THE RINGING WORLD

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

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MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

Eight months ago we strongly recommended the occasional ringing of quarter peals for Sunday services, and we are glad to notice that it is being increasingly done. It is all to the good, for a quarter peal serves to a large extent the same purpose a peal does in setting a high standard and affording ringers an opportunity of doing their best. If care is taken in the selection and placing of the band, and the ringers are keen, there is no reason why the ringing and striking should not be as good as when the band has properly settled down in a peal attempt. There would also be an excellent opportunity for the ringers, if they are wise, of discovering how far their ringing and striking fall short of what they know they ought to be.

We are therefore always glad to receive reports of quarter peals from different parts of the country, and we do not draw the line at quarter peals. Shorter lengths, such as 720's of Minor, are not without interest, and we are always willing to publish them so far as it is possible. Up to the present, indeed, no report of a touch has been sent to us which has not appeared in our columns unless (which frequently happens) it is defective. We hope to continue to do so, but there are one or two things which must be made clear.

The only reason why things are printed in 'The Ringing World' is that they are of greater or less interest to the general readers of the journal. We do not publish items to please the people who send them to us. Now the general readers are interested in accounts of the ringing done in different parts of the country, but they are not in the least interested in the footnotes which are so often added to reports of touches (and of peals too). They do not care a scrap about people's birthdays. In fact, there is a great tendency altogether to overdo the birthday footnote. A man's birthday is to himself, if he happens to remember it, a mildly interesting anniversary; to his friends it may be perhaps an opportunity of paying a passing compliment; but to outsiders it is nothing. Ringers do not think so much of birthdays that they are willing to spend their time and skill in celebrating them. If they ring peals or touches they ring them for other reasons. A birthday may occasionally be an excuse for a peal attempt, but generally it is no more than an afterthought by the person who writes out the report. When bells are rung for matins or evensong they are rung as part of the service, and it

(Continued on page 206.)

would be just as improper for the ringers to pretend they are rung for someone's birthday as it would be for the choir to pretend they sung the anthem for the same purpose.

It is partly for these reasons we have lately omitted the footnotes to miscellaneous performances, and there is another important reason. Reports of touches and quarter peals are of general interest, but they are not of the highest interest. We can only afford a limited amount of space for these reports and if all are to appear they must be confined to the particulars of the actual ringing. It may be that we shall have to limit the number, but we do not intend to do so if it can be avoided. We therefore ask our readers to continue to send in their touches when they think they are deserving of publication, and if any do not appear they can be assured it is because we have no space and that we do not make any discrimination between one band and another.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th the observation).

THOMAS A. HINGLEY	*Treble*	DENNIS HOLDEN	5
*HAROLD MORTON	2	FRANCIS BROTHERTON	6
NORMAN G. LEECH	3	ARTHUR H. HINGLEY	7
DAVID L. HINGLEY	4	KENNETH W. KNOWLES	*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR H. HINGLEY.

* First peal.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 13, 1944, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM T. PETTY	*Treble*	GLYN I. LEWIS	5
CHARLES H. PERRY	2	ALFRED W. WRIGHT	6
ERNEST STITCH	3	ALBERT J. PITMAN	7
FRANK ROWSELL	4	DAVID HUGHES	*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHAS. H. PERRY.

HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 13, 1944, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN H. BROTHWELL	*Treble*	A. BENJAMIN COOPER	5
*RONALD BIRCH	2	HERBERT O. CHADDOCK	6
JACK G. BROTHWELL	3	JOSEPH SAXTON	7
HARRY WILSON	4	JOHN E. TURLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOHN E. TURLEY.

* First peal in the method. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. Langtry, who is leaving the parish.

SIX BELL PEAL.

WHETSTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents. Tenor 8¾ cwt.

FREDERICK WATSON	*Treble*	CYRIL ISON	4
WILLIAM A. WOOD	2	BERT RIDGEWAY	5
JAMES DRAYCOTT	3	*FRANK TROTMAN	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK TROTMAN.

* First peal of Minor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., May 11, 1944, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor size 16.

MRS. J. THOMAS	1-2	JOHN THOMAS	5-6
WILLIAM L. B. LEESE	3-4	DENNIS H. LANGDON	7-8

Conducted by J. THOMAS.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., May 12, 1944, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT NEW COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF SPALDING COLLEGE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

ALAN WHITE	1-2	JOHN E. SPICE	5-6
BETTY SPICE	3-4	SHEILA M. MCKAY	7-8

Composed by REV. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

The first peal in the method.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., May 14, 1944, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 16.

MRS. J. THOMAS	1-2	ALBERT J. WALLMAN	5-6
JOHN THOMAS	3-4	DENNIS H. LANGDON	7-8

Arranged by T. J. ATTWATER. Conducted by J. THOMAS.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT BECKENHAM.

A meeting of the Lewisham District of the Kent County Association, held at St. George's, Beckenham, on Saturday, May 6th, was attended by ringers from Bexley, Bromley, Chislehurst, Crayford, Dartford, Erith, Greenwich, Lee and Sanderstead, Surrey.

Service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. Francis Boyd, who welcomed the association.

The Ringing Master, Mr. T. Groombridge, presided at the business meeting, held in the belfry.

A report of the proceedings of the committee meeting at Maidstone on Easter Monday was read by Mr. E. Barnett on behalf of Mr. J. E. Bailey and adopted with a vote of thanks to Mr. Bailey for preparing it.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting at Dartford on Saturday, July 29th.

Messrs. J. Waterman (Eltham) and T. A. Blow (Sanderstead) were elected members, and the election of Mr. F. G. Baldwin (Hillingdon, Middlesex) was ratified.

Mr. E. Barnett read some letters regarding Mr. Pat Murphy. He had been recaptured after escaping from a camp in Italy and was now a prisoner of war in Germany. There was still no news of Mr. Derek Sharp.

Thanks were given to the Rector, to the churchwardens who had provided the tea, and to Mr. Arnold, the parish clerk.

TEACHING A BAND.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In answer to Mr. Bassett's letter about 'Teaching a Band,' I would like to bring to light our own case to show that a band of ringers can be taught changes without going through the stages of 'stoney' Mr. Bassett suggested.

When the ban was raised last May we found ourselves with a band of young, round ringers. We decided to practice change ringing. None of us had any idea of change ringing except my father, who was and is a keen change ringer. Our first efforts were in plain hunting, starting with three bells, then advancing to four, then five. When we mastered plain hunting on five bells we started on Plain Bob Doubles. It was a long time before a plain course was mastered. We then practised ringing 120 changes of Plain Bob Doubles always called on the fourth bell, all at once we all seemed to acquire 'rope sight,' after that Doubles was child's play. We learned Grandsire Doubles, then started on Plain Bob Minor.

We now practise Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob Minor, Plain Oxford Bob and Kent Treble Bob, thus proving it is quite possible for one good change ringer to teach the art to a keen band of round ringers.

STEPHEN THOMPSON, Jun.

Whickham.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The 47th annual meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, held at St. Giles-in-the-Fields on May 13th, was probably the best attended annual meeting since the days of peace, and nearly 100 members and friends took part in the ringing during the day.

ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS.

The service was conducted by the Vicar of Brentford, the Rev. W. Paton, an honorary member of the association, who gave an address.

