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FRIDAY, APRIL 19th, 1940.

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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

In our last issue we referred to the falling-off of membership experienced by some of the leading associations, as revealed by the reports just published. This reduction, as we pointed out, is somewhat disturbing, and cannot be dismissed as of no importance, even in present conditions, but by contrast the same reports have revealed most encouraging indications of the determination of the associations to carry on their work which, at the outbreak of war, seemed likely to collapse entirely. On every hand towers have given evidence of a supreme effort to 'carry on,' and this is reflected in the endeavours of the associations, not only to keep their organisation alive, but to maintain their activities at a level which a few months ago seemed out of the question. Some may find themselves compelled to carry on with a reduced income, but while there is the will to continue, ways and means will not be found lacking.

The Central Council meeting, as our readers already know, is not to be held this year, but note will probably be made of the resolution of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, urging the Council to continue its full activity during the war. It is, of course, too late to alter the decision of the Standing Committee to abandon this year's meeting, and the future is too uncertain to decide anything about next year. The Gloucester and Bristol Association's resolution does not, of course, complain of the decision with regard to the Cardiff meeting, but it must be admitted that in face of local feeling in the matter it would not have been easy to go on with the arrangements. Everything, naturally, depends on the course of the war, but if the associations express the view, as the Gloucester and Bristol Association has done, that the Council's full activities should be continued, the Standing Committee, which has to decide the question, short of a vote of all the members, will have to give due weight to the opinions expressed. That the Council will watch the interests of church bellringing, whatever may happen in regard to its annual meeting, is, we think, beyond question. Its committees will continue to function, and the officers of the Council will continue to watch as vigilantly as ever for any development which may adversely affect ringing in the present or future.

The Gloucester and Bristol Association's resolution was not untimely, however. It is well that the Council should know what the affiliated societies think on this matter, and it is helpful to have the assurance at such a time that continued activity by the Council will be welcomed, and not be the subject of adverse criticism. It is idle to speculate upon what may happen before another year has

(Continued on page 182.)

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passed away, but if the associations who send members to the Council will intimate their wishes, as the Gloucester and Bristol Association has done, it would be an encouragement to the Council to sustain the work, which might easily, and perhaps with some justification, otherwise be allowed to lapse.

TEN BELL PEAL.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 6, 1940, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt. in E flat.

WILFRED WILLIAMS Treble	† GEORGE W. CECIL 6
MISS GWENDOLINE KIPPIN ... 2	FRANK E. DARBY 7
* GEORGE W. MASSEY 3	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... 8
† ARTHUR W. JONES 4	DANIEL COOPER 9
MRS. CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... Tenor

Composed by FREDK. DENCH. Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Cambridge Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BARWELL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 6, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE A. NEWTON Treble	WILLIAM NEWTON 5
PTE. T. C. BELTON 2	ALFRED BALLARD 6
* GEORGE H. PEERS, JUN. ... 3	FRANK K. MEASURES 7
E. HARRY STONELY 4	* HARRY ENGLAND Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.
* First peal. Specially arranged for Pte. T. C. Belton, who was home on leave. A birthday compliment to Mrs. Ballard, of Stoncy Stanton.

READING, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, April 10, 1940, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES:

ALBAN R. POYNIZ Treble	EDGAR HUMFREY 5
RICHARD T. HIBBERT 2	PERCY J. DYKE 6
HARRY W. SMITH 3	ALBERT DISBRENS 7
DONALD W. NASH 4	WILLIAM HIBBERT Tenor

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD. Conducted by W. HIBBERT.

MORTIMER, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 13, 1940, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

* MISS JOYCE O. COTTRELL Treble	RONALD F. KINGHAM ... 5
WILLIAM HIBBERT 2	DONALD W. NASH 6
RICHARD T. HIBBERT ... 3	† ERNEST J. GOWER ... 7
CHARLES W. MUNDAY ... 4	PERCY J. DYKE Tenor

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.
* First peal of Triples. † First peal of Triples away from tenor.

EWHURST, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 11 cwt.

JAMES R. MACKMAN Treble	ERNEST J. AVLIFFE 5
WILLIAM T. BRISON 2	GEORGE L. GROVER 6
ERNEST J. MUNDAY 3	C. ERNEST SMITH 7
WILLIAM F. J. COPE 4	WILLIAM DENYER Tenor

Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.
First peal on the bells since being augmented to eight in July, 1938.

**BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, April 13, 1940, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM T. FORRESTER ... <i>Treble</i>	HARRY TURNER 5
ERNEST W. FURBANK 2	ROBERT C. HEAZEL 6
ERIC B. HARTLEY 3	FRANK B. LUFKIN 7
REGINALD W. DARVILL 4	EDWARD D. SMITH <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by GEO. H. CROSS, Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.
First peal of New Cambridge by all the band.

**POOLSTOCK, WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, April 13, 1940, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

*ALBERT PARKER... .. <i>Treble</i>	JAMES W. GROUNDS 5
*GEORGE B. JACKSON 2	SIDNEY FORSHAW 6
ALAN CARPENTRY 3	*WILLIAM O. FARRIMOND 7
JOHN BOOTH 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD
* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS.

HALSALL, LANCS.

On Saturday, March 30, 1940, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Woodbine Treble Bob, Plain Bob and Oxford Bob, and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

*E. HAYTON <i>Treble</i>	W. MORE 4
T. PRESCOTT 2	*W. STAFFORTH 5
†H. SERGEANT, JUN. 3	A. MAWDSLEY <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by A. MAWDSLEY.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' Rung for the wedding of Second-Lieut. C. E. L. Mother, eldest son of the Rector of Halsall.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD, NOTTS.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 6, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Double Court, and two each of Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

*JACK GINEVER <i>Treble</i>	RALPH PARTRIDGE 4
JACK BLEBY... .. 2	FRANK BRADLEY 5
COLIN EVANS 3	CLIFFORD BLEBY <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by CLIFFORD BLEBY.

