. Editor, what shall we do to get enough of the right type? What about a smashing lady conductor in each tower? There would always be a following. Mixed companies, too, would attract youngsters and arouse a competitive spirit, some of which could be applied to campanology, we trust. The Sunday School and the choir should be easy recruiting grounds. In towers reforms could be started which would make them more attractive, things like begging for touches on bended knee should be abolished, likewise saluting, holding the rope in a certain way and other irksome details. Open leads and good striking could all go by the board in order to endear ringing to new ears. After all, this is an age of mass production.

THE CHURCH MUST DO SOMETHING.

The Church, yes, even the Church, I am afraid, must do something to make ringing more attractive to ringers. One urgent reform is the provision of a suitable 'escape hatch' in those churches where it is not easy to get out having once got in. How many of my fellow ringers have experienced the mortification of having to walk through the centre of a congregation, with no more protection than a rather unconvincing grin gives, after completing one's labour in the tower. In such cases, the proposed 'escape hatch' would be a god-send. These hatches should give the speediest route to the fresh air, preferably direct to the car park. In this park it should be permissible to keep engines running, so that a really hot get-away can be accomplished after ringing. If these conditions were observed, one would not in future hear the little girl asking who 'are the men one always meets leaving church as we are going in'!

No doubt the Sunday of the future will be the big day out for everybody. All other activities will be subservient to this. What will the Church do? I venture to prophesy that the hours of services will be profoundly modified, they will be held very early and very late in the day; they will also be 'potted.' Perhaps some genius of the future will apply the 'conveyor belt' system to services, or to congregations. Much valuable time would be saved. 'Potted' services will consist of a non-stop digest of three or four services; all over in a few minutes. The long-looked-for day for banning sermons will dawn after the war and in these conditions. Be assured, my readers, no national disaster will follow this step. It is probable that among the many clergymen in this country, one could be found to broadcast an occasional sermon, or some exciting homily could be read. Where do the bells fit in? It will be seen that service ringing must overlap or actually coincide with the services. With modern systems of silencing, the services would not seriously interfere with the ringing. The organ could be dispensed with on those days when the bells were being rung, or hymns in the chord of the peal played.

BELLS AS PART OF NATIONAL LIFE.

Bells are a real part of our national life, and we must strive to foster and even increase this spirit. Let us bring them in, for all we are worth, into our work and play. To widen the appeal the bells make, let us 'peal,' not only great saints, but great sinners as well. Let distinction in their particular vice or virtue be the only qualification. The devil is entitled to a long overdue peal; after all, he has frustrated for thousands of years the will of God, no mean achievement! and such a performance should not pass unnoticed. I feel sure God is too good a sportsman to take exception to this, if we do it. Finally, let me commend with all my heart a return to the good old English way of dedicating a new peal of bells—that dear system known as 'upending the tenor on the village green,' but with this improvement, that the treble and all the rest of the peal share this honour. Fewer peals of six and many more of twelve would be only the first fruits of this policy. With all the bells 'upended' and full of strong punch, and the whole community invited to 'go to it,' the bells would not, in the future, lack interest or support. They would be, very truly, welded into our national life.

Mr. Editor, I have indicated only a few ways of putting ringing back 'on the map.' Now is the accepted time. Let us take it with both hands.

RAYMOND PHILPOTT.

2, Church Street, Leatherhead.

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NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 4d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 2/-.

For Notices other than of Meetings 6d. per line (minimum 2/6).

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. 3d. per quarter.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Moulton on June 13th. Service 3.30. Tea 4.15, followed by business meeting. Bells available for 'silent' ringing. Handbells, bowls, etc., on Vicarage lawn.—W. A. Richardson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Huyton on Saturday, June 13th. Handbells and tower bells, with clappers removed, will be available from 3 p.m. A short service will be held at 5 p.m., after which tea and meeting.—George R. Newton, 57, Ampthill Road, Liverpool, 17.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—A meeting will be held at Leigh on Saturday, June 13th. Service in church at 4 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting. If fine there will be a cricket match on the Green.—T. Saunders, Hon. Dis. Sec.

NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS. — A meeting will be held at Leicester on Saturday, June 13th. Assemble 12 mid-day at Hotel Belgrave, Loughborough Road (near tram terminus). Luncheon 1 p.m. Ringing, Cathedral (12), 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Tea at Cathedral Church House 4.45 p.m., followed by meeting. Social evening, Hotel Victory, Great Central Street, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at King's Langley on Saturday, June 13th. Room at the Blue Cafe, corner of Church Lane, for meeting, talking and handbell ringing. A service will probably be arranged.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Chearsley on Saturday, June 13th. Handbells from 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All are welcome.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at All Saints', Hertford, on Saturday, June 13th, at 3 p.m. Silent tower bell ringing, also handbells during afternoon and evening. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5.30 to all who send in their names to G. Radley, 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon, Herts. Short meeting to follow tea. All welcome. Please come early.—G. Radley, Dis. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Meeting at Pulborough, Sunday, June 14th, 3 p.m. Bells (6, silent) and handbells. Tea and cake, kindly supplied by Mr. Stilwell (Pikeholm, Pulborough), to those who notify him two days previous of their intention to be present.—E. Treagus, Acting Div. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A summer joint meeting in conjunction with the Sheffield and District Society, the Barnsley and District Society and the Doncaster and District Society will be held at Wath-on-Dearne on Saturday, June 20th. Handbells will be available at the Church House from 2.30 p.m. Tea will be provided at Warburton's Cafe at 5 p.m. at 1s. 6d. per head. All those requiring tea must notify Mr. A. Nash, Holly House, Wath-on-Dearne, near Rotherham, by June 17th. This is important, so please do not fail. Business meeting at Church House, 6.30 p.m., followed by discussions and handbells. — Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Hon. Dis. Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at East Dereham on Saturday, June 20th. Bells available 3.15; service 4.30; tea 5.15 (bring some with you if you can!); followed by business meeting. Bowls afterwards, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Please send numbers for tea to Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, 52, The Close, Norwich, by June 15th.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—A meeting will be held at Prestwich on Saturday, June 20th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m. Nominations are required for branch secretary. The committee will meet at the same time. — W. H. Shuker, Gen. Sec., 36, Colwyn Avenue, Fallowfield, Manchester 14.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — An important general meeting of the association will be held at Selby on Saturday, June 20th. The back eight bells at the Abbey will be available for 'silent' ringing from 2.30 p.m. General Committee meet in the Abbey Sacristy at 3 p.m. prompt. Service in the Abbey at 4.15 p.m. Tea can be obtained near the Abbey. The general meeting will take place in the Abbey Sacristy at 6 p.m. prompt. Business urgent and important. — L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will take place in the School at Shilton, near Coventry, on Saturday, June 20th. Handbells available from 3 p.m. Cups of tea will be served, but please bring own 'eats' and sugar. The Vicar (Rev. Harold Smith) extends a hearty welcome to all members and friends.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 27th at 3.30 p.m., at the Studio, Falconer Road, Bushey, by kind invitation of the Hertford County Association. Tea at 1s. per head will be provided for those notifying Mr. E. Jennings, 50, Rudolph Road, Bushey, not later than Thursday, June 25th.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Hagley on Saturday, June 27th, by the kind invitation of the Worcestershire and Districts Association. Bells (8) available for silent practice from 3 p.m. Tea in Hagley Park at 5 p.m., followed by short business meeting. Handbell ringing afterwards. Please notify regarding tea not later than 24th inst. to Mr. Bernard C. Ashford, 9, Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge, Worcs.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — A meeting will be held at Writtle on Saturday, June 27th. Service at 4.30, tea and business meeting to follow. It is essential that those who require tea should notify Mr. T. Lincoln, Oxney Green, Writtle, by Wednesday, June 24th.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. J. Frank Smallwood has removed from Bath to 2, Oakford Avenue, Weston-super-Mare.

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