The business meeting was held in the vestry, with Mr. J. A. Trollope presiding. He was supported by most of the officers of the Guild and some 70 members and friends. Mr. C. T. Coles, the secretary, read the names of 15 members who had died since the last annual meeting, including three killed on war service.

The hon. secretary said that the president had sent a letter apologising for his absence, caused by an important engagement in his parish.

The report was read by Mr. E. C. S. Turner, assistant hon. secretary. Among other things, it stated that meetings had been held during the year at Kilburn, Clerkenwell (jointly with the Royal Cumberland Youths), Pinner, Stanmore, Edmonton (jointly with the Ladies' Guild) and Barnet. Also at Hillingdon St. John's (jointly with the Oxford Guild), Hillingdon St. Andrew's, Cranford, Twickenham, Ruislip, Acton and Heston.

The peals numbered 24, of which 20 were on handbells. The nine conductors were Messrs. J. Thomas (10), C. W. Roberts (5), E. C. S. Turner (3) and I. J. Attwater, T. G. Bannister, H. G. Cashmore, C. T. Coles, W. H. Coles and C. H. Kippin, one each. Forty members took part in the peals, with Mrs. C. D. Andrews and Messrs. E. A. Dench, D. H. L. Langdon, A. J. Wallman and V. R. Woodards ringing their first peals, all on handbells. The latter four are pupils of Mr. J. Thomas at Edmonton, and together with other young men have made remarkable progress. Mr. Thomas is to be congratulated on his pupils, some of them have rung several handbell peals.

The first peal of Spliced Surprise Major, in four methods, by the association on handbells, was rung at Bushey on July 5th, conducted by Mr. H. G. Cashmore.

A peal of Stedman Triples rung at Crayford on July 24th was the 1,000th by Messrs. J. Bennett and C. T. Coles, the latter conducting. It was arranged and rung in memory of Capt. Frederick G. Coles, M.C., son of the conductor, who was killed in action in Tunisia on April 28th, 1943.

During the year two honorary and 24 ringing members had been elected, but there had been the loss, by death, of many members, several of long standing.

The report was adopted.

Mr. W. H. Oram submitted the balance sheet, which showed an increase in members' subscriptions, and an excess of income over expenditure for the year of £16 5s. 10d. The total assets of the association were £184 12s. 4d. The balance sheet was adopted.

All the retiring officers were re-elected, the chief officers being Preb. W. P. Cole Sheane (president); vice-presidents, Messrs. C. T. Coles and J. A. Trollope; Master, Mr. H. Kilby; hon. treasurer, Mr. W. H. Oram; and hon. secretary, Mr. C. T. Coles.

Seventeen new members were elected, including twelve of the Pinner band.

A resolution of good wishes to all members serving in H.M. Forces, both at home and abroad, was proposed by the chairman and carried.

It was announced that district meetings would be held at St. Margaret's, Uxbridge, on June 10th, and at Harrow Weald on June 24th.

Mr. C. T. Coles proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector (the Rev. E. R. Moore), to the Rev. W. Paton, to Canon A. C. Don for the use of the bells at St. Margaret's, Westminster, and to Mr. W. H. Hewett for arrangements at the latter church.

During the afternoon and evening the bells of St. Giles were much in use, and at St. Margaret's, Westminster, where the tower was packed almost to capacity, a large number of ringers made their first acquaintance with this very fine peal of ten since the restoration of a few years ago.

GUILDFORD GUILD HONOUR MR. A. H. PULLING.

ELECTED A VICE-PRESIDENT.

Guildford Diocesan Guild at their annual meeting at Ayers' Hall, Guildford, on Saturday, decided to recognise the services of Mr. A. H. Pulling to the Exercise by electing him a vice-president. He is the second layman ringer to be so honoured, the first being the late Mr. J. S. Goldsmith.

The Master (Mr. A. Harman) presided over an attendance of about 100. Presenting the annual report, the hon. secretary (Mr. G. L. Grover) stated that although it had not been possible to arrange anything approaching the pre-war programme of routine meetings, much useful spadework had been done by officers and Guild members. As complete returns of members serving with the Forces had not been made by tower secretaries, it was impossible to give the actual membership, but the balance sheets showed a considerable increase of paying members.

A grant was made from the Benevolent Fund to a member, but neither this fund nor the Cathedral Bells Fund received from members generally the support that both funds should command. Eight peals were rung during 1943, all conducted by Mr. A. H. Pulling. Two were on handbells and the remaining six on tower bells.

The sympathy of the Guild was extended to the president (the Bishop of Guildford) in his great loss by the death of Mrs. Macmillan. Other deaths regretted were Messrs. S. and T. W. Radford, H. Mason (S. Nicolas', Guildford), W. Beeson (Cranleigh), G. Dimes (Crondall), E. Clapshaw (Farnham), Mrs. Treffry Cockill (Bramley) and Col. Barker (Bentley). The departure of the Rev. G. H. B. Coleridge (a vice-president) from the diocese was also regretted.

Mr. J. Corbett (hon. treasurer) reported a balance in hand on the general fund of the Guild of £31 18s. 2d. The sum of £22 12s. had been raised towards the cost of the sanctus bell at the new Cathedral, which is to be a memorial to the late Mr. J. S. Goldsmith. Further subscriptions were anticipated. It was decided to hold a memorial service to Mr. Goldsmith at Pyrford Church on Saturday, June 3rd, subject to the permission of the Vicar. The service would be between 5 and 6 p.m.

A special committee, consisting of the Master, the hon. treasurer, hon. secretary and Mr. W. Viggers (Aldershot) was appointed to consider the best method of replacing and re-writing the Guild peal book which was lost.

Officers elected were: Master, Mr. A. Harman; hon. treasurer, Mr. J. Corbett; hon. secretary, Mr. G. L. Grover; hon. auditor, Mr. R. Hasted. The vice-presidents were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. Pulling.

Ringing took place at the Cathedral and S. Nicolas' Churches. At S. Nicolas' the peal of ten was reduced to eight by omitting the 2nd and fourth, owing to the latter having been cracked. The Rev. P. R. Lobb (Rector) conducted the Guild service at S. Nicolas' Church which preceded tea.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT STORRINGTON.

A meeting of the Western Division of the Sussex County Association was held at Storrington on May 13th, at which 42 ringers were present from 12 towers. They included Messrs. A. Ballard, of Leicester, W. J. Whitmore, Raunds, Northants, and A. J. Hopper, Crayford. An address was given by the Rector, the Rev. W. G. Frostick, who presided over the business meeting. Tea was provided by the local ladies. Ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge Minor,

BELLS AND THE REFORMATION.

(Continued from page 197.)