* First peal and first attempt. Rung as a farewell to two ringers, W. Stocks and P. Eastland, who have joined H.M. Forces, and to the ringer of the third, who is joining the Navy.

CORFE MULLEN, WIMBORNE, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HUBERT,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four 720's of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

CPL. P. H. TOCOK, R.T.C. <i>Treble</i>	LOUIS J. LOCKYER 4
MRS. F. JOHN MARSHALLSAY 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE 5
WILLIAM STORY 3	ARTHUR V. DAVIS <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by WILLIAM C. SHUTE.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Story, J.P., of Newcastle.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 6, 1940, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in eleven methods: (1) Willesden and College Bob IV. Delight; (2) Newdigate and Old Oxford Delight; (3) Wragby and St. Albans Delight; (4) Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob; (5) London Scholars' Pleasure and Oxford Treble Bob; (6) Capel and Oxford Treble Bob; (7) Sandal and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

EDNA M. P. FETHERS ... <i>Treble</i>	JAMES A. MILNER 4
*J. ANTHONY BEAUMONT ... 2	*CHARLES W. LAWTON 5
REV. FRANK BONNER ... 3	JOHN WORTH <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in 11 methods. Rung for the wedding of Robert Ian Bruce Walker-Patchett and Miss Pamela Crick, which took place at Disley, Cheshire, on the same day.

FULMER, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, April 10, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Norwich, Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge and Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

WILLIAM L. GUTTERIDGE <i>Treble</i>	REV. R. F. R. ROUTH 4
*DOROTHY R. FLETCHER ... 2	*GEORGE GUTTERIDGE... .. 5
KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER ... 3	HARRY WINGROVE <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

* 100th peal.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 13, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

ERNEST TREAGUS... .. <i>Treble</i>	ALBERT E. LAKER 4
FREDERICK ROBERTS 2	CRCIL LONGHURST 5
EDGAR RAPLEY 3	ALBERT J. STEELE <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ALBERT J. STEELE.

HANDBELL PEAL.

FELSTEAD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 11, 1940, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT SACKFORDS, MOLEHILL GREEN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

*SIDNEY BROWN 1-2	CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY 5-6
BASIL REDGWELL 3-4	ALBERT E. AUSTIN 7-8

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

* Elected a member of the association before starting.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT NORTON-LE-MOORS.

On Saturday, April 6th, a meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Norton-le-Moors, when members were present from nine towers.

Tea was served in the Church Hall, and the Rector welcomed the visitors, saying that it was good to see the ringers sticking to their towers, and though many of them would be called to serve in the Forces, he hoped they would be able to carry on. They should remember that the work at the west end of the church was just as important as that at the east end.

The ringing was of a high standard, and the methods rung included Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent, and Wells, London and York Surprise.

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CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. JOHN'S, WATERLOO ROAD.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

The visitor to London who arrives at Waterloo is almost certain to notice, as he turns down the slope out of the railway station, a church steeple that rises above the roofs of Waterloo Road. Probably he will not give it a second thought, for there is nothing remarkable or beautiful about it, but for the ringer it has a special interest as the home of a ring of bells which has played a considerable part in the history of London peal ringing.

After the great war with France, which ended with the defeat of the Emperor Napoleon in 1815, Parliament voted a considerable sum of money for the erection of new churches in various places, and about eight of these churches were built in new districts which had grown up round London.

In providing this money, Parliament was following the precedent set in Queen Anne's reign after the great victories won by the Duke of Marlborough; but whereas in the earlier time there were several gifted architects who designed buildings of outstanding merit, when the later group was erected the English classic style of church architecture was dying, and the churches built were poor and commonplace.

St. John's was no exception. It has a heavy portico, and a tower and spire above it, which do not make a happy combination.

The cause was not lack of money. The church and steeple were well built, and a ring of eight bells with a tenor of 18 cwt. was supplied by the Whitechapel Foundry. The style of the building necessitated a rather small tower, and the eight bells had to be hung in two tiers. The frame probably was put in the tower while it was being erected, and actually a third tier was included with pits for two more bells, though for some reason or other they were never hung.

A steeplekeeper's job in a tower like this is anything but an easy one, and there are two other South London towers—St. Peter's, Walworth, and St. John's, Horsleydown—where it is even worse.

St. John's was finished in 1823, the cost being over £18,000, which is equivalent to at least twice that amount to-day. The first peal on the bells was rung by the College Youths on October 24th, 1825, and was one of Oxford Treble Bob Major, conducted by John Cooper, who at the time was the leading man in the society.