Edward the Sixth's short and troubled reign came to an end in 1553, and was followed by the reaction under Mary. There was no more talk of pulling down churches or confiscating bells. In the words of J. A. Froude, 'the glad news spread like lightning through London and the pent-up hearts of the citizens poured themselves out in a torrent of exultation. Above the human cries the long silent church bells clashed again into life; first began St. Paul's, where happy chance had saved them from destruction, then one by one every peal that had been spared caught up the sound and through the summer evening and all next day the metal tongues from tower and steeple gave voice to England's gladness.' This picture is as true as it is eloquent except that there is no reason to suppose that the bells had been silent during Edward's reign. The queen would have liked to have made restitution and re-establish the monasteries, but that was impossible. A few were revived. The great church of St. Peter at Westminster, which had already ceased to be a cathedral, again became an abbey, and the Black Friars went back for a time to St. Bartholomew's. But the church plate had gone to the melting pot and the grip of the gentry on the abbey lands was far too strong to be relaxed. There must, however, have been many who feared being called to account for what they had done in the late reign; not the great men like the Russells and the Cavendishes who were too powerful to be touched, but lesser men, and there is a good deal of significance in a bond which is among the state papers, the condition of which under a bond of £40 is that Alice Gruff shall be free from responsibility touching two bells from the monastery of Basingworth in North Wales which were handed over to John ap Gruff and others.

Mary died in 1559 and the pendulum swung once more towards Protestantism, but the new government made it clear that there was to be no return to the defacing of monuments or the looting of church bells. A proclamation was issued 'agaynst breakyng or defacing of Monuments of antiquitie being set up in Churches and other public places for memory and not for superstition,' which further declared, 'and where the couteousnes of certayne persons is such that as Patrones of churches or owners of the personages impropriated or by some other colour or pretense they do perswade with the person and parishioners to take or throwe downe the Belles of Churches and Chappels and the leade of the same conuertyng the same to theyr private gayne and to the spoyles of the sayde places and make such like Alterations as thereby they seke a sclanderous desolation of the places of Prayer Her Majestie (to whom in the right of the Crown by thordinaunce of Almightie God and by the lawes of this Realme the defence and protection of the church of this Realme belongeth) doth expressly forbid any maner of person to take away any Belles or Lead of any Church or Chappel now used or that ought to be used with public and divine service or otherwise deface anye such Church or Chappel under payne of imprisonment duringe her Majesties pleasure and suche further time for contempt as shalbe thought wise.

'And her Majestie chargeth all Bishops and Ordinaries to enquire of all suche contemptes done from the begynyng of her Majesties raygne and to enjoyne the persons offending to repayre the same within a convenient time. And of theyr doynges in thys behalf to certifie her Majesties Priuie Counsayle or the Counsayle in the Starre chaumber at Westminster that order may be taken therein.'

The draft of this proclamation in the handwriting of Sir William Cecil and one of the original printed copies are among the state papers. It was ordered to be read throughout the country, and at Exeter and no doubt many other towns and cities the bellman or town crier was sent through the streets to read it aloud to the people. Elizabeth, who shared the Englishman's love of bells and encouraged the sport of bell ringing among her people, wrote letters with her own hand to leading men to enforce the proclamation. Her Secretary of State, Sir William Cecil, afterwards the famous Lord Burleigh, whose experience as a civil servant went back ot the days of the Dukes of Somerset and Northumberland, in a paper of instructions at the time of the revolt of the northern earls in 1569, wrote that whenever any bells were rung to raise rebellion only one bell was to be left in the steeple in memory thereof; but we need not suppose that such action was approved by his royal mistress. Later in her reign, when she heard that Sir John Shelton had brought home a church bell as loot from the capture of Cadiz, she was furiously angry and swore by God's death she would make him carry it back.

The end of the fifteenth and the beginning of the sixteenth centuries were a period of great activity both in church building and in bell founding, which was followed by as marked a slump. This was inevitable. Periods of intellectual and spiritual upheaval are not times when men are much concerned about church building. During the Reformation many men were chiefly concerned to enrich themselves out of the spoils of the suppressed abbeys; others were sincerely anxious for purity of religion and the simplification of public worship; while those who still clung to the older beliefs and ritual were fighting a losing battle. But even if there had been no Reformation there would have been little church building during most of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. England had already got as many churches as she needed. The population, both in numbers and location, was stationary, and those large and magnificent Perpendicular churches, which are still the glory of our land, had but recently been erected, not only in London and the larger towns, but also in the villages of the more prosperous parts of the country. We may regret the loss of the abbey churches, but actually they were not required for the religious needs of the general people, nor were they ever so used.

It was much the same thing with the bells. By the end of the first quarter of the sixteenth century the Church of England had as many bells in her towers as were needed for the most elaborate ritual. For the Mass there were the saunce and sacring bells. For knells and funerals there was the great bell for important people and lesser bells for lesser people. For processions and vigils and saints' days there were in almost every steeple bells to be rung in peal; threes and fours in ordinary churches and fives in all the wealthier and more important. Beyond five the ambition of parishes did not extend. Both for musical and liturgical purposes the number was amply sufficient, and but for one thing it is

probable that it would never have been increased. The time had come when bell ringing had become a popular pastime. How early this happened there is no definite means of knowing, but we may conclude that it was one of the chief causes which saved the bells in Edward's reign, and we know it was the main reason for the increase in the number of bells in a ring during the following two hundred years.

(To be continued.)

MRS. SHURCLIFF'S VISIT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mrs. Shurcliff asks, 'Are there any ringers left who remember her visit to London with her father in 1902?' In reply I can say that the visit of Dr. Nichols and his daughter (then Miss Nichols) to London in August, 1902, will always retain for me many happy memories.

After ringing two peals with the College Youths it was arranged for a photograph to be taken, and Mr. H. P. Harman, a professional photographer, brought his camera to London for that purpose. Being one of the party to be photographed, he asked me to help him, and after a host of instructions on how to make the correct exposure, he left the camera with me, saying, 'Don't fail because this is a very important event.' Imagine my joy when I saw the splendid reproduction of the group in 'Bell News.'

Miss Nichols also did some ringing with the Middlesex Association and I well remember a peal of Stedman Triples in hand at Finsbury Pavement House, City, on August 17th, 1902. Messrs. H. P. Harman, W. Pye and E. Pye, who rang the three front pairs, have all passed on, also I. G. Shade and A. T. King, who umpired the peal with me, have also passed away. I was not quite 19 at the time, but I remember the peal well because I could not ring Stedman in hand very well, and between the course ends I watched carefully with the result that I picked up several useful tips. W. SHEPHERD.

22, Chapel Grove, Addlestone, Surrey.

DEATH OF MR. H. B. WALTERS.

The death is announced of Mr. Henry Beauchamp Walters, which occurred on April 24th. Mr. Walters, who was keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities at the British Museum from 1925 to 1932, was the author of many books on archæology, including several on the history of bells.

THE MONTH'S PEALS.

During the month of April 48 peals were rung, 42 of them on tower bells and six on handbells.

The tower bells consisted of Grandsire Doubles 5, Triples 5, Caters 1; Plain Bob Minor 2, Major 3; Kent Treble Bob Major 3, Royal 1; Little Bob Major 1; Stedman Triples 4, Caters 2, Cinques 2; Double Norwich Court Bob Major 2; Cambridge Surprise Major 4; London Surprise Major 1; Four Spliced Surprise Major methods 1; Two methods of Doubles 1, Three Minor methods 3, Seven Minor methods 1.

The handbell peals were: Kent Treble Bob Major 2; Bob Royal 1; Stedman Caters 1, Cinques 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major 1.

The number of peals in January was 50, in February 34, and in March 37; making a total for the year, so far, of 169.

PROPOSED GOLDSMITH MEMORIAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Correspondence has appeared from time to time in 'The Ringing World' in connection with the above, and it has been suggested that nothing less than a complete ring of bells would be sufficient to commemorate the memory of one who has done so much for the Exercise. I think it is possible to do something which is more nation-wide and which could be of immense value to the Exercise.

I have often thought it a pity that, speaking generally, the clergy take so little interest in ringing. In most cases if the parson of the parish takes an interest it is because he feels it is an obligation to do so, which is very different from the way he would regard it if it were his own hobby. Not far from Johannesburg there is a clergyman who was formerly, I think, at Lewisham, and who, in response to my enquiry, confessed that he did not know how many bells his former church possessed!

I suggest the formation of a fund the principal aim and object of which will be the propagation of ringing among the clergy. The problem should be tackled right at the source, i.e., while the men who are to become clergy are undergoing their training. Facilities are no doubt available, or could be made available, for them to learn something about change ringing. Examinations, both theoretical and practical, could be arranged, and the candidates who reach a certain standard should be given grants towards the cost of their clerical training. This should give a big fillip to ringing.

Even in these difficult days a fund with an annual income of from £200 to £500 should be within the capacity of the Exercise.

C. CHAMBERS.

Johannesburg. By Air Mail.

John Taylor & Co.

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'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

Owing to the present transport difficulties there is a strong possibility that the Council Meeting, arranged for Whit-Monday, may have to be postponed. A definite announcement will be made in next week's issue.

(Signed) G. W. FLETCHER, Hon. Sec.

TO POSTAL SUBSCRIBERS.

We shall be much obliged if postal subscribers in their communications will write their names and addresses in block capital letters.

THE JERUSALEM CHAMBER.

As you approach the west front of Westminster Abbey from Victoria Street you may notice a low, plain, stone building which projects out in front of the south-west tower. It looks rather insignificant and almost out of place, but it is the Jerusalem Chamber, one of the most famous buildings in England. Here the Central Council will hold its meeting on Whit Monday.

The building dates from the close of the fourteenth century and probably was rebuilt on older foundations. It got its name from some ancient wall decorations, long since destroyed, which depicted scenes from the Crusades. It was originally a private room belonging to the abbot and still is part of the deanery, but during more than five centuries it has been the scene of many historical assemblies and events. It was here that King Henry the Fourth died. He had been taken ill when making his devotions in the Abbey Church and was carried to the abbot's lodging. 'When he was come to himself he asked of such as were about him what place that was. The which showed to him that it belonged to the Abbot of Westminster; and, for he felt himself so sick, he commanded to ask if that Chamber had any special name. Whereto it was answered that it was named Hierusalem. Then said the King, Laud be to the Father of Heaven! for now I know that I shall die in this Chamber, according to the prophecy made of me beforesaid, that I should die in Hierusalem. Shakespeare transferred this passage with little alteration of the words to his play.

From early times the House of Commons met in the abbey Chapter House and, when the abbey was dissolved in the reign of Henry the Eighth, the Chapter House did not become the property of the new dean and chapter, but was (as it still is) a national possession. So the Dean and Canons used the Jerusalem Chamber as their chapter house.

The Jerusalem Chamber has been the scene of many conferences on religious matters, of which the Westminster Assembly at the time of the Commonwealth is the most celebrated. It sat for over five and a half years and drew up a Directory of Religion, Catechisms and a Confession of Faith, which were designed to remodel the Church of England on Presbyterian lines. In more recent years the committee of scholars who made the revised version of the Bible held their meetings in the Jerusalem Chamber.

In normal times the walls of the chamber are covered with some celebrated ancient tapestry.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The first meeting of the eighteenth Council (48th annual meeting) will be held in the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster Abbey (by kind permission of the Dean) on Whitsun Monday, May 29th, 1944, at 11.30 a.m. precisely.

The morning session will be adjourned at 1.30 p.m., and the afternoon session will commence at 2.30 p.m., or as may be decided.

AGENDA.

Report of the hon. secretary as to representation of societies and as to unpaid subscriptions.
Apologies for absence.
Presentation of new members to the president (Rule 11).

1. Election of president for 1942-1945.
   Mr. E. H. Lewis retires and is eligible for re-election.
2. Election of hon. secretary and treasurer for 1942-45.
   Mr. G. W. Fletcher retires and is nominated for re-election by Messrs. E. G. Fenn, A. B. Peck, A. Walker and J. F. Smallwood.
3. Election of hon. librarian for 1942-45.
   Capt. W. H. J. Hooton retires and is eligible for re-election.
4. Election of hon. auditors (two) for 1942-45.
   Mr. C. T. Coles and Mr. A. A. Hughes retire and are eligible for re-election.
5. Election of honorary members.
   The following retire and are eligible for re-election: Messrs. A. A. Hughes, E. H. Lewis and E. C. S. Turner. There are five vacancies.
6. Loss of members through death.
7. Minutes of the last meeting.
8. Report of the hon. librarian.
9. Statement of accounts.
10. Report of the Trustees of the Carter Ringing Machine.
    Trustees: Messrs. E. Alex. Young and A. A. Hughes.
11. To receive, discuss and, if thought fit, to adopt the reports of the following committees.
    To pass such resolutions as may be necessary on matters arising out of the reports.
    To reappoint or alter the constitution of the committees as may be considered desirable, and to appoint conveners of such committees.
    (a) Standing Committee.
    The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. J. T. Dyke, C. F. Johnston, R. Richardson, A. Paddon Smith, A. Walker, E. C. S. Turner, G. E. Debenham.
    Note.—Four vacancies occur through the deaths of Ven. Archdeacon H. T. Parry, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Messrs. W. A. Cave and S. H. Wood.
    The ex-officio members are: The President, Hon. Librarian, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Auditors, Conveners of Committees, and past officers (if still members of the Council).
    (b) Peal Collection.
    The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Rev. E. S. Powell, Messrs. G. R. Newton, G. R. Pye and H. G. Cashmore.
    (c) Methods.
    The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Messrs. J. A. Trollope and E. C. S. Turner.
    (d) Peal Analysis and Records.
    The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, Messrs. C. Dean, G. L. Grover, G. R. Pye and W. Ayre.
    (e) Towers and Belfries.
    The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Mr. E. H. Lewis, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Mr. E. Alex. Young.
    (f) Literature, Press and Broadcasting.
    The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Messrs. A. Paddon Smith and A. Walker.
    (g) Peal Boards.
    The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Rev. C. E. Wigg, Messrs. W. Ayre and W. G. Wilson.
    (h) Biographies.
    Members eligible for reappointment:—
    Mrs. E. K. Fletcher and Mr. A. C. Hazelden.
12. MOTION.
    That to assist in providing ringing peals in bombed churches which are rebuilt, a Restoration Fund be formed and the ringers of the country be asked to subscribe.
    Proposer: Mr. D. H. Bennett (Swansea and Brecon Guild).
    Seconder: Mr. J. P. Hyett (Hereford Diocesan Guild).
13. To fix the place of the next meeting.
14. Other business (if any).