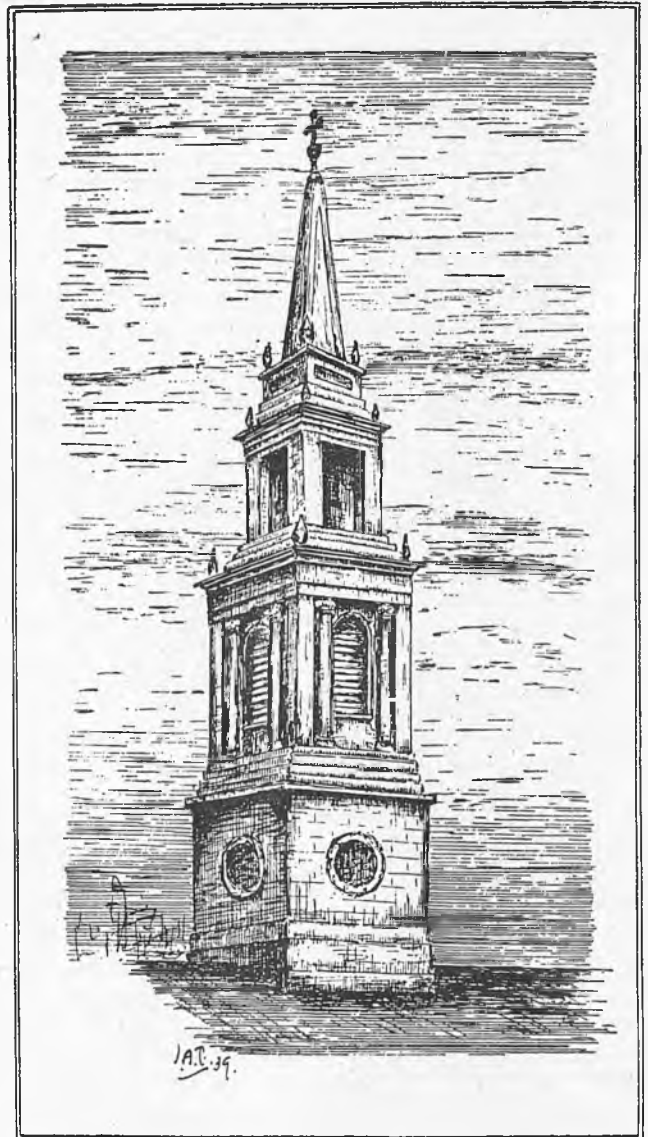
Ringling generally in London was then at a low ebb, and it was nearly two years before the next peal was rung. This was Grandsire Triples, by a mixed band who called themselves a 'Friendly Society.' The conductor was William Atherton, who was at the time calling peals of Grandsire with various bands. Thomas Tolladay rang the seventh.

The St. James' Society rang peals, also of Grandsire Triples, in 1856 and 1868, and in the latter year the Waterloo Society was founded. It seems to have been started by a number of men who were dissatisfied with the apathy which had overtaken most of the older companies.

The new society rang their first peal, Holt's ten-part, on June 12th, 1869. William Baron was the conductor, and John Cox, George Newson and George Stockham were in the band.

The Waterloo Society lasted for about thirty years and

filled a useful place in the London Exercise. A regular practice meeting was held at St. John's, and a number of peals of Grandsire, Stedman and Treble Bob were rung there and at other towers, including Holt's Original, non-conducted, on June 4th, 1898. The headquarters were eventually moved to St. John's, Vassall Road, Kennington, and shortly afterwards the whole thing faded away.



ST. JOHN'S, WATERLOO ROAD.

It was in the years between 1900 and the outbreak of the Great War that St. John's, Waterloo Road, figured most as a peal-ringing tower. The band was an informal one, under the leadership of Mr. James E. Davis and Mr. Frank Bennett. A large number of peals were scored in the standard Surprise methods, and also peals of New Cumberland Surprise, Brighton Surprise, Waterloo Reverse Bob, Forward and Duffield. That was in the days before peal ringing in new methods was a fairly common thing.

On the Wednesday after the war started the ringers met as usual, but a message came from the Vicar, saying

(Continued on next page.)

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING AT DUDLEY.

The annual meeting of the Dudley Guild was held at Dudley on April 6th. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Ven. Dr. Sheppard, Archdeacon of Dudley, who gave a very interesting address. Owing to the meeting being postponed on account of the death of the secretary, there was not the usual number of ringers present. At the meeting after the tea the president (Dr. Sheppard) was in the chair, and the election of officers took place. All the vice-presidents were re-elected, with the exception of Dr. Blaker, who has left the district, and Mr. Temple was elected in his place. The Ringing Master, Mr. W. Farley, was re-elected, with Mr. J. Goodman as secretary and Mr. H. Shuck as hon. treasurer.

The Chairman spoke of the very thorough way in which the late Mr. Sheppard had done his work, and asked the members to stand in silence for a few moments.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for his beautiful address, for presiding at the meeting, and for the use of the School Hall; to the organist for the musical part of the service; to the ladies who looked after the tea; and to all the officers for their work during the past year. The next quarterly meeting will be held at Enville, subject to the usual arrangements.

EASTER DATE TOUCH.

On Easter Sunday at Rettendon, Essex, for morning service, a date touch of Minor and Doubles (1,940 changes) was rung in 1 hour and 2 minutes in the following methods: 720 of Plain Bob, 504 Oxford Treble Bob, 288 Kent Treble Bob, 288 Woodbine Treble Bob and 140 of Grandsire Doubles: Frank C. May 1, Harry Jay 2, Gerald Frost 3, Roy Wheston 4, Charles Jay 5, Frank S. Jay 6. Arranged and conducted by Frank C. May.

ST. JOHN'S, WATERLOO ROAD.

(Continued from previous page.)

that he would rather they did not ring until peace came again. So the bells were left up for four years, and when they were pulled off once more they were half full of dirty water.

Two or three more peals were rung on them, and then the tenor gudgeon broke. That meant silence for several years, but Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have since rehung them, and they are now in first-class ringing order.

**FALSE COURSE ENDS.
AND THE NEW SURPRISE MAJOR BOOK.**

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am afraid that I do not know what 'being personal' means. I think that it must be a stand-by for the man who has a weak case, and knows it. I do know that I have never had the impudence to back argument by saying that Mr. Trollope is 'impertinent'; nor have I had the effrontery to imply that he is 'low down.' These are the prerogative of a writer who cannot answer specific points of criticism.