G. W. FLETCHER, Hon. Sec.

RAISING A BELL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Some interesting points are raised in your issue of April 28th by your correspondent, Mr. Dibley. His account of the mechanics of a bell in motion, however, while in the main correct, seem to be a little ambiguous. So far as the correspondence from Mr. Davis is concerned, I can make little comment, as I missed that particular issue. Suffice it to say that, together with Mr. Dibley, I can see little relation between raising a load with block and tackle and raising a bell. In the former case the centre of gravity remains a constant factor, while in the latter it is continually changing.

In order to understand why a bell requires a lot of pulling when approximately half-way up it is necessary to appreciate a few elementary principles of a bell in motion. There are two positions when the centre of gravity is on the axis of the bell: (a) when the bell is suspended vertically mouth downward, and (b) when, making due allowance for the weight and position of the clapper, the bell is suspended vertically mouth upward. At both these positions the entire weight of the bell is supported by the gudgeons and bearings on the bell cage. At a point midway between these two positions (half-way up), the weight at the axis is at a minimum.

Now consider what happens when the bell is up and makes a complete cycle when rung. The bell is pulled over the balance and the centre of gravity is shifted from the axis. There will now be some weight not supported at the gudgeons, and this weight will tend to take the bell downward. The bell is now said to possess 'potential' energy, and this condition will obtain until she reaches the bottom of her flight when the centre of gravity is again on the axis and the velocity has attained a maximum. In the absence of any other form of energy the bell would remain in this position. The fact that it does not is due to the velocity of the downward flight having imparted 'kinetic' energy to the bell, and this energy will be sufficient to take her almost, but not quite, depending on the losses due to friction and air resistance, to the vertical position once more. In order to overcome these losses, which increase with the size and weight of the bell, it is necessary for the ringer to augment her potential energy by applying some of his own weight to her via the rope.

To return to the bell half-way up, we have seen that kinetic energy is absorbed in driving the weight of the bell upward, i.e., against her own potential energy. Also that the weight supported at the axis in this position is at a minimum. Hence the absorption of kinetic energy in supporting the weight of the bell will be at a maximum, and, therefore, the need for increased potential energy in the form of weight to the rope if she is to go any higher. Also in this position, by reason of the rapid reversals of the bell, it is more difficult to impart and can be imparted at each complete cycle only and not at each half cycle. The additional weight imparted by the ringer will, therefore, be proportionally double that necessary when the bell can be rung at both hand and back strokes.

In conclusion, can any of your readers tell me why the art of raising and falling in peal seems to be largely neglected in the London area. A bell during this operation has a purity of note which is not heard when it is up, and, personally, I am very fond of it.

A. G. OLIVER.

76, Carshalton Grove, Sutton, Surrey.

Dear Sir,—I am in full agreement with Mr. Davis in balancing the energy account of a bell each swing. All I wanted to point out was the existence of a large amount of Kinetic Energy and that, therefore, you could not compare a bell's motion with that of a dead load being hoisted with block and tackle.

G. A. S. DIBLEY.

Aston Rowant, Lewknor.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Sussex County Association was held at Brighton on May 6th and was attended by more than sixty members.

Service was conducted by the Rev. L. N. Phillips, Vicar of St. Nicholas'.

At the business meeting the officers were elected as follows: Master, Mr. F. I. Hairs; hon. treasurer, Mr. O. Sippetts; hon. general secretary, Mr. S. E. Armstrong; hon. peal secretary, Mrs. F. I. Hairs; hon. auditors, Messrs. W. C. Hart and J. T. Toms; representatives on the Central Council, Messrs. F. Dallaway, A. W. Groves, F. I. Hairs and O. Sippetts. The recommendation from the committee regarding relations with the Central Council were, after a long discussion, accepted in a modified form.

The peal secretary reported the ringing of two peals on tower bells during the year, and it was decided to discontinue elections of committees of advice in the future.

There was ringing at St. Nicholas' in the afternoon and at St. Peter's during the evening.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of the Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association, held at Sefton on May 13th, tributes were paid to the memories of the late Thomas B. Worsley and J. R. Taylor, both past vice-presidents of the association. Much sympathy was expressed with their families.

CENTRAL TOWERS.

By Ernest Morris.

(Continued from page 169.)

The church of St. Mary the Virgin, Meppershall, Beds, is partly Norman with Early English and Perpendicular additions, having a central tower with five bells which are rung from the ground floor in full view of the congregation. The plan of this tower is curiously irregular, the internal width at the west end being 15 feet 8 inches, as against 13 feet 8 inches at the east. The tower and transepts are the oldest part of the church and belong to the early 12th century. The tower stands on plain semi-circular arches of a single order, only the west face of the west arch having any moulded detail. Above the roofs the tower rises in two stages with an embattled parapet, the belfry lights being of two lights of 15th century detail, while the second stage is lighted by a single narrow 12th century loop.

Prior to 1882 the present 3rd bell was the 2nd and the then 3rd was an ancient one inscribed: '+Christe: Avdi: Nos.' This old bell, being full of flaws and of bad tone, was recast in that year for the 2nd bell, and the old 2nd, being much too flat for its position in the ring, was adopted as the 3rd bell. As they now stand the treble is by John Dier, 1591; second recast by Taylor, 1882; third by J. Briant, 1816; fourth Joseph Eayre, 1766, and tenor W. Emmerton, of Wootton, 1774.

St. Mary the Virgin, Wollaston, Northants, has a central tower with broach spire. The tower is 13 feet square. Of the 14th century building only the tower and spire remain. In 1735 the body of the church suddenly and unexpectedly fell down. It was rebuilt in 1737. The beautiful central tower is open to the church in the lower stage through four sharply pointed arches, all being alike, and the ringers (six) stand in full view of the congregation. There is a long draught of rope, and although guides are provided they are very high up, so placed as not to impair the view of the church. The tower windows are double on each side, and of two trefoiled lights with simple head tracery. The angles of the tower are strengthened by small triple shafts stopping beneath a richly sculptured and corbel table of heads and flowers connected by tendrils, from which the spire rises. Above the bell chamber windows on each side is a slightly ogee niche with moulded jambs and label. The spire has ribbed angles, and tall pinnacles standing on the broaches, with three tiers of gabled lights, faced alternately. Of the bells the treble is a recast by Taylor, 1910; second blank; third Taylor, 1868; and the back three by R. Taylor, of St. Neots, 1806. Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

The present church of Uffington, Berks, dedicated to St. Mary, is known as the Cathedral of the Vale. It is cruciform in plan, in the Early English style and dates from 1216/50, with beautiful interior details. It has a central embattled tower with pinnacles, containing a ring of five bells and a clock. Originally it had a spire, but this was destroyed by lightning December 2nd, 1740. The tower is 16 feet square, and is octagonal above the roof. It is of three stages above the eaves of the roofs, the lower stage weathering back at the angles with two octagonal stages above, terminating in an embattled parapet with crocketed angle pinnacles. In the lower octagonal stage there are four plain louvred lancets, one on each of the cardinal sides, and in the later stage above, four plain openings similarly placed. There is a projecting polygonal newel staircase in the north-west angle, carried across the angle of the nave and north transept. Of the five bells the treble was by James Wells, 1803; second and third, Mears and Stainbank, 1886 and 1867; fourth R. Wells, 1770; tenor T. Rudhall, 1762. The treble, 4th and tenor were recast in 1914.