I do wonder what the writer of the original article will do when he reads that I have criticised on 'guesswork.' Will he explain why he bracketed the new book with his article, when (as Mr. Trollope would imply) the essential explanations due to your readers are not there?

Whether a Treble Bob method is false or not does not depend 'solely' on the reasons quoted by Mr. Trollope in his second paragraph, but I agree with Mr. Trollope as to the 'long run'—an understatement I should call it a marathon!

Contradicting me in 1935, Mr. Trollope said that he had never recommended 'old style' proof to anyone (although the book was already written). Well, here you are offered a system where you write out the plain course by transposition, instead of writing it out as they did when the 'Clavis' was printed. If this is not what the article said, I cannot read! And if it is 'new style' enough for Mr. Trollope, I regret that Council publications cannot be designed to lead those 'ringers of average intelligence' to the shorter and less boring paths, especially the younger ones, in these modern days of counter-attractions.

I am afraid that my grievance does lie where Mr. Trollope puts it. But I believe that our work is an advancement, and, as Mr. Trollope says, it has not been sufficiently appreciated. More, it has never been examined by those whose responsibility should be to obtain, for the Exercise, only the best, since the Exercise is paying the piper.

Let me repeat what Mr. Trollope said in his letter: 'The system does fulfil . . . and, I am sure, better than any other can.' The emphasis is mine, and the operative words are 'I am sure.' That is all that matters—Mr. Trollope is sure!

G. L. JOYCE.

Hilltop, Hornchurch.

WOOLWICH.—On April 6th, at the Church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Miss L. H. Aldridge 1, J. E. Lyddiard 2, R. Johnson 3, Jim Hurrell 4, C. Mouncher 5, F. E. Fogden 6, B. W. Aldridge (conductor) 7, F. Hurrell 8. Rung for the induction of the Rev. C. K. N. Bardsley as Rector of Woolwich.

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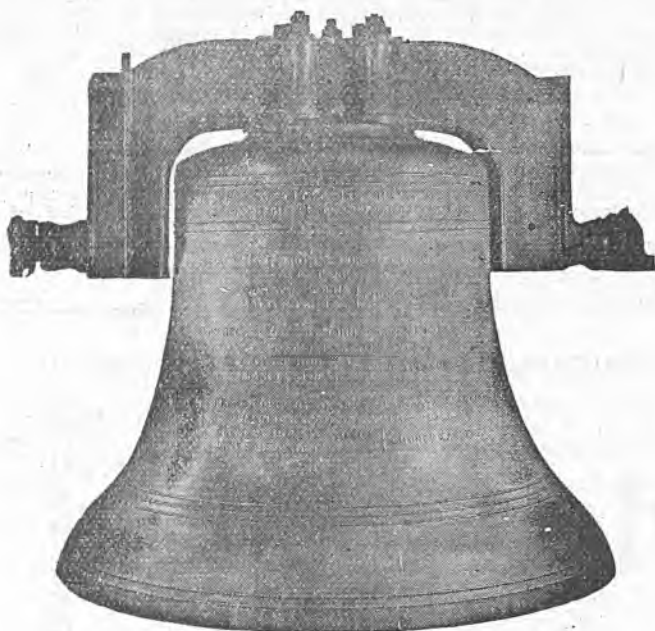
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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Last Saturday, a peal of Cambridge Major was arranged as a birthday compliment to the Rev. R. F. R. Routh, but after two parts had been rung the clapper of the 7th fell out. A 720 of Cambridge Minor was then rung on 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8.

On April 21st, 1888, 10,304 changes of Bob Major were rung at St. Margaret's, Leiston, by a band of bachelors, whose average age was 21 years. James Motts conducted from the treble, his brother William rang the fifth and Mr. Fred Tillet rang the tenor. Three of the band, Messrs. Tillet, H. Button, and R. W. Stannard, of Barking, are still alive.

Mr. William Hewett writes that he hardly agrees with our remark that Shipway's Superlative Royal is 'poor stuff.' Some five or six years ago the St. Margaret's, Westminster, band rang it—some touches and a 1,440—and would have rung a peal if the bells had been in good enough order. 'Though the music is different to coursing methods,' says Mr. Hewett, 'it has some good positions of the back bells at times, which we don't hear often.'

We regret to learn that on April 8th a terrible accident happened to Mr. Frank Barrowclough, one of the St. Mark's, Worsley, ringers. He fell from an overhead crane and sustained severe injuries to shoulder and head; both his arms and his thigh were broken, and one arm has had to be amputated. He is now in the Salford Royal Hospital and his many friends are hoping for the best.

THE LATE SAMUEL SLATER.

BOOKS PRESENTED TO IPSWICH LIBRARY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am writing to you to let you know that I have sent to the Central Library, Northgate Street, Ipswich, the following books and papers compiled and collected by Samuel Slater: 'Clavis Campanologia' in 'Bell News' reprint, 1895; 'History of Change Ringing in Suffolk,' two volumes; copy of Cumberlands' name book; copy of Peal Book, Romford, Essex; collection of views of Suffolk churches, woodcuts and engravings; an original Shipway 'Art of Ringing'; Sottanstell's 'Art of Ringing'; list of peals rung by Ely Diocesan Association, 1895-1904; Norwich Diocesan Association reports, 1877 to 1930 inclusive; an account of the Union Scholars, by Robert Tuke; 'Bells and Belfries,' by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe; copy of Oxford Diocesan Guild Peal Book, first 520 peals, 1881 to 1894; and Snowdon's 'Grandsire.'

I am sending you these particulars for publication so as to let ringers know what has become of Samuel Slater's life work.

THEODORE E. SLATER.

BEGINNING YOUNG.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In connection with the paragraphs in recent issues of 'The Ringing World,' it may be of interest to your readers to know that my daughter, Stella Wickens, aged 8 years and 9 months, can ring Grandsire Doubles on 1-2 in hand while I ring 3-4-5 after only a month's practice.

We have to borrow our handbells from Twineham Church, so if any of your readers have a set they want to give away or sell cheap they might think of us.

CHARLES H. WICKENS.

2, North View, Blackstone, Henfield, Sussex.

THE CURFEW AT PENSURST, KENT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Penshurst (still very old-fashioned) hangs on to some old customs. One of them is the ringing of the curfew from Michaelmas to Lady Day. On the last night of this term 1939-1940, owing to the early introduction of summer time and the fact that the west door opens into the belfry, the curfew was rung without the aid of artificial light.

G. EDWARDS.

AN INVITATION FROM AMESBURY.

To the Editor.

Sir,—As I think there must be some ringers serving with His Majesty's Forces at Larkhill and Bulford, I would like to say that they will be welcomed at Amesbury Parish Church, which is within easy walking distance of both these camps. There is a good ring of six—tenor 22 cwt. Please communicate with me at 5, Belmont Villas, Durrington, or just come at 10.15 a.m. or 5.15 p.m.

J. H. TELFORD.

CAMBRIDGE MAXIMUS AT SOUTHWARK.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am obliged to Mr. Roberts for correcting me about the first peal of Cambridge Maximus at St. Saviour's, Southwark. The peal which I thought was the first in the method on the bells was really the first of Cambridge Maximus at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

THE LATE MR. W. D. SMITH.

FUNERAL AT ILFORD.

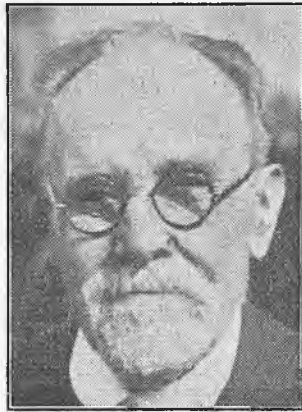
Representative members of the Ancient Society of College Youths attended the funeral of the late Mr. William D. Smith, whose death at the age of 82 years was recorded in our last issue. Mr. Smith was three times Master of the society, which he joined in the year 1878. He was one of the oldest members of the society and one of the first members of the Central Council.

The death of Mr. Smith terminates a long family connection with ringing, for he was the third generation to be associated with the art at St. John's, Hackney, and through his grandfather he formed a link with ringing over a hundred and fifty years ago.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, April 10th, at the City of London Cemetery, Little Ilford, where the deceased was laid to rest in the family grave. In addition to the family mourners, members of the College Youths present included the Master (Mr. Ernest G. Fenn), the hon. secretary (Mr. A. B. Peck), Mr. E. Alexander Young, Mr. Rowland Fenn, Mr. R. Stanard, Mr. Harry Hoskins, Mr. Herbert Langdon, Mr. T. H. Taffender and Mr. E. P. Duffield.

A course of Stedman Triples was rung over the grave by H. Langdon 1-2, T. H. Taffender 3-4, E. P. Duffield 5-6, and A. B. Peck 7-8.

Besides the flowers from the family and personal friends, wreaths were sent by the Central Council, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lewis, Mr. G. W. Fletcher and Mrs. Fletcher, Mr. James Parker and Mrs. Parker, Major J. H. B. Hesse, and Mr. W. S. B. Northover, of Bridport.



THE LATE MR. W. D. SMITH.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HURSLEY.

By kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. R. Husband, a quarterly meeting of the Winchester District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Hursley on Saturday, April 6th, when there was an excellent attendance, no less than 17 different towers being represented, and the bells were kept going in a variety of methods from 2.30 till 7 o'clock.

Although feeling far from well (he was only just recovering from an attack of influenza), the Vicar conducted the Guild service, and in his short and helpful address welcomed members to the church.

Tea was served in the Club Room, the catering arrangements being in the capable hands of Mrs. Hunt.

The business meeting followed, and in the absence of the district chairman (the Rev. N. C. Woods, from whom a letter of apology was read), it was presided over by Mr. George Williams (Master of the Guild), supported by the district secretary (Mr. W. G. Goodchild). The Chairman said how pleased he was to see such a good company, and extended a hearty welcome to all, particularly to those members of H.M. Forces, of whom several were present. Four new ringing members were elected, namely, H. Jones and W. Bark, Hursley; G. Arrowsmith, Wonston, and J. W. E. Dunn, King's Somborne.

Mr. Andrews, on behalf of all present, expressed the hope that the Vicar would soon recover his good health, and thanked him for taking the service and for use of the bells. Thanks were also accorded to the organist, Mr. Smith, and to Mrs. Hunt and her helpers for arranging tea.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

MEETING AT WILLENHALL.

A successful meeting was held at Willenhall on April 6th, when upwards of 40 members and friends assembled from Bradley, Brewood, Codsall, Coseley, Coventry, Darlston, Penn, Stafford, Tettenhall, Trysull, Walsall, West Bromwich, Willenhall and Wolverhampton.

The service was conducted by the Rev. R. N. Harper Holdcroft, curate-in-charge, and the Rev. A. E. Sargent delivered an excellent address, while the Rev. C. H. Barker, clerical secretary and treasurer, presided at the organ. A capital tea was laid in the Church Institute, at which the Rev. R. N. Harper Holdcroft presided, supported by the Revs. A. F. Sargent and C. H. Barker, etc. The Chairman expressed his pleasure at seeing such a good company, and gave them a hearty welcome. A vote of thanks was passed to the clergy for their part in the proceedings, to which they replied in happy vein; and to the ladies who served the tea, to which Mr. C. Wallater replied.