A similar octagonal central tower is at All Saints', Bakewell, Derbyshire. The church here stands on an eminence above the principal part of the town, and is a large cruciform embattled structure with central tower rising from a square lower stage with a battlemented octagon, with an elegant and lofty spire. There is some Norman work and other portions belonging to a very early church, the first alterations being made in 1250 when the Early English style was well advanced. At this time the tower piers were in part cut away and rebuilt with pointed arches and the upper part of the tower taken down. The octagonal tower and spire were erected on the Early English base at the end of the 14th or beginning of the 15th centuries. In 1825/6 the spire was removed, and in 1830 the tower also, owing to the unsafe condition of the piers. In 1841 extensive repairs of the whole fabric were begun and completed in 1852. In the course of this work the tower piers were rebuilt with the tower and spire.

Of the original ring of six bells the first two were dated 1719, the next two 1616, the fifth was a pre-Reformation casting, and the tenor dated 1671. In 1796 a new ring of eight was provided, cast by Thos. Mears. These had the usual well known couplets, such as the following:—

Treble:—

'When I begin our merry din
This band I lead from discord free;
And for the fame of human name
Every leader copy me.'

Fifth:—

'Thro' Grandsires and Triples
With pleasure men range,
Till Death calls the Bob
And brings on the last change.'

Tenor:—

'Possess'd of deep sonorous tone,
This belfry king sits on his throne;
And when the merry bells go round
Adds to and fellows ev'ry sound:
So in a just and well pois'd state
Where all degrees possess due weight,
One greater power, one greater tone
Is ceded to improve their own.'

This ring was succeeded by a new octave by Mears and Stainbank in 1895 with tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lbs., and these were rehung by J. Taylor and Co. in 1938.

A similar central octagonal tower with spire to that of Bakewell, is at Doulting, Somerset. Here the church of St. Aldhelm is a large cruciform edifice in Early English, Decorated and Perpendicular styles. In 1869 the church was restored and the tower and spire rebuilt—the spire being replaced stone for stone. In the

grounds of the Vicarage is a constant spring called St. Aldhelm's Well, which forms the source of the river Dulcote. The tower has a ring of six bells, dated as follows:—Treble, 1704; second, a pre-Reformation bell with invocation to 'Sancta Maria'; third, 1760; fourth, 1611; fifth, 1618; tenor by Taylor and Co., Oxford, 1828.

Another central octagonal tower and spire is at St. Nicholas', Grosmont, Mon. The church bespeaks the former consequence of the place, for it is a large handsome structure, and its octagonal tower is a singular thing for this part of the country. The body of the church is built after the cathedral fashion, in the form of a Roman cross, consisting of nave with two aisles, transepts and chancel. It was partly built during the 13th century by Eleanor of Provence, Queen of Henry III., under the direction of a French architect, and partook largely of the style of that country and period. In the church is the mutilated effigy of Henry (Plantaganet), Earl of Lancaster and Leicester, ob. March 24th, 1361, who was born at Grosmont Castle. The figure is of heroic size, clad in armour and bearing a kite-shaped shield. The tower has a ring of six bells.

Leighton Buzzard, Beds, All Saints' Church, has a central tower and spire. The church was built in the second half of the 13th century. The tower, 19 feet square, rises one stage above the roofs, each face having an arcade of three bays, the middle one being pierced, and from this stage rises the tall octagonal spire with angle pinnacles and three tiers of spire lights. On the tower piers are a number of roughly scratched designs and two figures with traces of colouring on them. There are 10 bells, tenor 26 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb. Two trebles by Mears and Stainbank, 1906, and back eight by W. and T. Mears, 1787. The old treble (present 3rd) says:

'John Swinstead did thro' perseverance raise
This peal compleat—real merit is his praise.'

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

A meeting of the Exeter Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers at Alphington on May 6th was attended by about thirty members and friends. Service was conducted by the Rev. Preb. B. C. Bennett, the Rector. Mr. W. H. Howe, the secretary, reported that he had sent letters of sympathy to Mr. A. W. Searle on the death of Mrs. Searle and to the relatives of Flight-Sergt. Brian Wayman. Mrs. Searle was an honorary member of the Guild and Brian Wayman by his enthusiasm had practically revived ringing at Honiton Clyst. After the meeting the bells of St. David's were rung muffled to the memory of Mrs. Searle.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT REDENHALL.

At a meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association, held at Redenhall on May 6th, twenty-seven ringers attended from Long Stratton, Norwich, Redenhall, Loddon, Diss, Fressingfield, Acle, Bungay, Ranworth, Haddiscoe, Winfarthing and Palgrave. The methods ranged from Grandsire Triples to Double Norwich Court Bob Major. The Rector, Canon Pickering, conducted the service and tea was at the Yew Tree Tea Rooms. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Bunwell on June 3rd if possible. The Rev. W. G. Bridge and Mr. Michael Foster were elected members.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES BRANCH.

A meeting of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at Bromham on May 6th. The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Kent and call changes. The service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. P. G. Phillips, after which 28 members sat down to tea at the Greyhound. In the absence of the chairman, the meeting was presided over by Mr. A. T. Weeks, vice-chairman. The towers represented were Bromham, Rowde, Bishops Cannings, Melksham, North Bradley, Trowbridge, Devizes St. John, St. Mary's and St. James', Southbroom. The six bells at Rowde were available in the evening.

MUSIC AND METHODS'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I like to feel that the 'music' of methods is even more important than the intricacy. There are those who hold that the difficulty of a method is a measure of its value, irrespective of the music produced, and the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, in his 'Surprise Methods,' ranks 'music' very much lower than the 'work.' I cannot help feeling that this view tends to make a person more concerned with mastering a method than striking it.

Never despise a method if it is simple provided its musical qualities are good. I prefer to ring Grandsire Caters (the finest music of them all) to Kent Royal, despite the fact that I was reared on even-bell methods. It is why I took to Double Norwich like a fish to water, why I learned Cambridge much quicker than London.

If you want to teach anybody, try a simple method which sounds nice, with a good rhythm, say Minor, rather than the monotonous Doubles; turn all six in and so instil a need and desire for open leads; prevent the difficulty most beginners are up against when, taught odd-bell methods first, on turning to even-bell work they are hopelessly lost without the tenor to lead from. Anyone taught, say, Plain Bob, will have no difficulty in tackling Grandsire.

C. BRETT-SMITH.

Cosford, Salop.

PAUL REVERE.

We have received from Mrs. Shurcliff the programme of a service held on January 1st, 1935, at Christ Church, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., 'the Old North Church of Paul Revere fame,' on the two hundredth anniversary of Revere's birth.

'Christ Church,' we are told, 'designed after the manner of Sir Christopher Wren, the oldest church edifice in Boston, is a substantial hand-made brick structure about 70ft. long, 51ft. wide and 42ft. high. The walls of the 24ft. square, 85ft. high, tower are 3½ft. thick. The steeple is 175ft. high in all; 483,654 bricks were used in building the church. The peal of eight bells was cast in Gloucester, England, in 1744, the first ring of bells cast for the British Empire in North America. The largest bell weighs 1,545 pounds, the smallest 620 and the combined weight is 7,272 pounds.

'Immediately after their installation a group of young men, headed by Paul Revere, sought and received the privilege of ringing the bells; this association with the tower undoubtedly inspired Revere to use it as a signal station on the fateful evening of April 15th, 1775.'