The annual meeting is arranged to take place at Lichfield on June 22nd.

A return to the tower for further ringing brought to an end a happy and successful meeting.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE INFLUENCE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

A meeting of the Stockport Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday at Bowdon, when some 28 members and friends were present. The bells were set going early in the afternoon to various methods, and several good touches were rung before service in church at 4.30. This was conducted by the curate, the Rev. J. W. Hollingshead, who gave a very interesting address, speaking from the text, 'I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help.' He said that what the world was in need of, to-day more than at any other time, was that 'upward glance.' In these days when men are asking, 'Is this the end of our civilisation?' they turn to the Church for guidance, and what can the Church offer them? He thought it could be summed up in the phrase, 'In God have I put my trust I will not fear what man can do unto me.' Another question which is very often asked in these days is 'Why does God not stop the war?' That is, of course, a question which would not be asked if a little thought was taken for, if God gives man the blessing of free-will and man misuses His gift, then man must ask himself why does he allow himself to fight and to make wars? If the Gospel of Christ was carried out by all men war would be impossible, and it is our duty to work until all the world becomes Christian. In this respect he said that the bells could have a far wider effect than any preacher as they reached the ears of thousands whereas most preachers only had the opportunity to reach hundreds. He was very glad indeed that on the previous Wednesday evening, as he and his bride, who had been married a few hours before at Harrow, arrived at their new home in Bowdon, the very first sound which met their ears was the sound of a peal of welcome being rung on the bells of the Parish Church.

Tea followed in the nearby schools, when all enjoyed a most excellent meal which seemed to belie the fact that there really is a scheme of rationing in action. The business meeting was presided over by Mr. Charles Edwards in the absence of both the chairman and vice-chairman of the branch. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. W. W. Wolstencroft, the Disley band, and Mr. D. Vincent. One new member, Mr. H. Nuttall, of Stockport St. Mary, was elected, and it was decided to send a letter of congratulation to the Rev. A. J. Humphreys, the Vicar of Norbury, on his appointment as Honorary Canon of Chester Cathedral.

A resolution was unanimously passed instructing the secretary to write to the Editor of 'The Ringing World' congratulating him on having reached the 1,500th article, and expressing the hope that he will be able to contribute many more. Several members spoke of the profound influence which the leading articles have had on ringing and compared the very high standard of the present journal with its predecessor. As one of the speakers said, the most effective method of showing appreciation of the service given to ringing was by increasing the circulation and at the same time by so doing they would be helping themselves.

A resolution was passed to cover the eventuality of the secretary's being called up for military service, as this was quite likely to occur before the next meeting. Votes of thanks were extended to the curate for his services, the wardens, the ladies who looked after the tea, the local ringers for having everything in readiness, and to the organist, without whom the service would not have been so bright.

Further ringing then took place on the bells until about 8.15, when the bells were lowered in peal.

THE SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT GLASGOW.

The annual meeting of the Scottish Association was held at St. Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, on Saturday, April 6th. It was the first meeting to be held since the outbreak of war, and, despite transport difficulties, 30 members attended. Ringing commenced at 2.30, and Grandsire and Stedman Caters were rung, with Triples for the beginners.

The service was conducted by the Provost of the Cathedral (the Very Rev. J. G. Murray), and a young member of the association (Mr. A. R. Smith) acted as organist.

At the business meeting it was decided to hold more meetings, the extra meetings to take the form of practices for more advanced methods and to give beginners the opportunity to practice with more experienced ringers.

After the meeting the bells were kept going till almost black-out time. Touches of Treble Bob Royal and Stedman Caters and a good course of Cambridge were rung.

DEATH OF MR. H. JARMAN, OF OSWESTRY.

We regret to announce the passing of Mr. Harry Jarman, a member of Oswestry Parish Church tower for 50 years, who died on Easter Day, aged 71 years. He was a native of Welshpool, where he learned to ring, and on removing to Oswestry in 1890 he joined both the helfry and the choir. He took part in about 20 peals, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major, and was an efficient handbell tune player. At the funeral on March 28th, four members of the choir acted as bearers, while the bells were rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to a very lovable character.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION VISITS EPPING.

After a lapse of 14 years, the South-Western Division of the Essex Association paid a visit to the beautiful Church of St. John, Epping, for a district meeting, and about 70 members and friends, including visitors from Twyford, Berks, and Beckenham, Kent, took the opportunity of ringing on this excellent ring of eight bells.

Ringling began at 3 p.m. and continued until 4.45, when the company attended a service, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. C. B. Mortlock, which included a rendering, by a member of St. John's choir, of the baritone solo, 'Lord God of Abraham,' from Mendelssohn's 'Elijah.' A collection for the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to 17s. 4d.

After the service, tea, kindly provided by the members of St. John's, was served in the Church Hall and was much appreciated by all.

At the business meeting which followed, the Vicar occupied the chair, supported by the District Master, Mr. J. Chalk. The Master said that since the last meeting two most loyal members of the district, Mr. A. Pye, of Romford, and Mr. H. James, of South Weald, had passed away. He also spoke of the loss sustained through the death of Mr. C. H. Howard, of Braintree, who, perhaps, had done more for the welfare of the association than any other ringer, and asked the company to stand for a moment in silence as a token of respect to these three members.

The Rev. C. B. Mortlock was elected an honorary member of the association, and 18 ringing members, including five of the local band, were also elected. The place of the next meeting was entrusted to the secretary, who announced that he hoped to arrange one at Stanford-le-Hope some time in June.