The programme gives a fascimile of the original agreement by members of the ringing society. It is preserved among the treasures of the church. It reads, 'We the Subscribers do agree to the following articles, viz.:—

'That if we can have Liberty from the wardens of Dodors Cuttlers Church we will attend there once a week on evenings to ring the bells for two hours each time, from the date here of for one year.

'That we will choose a Moderator every three months whose business shall be to give out the changes and other business as shall be agreed by a majority of voices then present.

'That none shall be admitted a member of this society without a unanimous vote of the members then present and that no member shall begg money of any person for the tower on penalty of being excluded the Society. And that we will attend to ring at any time when the wards of the Church aforesaid shall desire it on penalty of paying three shillings for the good of the society (provided we can have the whole care of the bells).

'That the members of the society shall not exceed eight persons.'

Seven names follow, of which Paul Revere's is the second.

What was the story of the society and how long is lasted do not appear. When the agreement was signed it had not yet started. The ringing could not have been change ringing, but, at the best, some simple form of stoney. Since this was the first ringing peal in America the ringers had had no previous experience unless (which is probable) some of them had come from England.

The programme of the anniversary service mentions the Boston Guild of Change Ringers, of which Mrs. Arthur A. Shurcliff is president and Mr. Richard Newton secretary and treasurer. Mr. Newton, of course, was at one time a ringer in England and has many friends in Lancashire.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT WOKINGHAM.

The annual meeting of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Wokingham on April 29th. Service at St. Paul's was conducted by the curate, the Rev. Mr. Carlin, the address being given by the Rev. W. N. Westmore, Vicar of Hurst. Canon G. F. Coleridge, the branch chairman, presided at the business meeting, at which the officers were all re-elected. It was left to the hon. secretary to arrange monthly meetings for practice.

BIRTH.

DARVILL.—On Saturday, May 13th, at Hazeldene Nursing Home, St. Albans, to Kathleen, wife of R. W. Darvill, the gift of a son, Kenneth John.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BOURNEMOUTH. — On Sunday, April 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triple: *John Dryden 1, *Percy Brayshaw 2, Mary Davis 3, *Miss Jessie Chick 4, Andrew Pearmain 5, Mrs. F. John Marshallsay 6, Arthur V. Davis 7 John Cole 8. * First quarter-peal.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Sunday, April 16th, 1,008 Grandsire Triples: J. Smith 1, S. Bryant 2, G. W. Peverell 3, G. Hutchinson 4, J. West 5, J. Pentland 6, R. B. Robinson (conductor) 7, H. Saunderson 8.

DEEPING ST NICHOLAS.—On Wednesday, April 19th, 1,260 Bob Minor: K. Duffy 1, W. Duffy 2, H. Taylor 3, C. Perkins 4, F. Brightman 5, F. Taylor (conductor) 6. Rung half-muffled for Mr. E. Brown, a former ringer, who was buried at the above church on that day.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE. — On April 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Jackson 1, W. Schofield 2, Rev. F. F. Rigby 3, Cpl. F. Hodge (conductor) 4, A. Roberts 5, H. Davenport 6, V. Turner (first quarter inside) 7, W. Hawke 8.

GRAVESEND.—On Sunday, April 23rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. M. Mitchell 1, E. J. Beer (conductor) 2, R. E. Constant 3, J. Constant 4, G. Morrad 5, R. A. Munn 6, R. A. Constant 7, J. Burles 8.

WEST GRINSTEAD.—On April 23rd, 720 Bob Minor: V. Turrell 1, F. Turrell 2, C. Longhurst 3, R. Langridge 4, F. Ford 5, E. King (conductor) 6.

TWINEHAM.—On April 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: *Stella M. Wickens (age 12) 1, George A. Packham 2, *Basil White 3, Charles H. Wickens (conductor) 4, Frederick F. Godsmark 5. * First quarter-peal.

HENLOW, BEDS.—On Sunday, April 23rd, 1,944 Bob Minor: Wing-Comdr. V. Lister 1, A. W. Dilley 2, A. C. Sinfield 3, R. J. Sharp 4, J. Church 5, L. H. Bywaters (conductor) 6.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.—On Sunday, April 23rd, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: W. Cockings 1, W. Rawlings 2, H. Price 3, F. C. Lyne 4, C. R. Steed 5, H. Brookes 6, V. B. Hunt (conductor) 7, R. Chapman 8.

EGHAM, SURREY. — On Sunday, April 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. C. Parker 1, E. Armstrong 2, F. E. Hawthorne (conductor) 3, W. A. Goldstone 4, R. Andrews 5, W. A. Peck 6, W. Shepherd 7, J. Greenough 8.

SHOREDITCH, LONDON.—On Sunday, April 23rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Wheadon 1, D. L. Hall 2, R. Wake 3, N. Chaddock 4, A. G. Hall 5, N. Summerhayes 6, H. Hoverd (conductor) 7, J. E. Bailey 8.

BEXLEY, KENT.—On Sunday, April 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss B. Frost 1, Miss A. E. Holden 2, Mrs. J. E. Bailey 3, D. L. Hall 4, H. Hoverd 5, A. G. Hall 6, N. Chaddock (conductor) 7, H. A. Holden 8.

STEPNEY.—On Sunday, April 23rd, 1,277 Grandsire Caters: T. Langdon 1, A. C. Chaplin 2, H. Hoskins 3, Sapper T. Fox, R.E. 4, H. Langdon 5, R. Stannard 6, R. W. Green 7, A. A. Hughes 8, R. F. Deal (conductor) 9, H. Belcher 10.

SOUTHGATE.—On Sunday, April 23rd, 1,263 Stedman Caters: J. Armstrong (conductor) 1, D. Wright 2, Mrs. N. A. Tomlinson 3, W. J. Bowden 4, J. E. Miller 5, N. A. Tomlinson 6, S. Wade 7, H. Miller 8, J. G. Nash 9, S. G. Piper 10.

PULBOROUGH.—On St. George's Day, for morning service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. S. Greenfield 1, L. Stilwell 2, T. A. Doick 3, A. Holden 4, A. V. Corden 5, Cpl. T. Farr, R.A.F. (conductor) 6, A. C. Greenfield 7, F. J. Killick 8.

GRAYSHOTT.—On April 24th, 1,648 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: E. R. Coles 1, G. Williams 2, C. Hazelden 3, E. J. Munday 4, E. J. Ayliffe 5, W. T. Beeson 6, F. W. Rogers (conductor) 7, C. E. Smith 8. An attempt was made for a peal, but the bells had to be called round.

CROSTHWAITE, KESWICK.—On April 26th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: S. Grisdale (first 720) 1, Mrs. T. Wilson 2, T. Wilson 3, F. Grisdale 4, T. Hogarth (conductor) 5, J. Brownrigg 6.—On Sunday, April 30th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: R. Grisdale (first 720) 1, F. Hogarth 2, T. Wilson 3, F. Grisdale 4, J. Brownrigg 5, T. Hogarth (conductor) 6.

WALLASEY, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday, April 30th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: Miss J. Webster 1, Miss M. E. Webster 2, A. J. Webster 3, E. D. Webster 4, J. A. Webster 5, E. A. Webster (conductor) 6.