Mr. G. L. Joyce made a short statement with regard to the re-drafting of the rules, saying that the General Committee had met and approved a draft, which would be put to the annual meeting at Chelmsford on Whit Monday for the members' approval.

Mr. Chalk then stated he had received a message from Mr. G. B. Lucas, who unfortunately could not be with them owing to illness, wishing the meeting every success, and he asked Mr. C. T. Coles, the bearer of the message, to convey to Mr. Lucas the good wishes of all present, and hoped that very soon they would once again see him in their midst.

Mr. Coles moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the very warm welcome he had extended to all for conducting the service, which, in his opinion, was one of the most delightful he had attended at a ringers' meeting, and for his very interesting address, and to the organist and choir, with a special word of thanks to the soloist. He congratulated the ringers of St. John's on their enthusiasm and noted with great pleasure that the curate, the Rev. J. T. H. Hare, was one of the band elected to the association on that day, and thanked them for having everything in readiness. He ended with a word of appreciation to the ladies who had been responsible for providing the tea and making them all so comfortable. This was carried with much applause.

In reply, the Vicar thanked Mr. Coles and stated that for many years very little ringing had been done in Epping, and he was naturally delighted to hear once again the bells ringing regularly every Sunday, although it seemed odd that an upheaval in Europe should have been one of the chief reasons of bringing this about. He paid tribute to Mr. Shayler, the towerkeeper, and Mr. Morris, of the North Weald band, for their loyalty and patience in the teaching of new recruits, and ended by saying how pleased he was to see such a large gathering and expressed the hope the day would not be far off before they decided to come to Epping again.

The tower was then revisited, when the bells were kept going until 9 p.m. in various methods ranging from Grandsire to Bristol Surprise.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT BOLSOVER.

A very enjoyable meeting of the Chesterfield District was held at Bolsover Parish Church on Saturday, March 30th, when members turned up from various towers in and out of the district to the number of 26, and several visitors were present, including Mr. Dean from Stoke, Mr. J. Brothwell from Rotherham, and Mr. Tom Bettison. Mr. Herbert Chaddock, of Sheffield, was elected a non-resident member. Clay Cross was suggested as a possible place for the next meeting at a date to be arranged as convenient.

Mr. J. Flint explained the difficulties now being experienced in arranging for catering, and his remarks were fully appreciated by everyone.

Mr. W. Palmer proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for granting the use of the bells, and to Mr. Flint and his band for having everything in readiness.

Methods rung afterwards ranged from Bob Minor to Stedman Triples and various Major methods, with rounds for several learners.

AUGHTON, LANCS.—At Christ Church on Sunday, April 7th, for evensong, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Grandsire Triples in 45 minutes: S. Flint 1, J. Marsh 2, J. Taylor 3, J. N. Brown (conductor) 4, J. Lunham 5, W. Deacon (first in the method) 6, J. E. Wilson 7, W. Gibbons 8. The monthly quarter-peal rung at this tower for visitors from Liverpool.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT QUEENSBURY.

The Western Division of the Yorkshire Association held a most successful annual meeting at Holy Trinity Church, Queensbury, on Saturday, April 6th, when upwards of fifty members attended from a wide area. Being favoured with splendid weather, all were able to enjoy some real Yorkshire fresh air, as Queensbury is situated very high—in fact, it is one of the highest points in the district. The bells, a delightful ring of eight, were on the move very early in the afternoon, and except for brief intervals for tea and the business meeting were kept fully employed until long after black-out time. The methods ranged from Plain Bob to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, and the standard of striking was said to have been exceedingly good when one considered the bands were very mixed.

A splendid tea was served in the Co-operative Cafe, at which 42 members sat down, and this was followed by the business meeting held in the Church Schools with the vice-president (Mr. P. J. Johnson) in the chair.

The Ringing Master, Mr. T. W. Strangeway, and the three retiring committee members, Messrs. F. W. Dixon, J. Hardcastle and J. Cooper, were all elected for a further term of three years, no new nominations having been received.

The Chairman, in voicing the thanks of the members to the Vicar and churchwardens for kindly inviting the association to Queensbury, and to the local company for their splendid arrangements, said how pleased he was to see such good work being carried on. Their tower was one of the brightest spots in a rather dark period. When most towers were having great difficulty in carrying on with their work, the ringers at Queensbury seemed to be going on from strength to strength, and under the guidance of Mr. William Ambler and Mr. Whiteley were more than holding their own in these difficult times. He wished that other towers would endeavour to emulate the fine example.

Mr. Craven, one of the churchwardens, in replying, expressed his pleasure at seeing such a representative gathering at their meeting. It seemed to him a long time since the association had visited them, almost nine years ago, and he hoped that the next interval would not be so long. He was sure the Vicar would be delighted to hear of the success of the meeting, and he would pass on to him the kind expressions voiced by the chairman.

THE MARCH OF TIME.

Mr. Whiteley, the senior member of the local company, also expressed the company's pleasure at the gathering and said how pleased they would be to welcome the association to Queensbury whenever it was convenient. If ever the association were in difficulties about having a venue for a meeting, he hoped they would remember there was a tower here and a welcome waiting for them. He was pleased that up to the present they were at least holding their own as regards progress, but they, like others, were losing a few of the younger members owing to the nation's call, but though times were rather difficult, they would endeavour to carry on with the good work. He was particularly pleased that all their members had peals to their names, which in itself showed that they were active. Although the weather had not been bad that day, he hoped that the next meeting would be held in the summer time when their district would really be seen at its best.