SEDBERGH.—On Sunday, April 30th 720 Bob Minor: Miss Jean Wood (first 720) 1, V. Sangar Davies 2, T. Sisson 3, J. W. Pennington 4, E. Pennington 5, G. F. Woodhouse (conductor) 6.

HIGH WYCOMBE.—On Sunday, April 30th, 1,299 Stedman Caters: Fred Hayes (conductor) 1, *L. M. Squires 2, A. T. Goodship 3, Frank West 4, Ralph Coles 5, W. H. Plumridge 6, C. A. Smith 7, *A. Newton 8, S. T. Goodchild 9, A. C. Strathdee 10. * First quarter-peal on ten.

SCULTHORPE, NORFOLK.—On April 30th, 720 Bob Minor: R. Lingwood 1, Miss J. R. Cooke 2, E. C. Cooke 3, Lieut. John Ledsham 4, G. Dye 5, George A. Cooke (conductor) 6.

HINCKLEY.—On Sunday, April 30th, 720 Bob Minor: Margaret Grewcock 1, George Thompson 2, Cyril Ison 3, Bert Ridgway 4, William Aldridge 5, Frank Trotman (conductor) 6.

CHESTER. — At St. Mary's Without, 1,344 Bob Major: J. W. Griffiths 1, Cpl. C. Cinch 2, Miss Joan Close 3, A. Close 4, H. Pye 5, G. Gerrard 6, T. Griffiths 7, P. Swindley (conductor) 8.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

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NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Meeting at Bicker, Saturday, May 20th, 2 p.m. Service 3.45, followed by tea and business. — W. A. Richardson, Hon. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Parish Church, Croydon, Saturday, May 20th. Bells (12) 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting, Sylverdale Hall.—C. de Ste C. Parks, Assist. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Meeting at Chilham, Saturday, May 20th. Bells (8) from 2.30. No tea.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. Division.—Meeting at Harlow Common, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m.—W. Wheeler, Mill Street, Harlow Common.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Next meeting, Saturday, May 20th, Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, 3 p.m. Ringing, All Saints', Poplar, 4.30. Sunday ringing, St. Dunstan's, Stepney, May 21st, 9.30 a.m.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—Meeting at Wirksworth, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Bring food. Buses leave Derby hourly, 2.5, etc.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—Meeting at N. Mymms, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. Tea at the Corner Cafe.—R. Darvill, Hon. Sec., 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Annual meeting, Saturday, May 20th. Business in Church House 2.30 p.m. Service in St. Martin's 4.30. Tea (1s.) in St. Martin's Parish Hall 5.10. Bells (8) St. Thomas', St. Martin's, St. Edmund's; (6) St. Paul's, Britford, Coombe Bissett, Wilton (1-2.15, 6-9 p.m.). — F. Ll. Edwards, Kington Magna Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch. — Meeting at Belbroughton, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. Tea at Shoes 5.15 p.m., and usual arrangements.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

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LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Annual meeting, Lincoln, Saturday, May 20th, Cathedral bells 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Meeting, Ringers' Chapel, 4 p.m. No tea.—J. Bray, Hon. Sec., Trentwood, Burton-on-Stather, Scunthorpe.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — Meeting at Newchurch, near Warrington, Saturday, May 20th, 2.30. Business 6 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton, Lancs.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Annual meeting at Faringdon, Saturday, May 20th, 2.30. Service 4.30.—R. F. J. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Annual meeting at Chelmsford, Saturday, May 27th, 2 p.m. Service in Cathedral 3.30 p.m. Meeting 4 p.m. Tea, Cannon's Restaurant after meeting. Notify for tea. Great Baddow (8), Springfield (6) in evening.—L. J. Clark, Hon. Sec., Southdene, Petersfield Lane, Gosfield, near Halstead.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Annual meeting at Howden, Saturday, May 27th, 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 2s. 6d. Names to Mr. J. W. Thompson, 16, Northolmby Street, Howden, by May 24th. Business meeting after tea.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Cross-Stone, Todmorden, Saturday, May 27th. Bring food; cups of tea provided.—I. Kay, Branch Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern Division.—Meeting at Bennington, Saturday, May 27th, 3 p.m. Business meeting. Bring food. Bus from Ware Station 2 p.m. — G. Radley, 18, Macer's Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch.—Meeting at Haslingden, May 27th, 3 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., in School. Business 6 p.m. Names to Mr. J. Taylor, 18, Ryefield Avenue, West, Haslingden, Rossendale, Lancashire, by May 24th.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport and Bowdon Branch.—Meeting at Mottram, Saturday, May 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Bring food. — T. Wilde, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Branch. — Annual meeting, Kirtlington, Saturday, May 27th. Short meeting in belfry 6 p.m., followed by ringing. — F. Sharpe, Hon. Sec., Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Axbridge Deanery.—Meeting at Blagdon, Saturday, May 27th. Bells (8) 6.30 p.m. to 9 p.m.—E. J. Avery, Hon. Local Sec., Sandford, Bristol.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Guiseley, Saturday, May 27th, 3 p.m. Business in tower 7 p.m. Tea can be obtained near church. — H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Oswaldtwistle, Saturday, May 27th, 2.30 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. Bring food.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Bristol Rural Branch.—Meeting at Alveston, Saturday, May 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—Meeting at Wilden, Saturday, May 27th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Bring food.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., Bromham, Bedford.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.—Bells (12). Practice, May 27th, 6.30-8.30 p.m. Sunday ringing, 10.15-11 and 5.55-6.30 p.m.—Ralph Coles, 27, Priory Road, High Wycombe.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Annual meeting at Irthlingborough on Whit Monday. Committee meeting 2.45. Service 3.30. Tea and business in Wesley Hall 4.30. Names by May 20th. Business after tea. Bells: Irthlingborough 11 a.m.; Finedon 11 to 12.30 and 6.30 to 8; Wellingborough 11 to 12.30 and 7 to 8; Higham Ferrers after tea.—R. G. Black, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

TICKHILL, YORKS. — Bells (8). Ringing, Whit Monday, 3.15. No tea arrangements.—Arnold Hill, 24, Elms Road, Worksop, Notts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton-on-Trent and Derby Districts.—Meeting at Tickhill on Whit Monday, May 29th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided. Important business.—W. Lancaster and J. Cotton, Hon. Secs.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival, Stockport, St. George, Saturday, June 3rd, 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Tickets for tea 1s. 6d., until May 27th, from branch secretaries or H. Parker, 64, Church Road, Northwich.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Bucks Branch.—Annual meeting at Newport Pagnell, Saturday, June 3rd, 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30, followed by tea and meeting in Church House. Names by May 29th.—R. H. Howson, Hon. Sec., 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bletchley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby and Nottingham District. — Joint meeting at Sawley, Saturday, June 3rd, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., 1s. 3d. each. Names to Mr. C. Hutchinson, 3, Wilmot Street, New Sawley, Long Eaton, Notts, by Monday, May 29th.—W. Lancaster and T. Groombridge, jun., Hon. Dis. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District. — Meeting at Sundridge, Saturday, June 3rd, 2 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea, 5 p.m., at Beechcroft. Names to Miss B. Richardson, Beechcroft, Sundridge, Sevenoaks, by May 30th.—T. Saunders, Hon. Dis. Sec.

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