Mr. Barton spoke of the regret they all felt at the loss the association had sustained by the death of Mr. Charles Pratt, of Calverley. He had always been an enthusiastic member and had shown the greatest keenness in all matters relating to ringing. Although the year had not progressed very far, they already had a much larger obituary list than for many years. This was no doubt owing to the 'march of time,' but it was a great loss to the association. The members then stood in silence as a mark of respect to those who had passed away.

As no invitations had been received for the next meeting in June, it was decided that the meeting should be held at Ilkley if arrangements could be made. This should be an ideal choice, as by then the weather ought to be on good behaviour and transport difficulties should not be too difficult.

A collection for the Bell Repairs Fund was taken at the tea tables and realised 14s. 6d., which, together with a further 2s. 6d. received afterwards in the tower, made a total of 17s., which was considered an excellent beginning for the new fund.

After the meeting the members were entertained with a gramophone record of Spliced Surprise handbell ringing, which was greatly appreciated.

The towers represented during the day were as follows: Armley, Batley, Birstall, Bradford Cathedral, Bramley, Brighouse, Burley, Denholme, Drighlington, Earlsheaton, Elland, Guseley, Halifax, Northwram, Haworth, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Huddersfield, Idle, Ilkley, Lindley, Pudsey, Queensbury, Shipley and Sowerby. It was a pleasure to see Mr. Titterington (aged 84) now fully recovered after his recent illness.

LEATHERHEAD.—On Sunday, April 7th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Royal (1,260 changes): Miss S. Harman 1, A. H. Winch 2, E. W. Bugden 3, G. Marriner (conductor) 4, A. C. Otway 5, A. H. Smith 6, W. G. Newberry 7, W. J. Whiting 8, A. Harman 9, H. V. Young 10.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

NOTICES must be received **NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.**

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

All communications should be sent to **THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.**

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The following Saturday afternoon practices have been arranged: April 20th, Widford; April 27th, Boreham; and May 4th, Broomfield; all commencing at 3 p.m. All ringers are welcomed to these.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Overton on Saturday, April 20th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea in Overton Rectory. Business meeting follows.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Grimsby District.—The annual meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at St. James', Grimsby, on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. and after business meeting till 9 o'clock. Service 4.15. Meat tea, at 1s. 9d. per head, 5 p.m., in the Church House, Bull Ring. Subscriptions are now due. We should be very glad to welcome any ringers in H.M. Forces who are in the district.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

CORNWORTHY, NEAR TOTNES, DEVON.—The ring of six bells, restored by John Taylor and Co., will be re-opened on Saturday, April 20th, at 3 p.m.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Aldenham, open for ringing from 3.30 till 7.30, Saturday, April 20th. Tea at Village Club 5.30. Business meeting after. Nearest station, Bushey or Radlett. Excellent bus service to church.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Horley on Saturday, April 20th. Bells open at 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea at the Six Bells 5.30.—A. T. Shelton, Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Horbling on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (6) available from 2-8 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting at the Plough Inn, P.R.H.A.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Sleaford, Lincs.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting is to be held at Nuneaton on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Committee meeting in the vestry at 4 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting in the Parish Hall. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance. Visitors welcomed.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Witney on Saturday, April 20th, 3 p.m., at the church.—W. Evetts, Hon. Sec., Hampton, Tackley, Oxford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting is at Kegworth on Saturday, April 20 (not 13th as arranged). Bells available from 3 p.m. Reports are now ready.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—The next meeting will be at East Dereham on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea in Church House at 5 p.m. at 1s. 2d. each.—H. Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Rawmarsh on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until dark. Short service at 4.30 p.m., which all are invited to attend. Business meeting after tea.—Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Quarry Road, Totley, near Sheffield.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Long Sutton on Saturday, April 20th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Fareham on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting in Rosemary Cafe at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. W. Burnett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Newcombe Road, Fratton, Portsmouth.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Next meeting on Saturday, April 20th, in Westminster. Ringing at St. Gabriel's, Warwick Square, 3.30 to 4.30, and St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, 6.15 to 8.15 p.m.—C. M. Meyer, Dis. Sec. pro. tem.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Corringham (6 bells) on Saturday, April 20th.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Dis. Sec., 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Aldenham (8 bells), Saturday, April 20th. Tower open 3.30. Tea at Village Club 5.30. Usual business. Bells available till 7.45. Nearest station Bushey or Radlett. Excellent bus service to church.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey (City 4270).

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Ringing at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, on Saturday, April 20th, from 3 p.m. Business meeting at headquarters on Tuesday, April 23rd, 7.45 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, April 20th. Bells at Cathedral Church 3 to 4.15 p.m., S. Nicolas' afternoon and evening. Service at S. Nicolas' 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at Ayers' Cafe (next to S. Nicolas').—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, near Guildford.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Howden on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (8) available afternoon and evening. Tea, at Manor House Cafe, at 5 o'clock, 1s. 9d. each. Please notify Mr. J. W. Thompson, 16, Northolmby Street, Howden, E. Yorks, by Wednesday, April 24th. Meeting after tea for election of officers, etc.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary Cray on Saturday, April 27th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea, by kind invitation of the local ringers, to members notifying me by Saturday, April 20th, if possible, certainly not later than Monday, 22nd. Please support the efforts made on your behalf. St. Mary Cray expects large numbers!—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

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

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting will be held at Swithland (6 bells) on April 27th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Refreshment at the Griffin Inn, near church, at 6.30 p.m., for those who notify me by April 25th. Buses from bus station, Belgrave Gate. Please come and enjoy a visit to this beautiful bit of country.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Chedworth on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., by kind invitation. A card re tea will oblige by April 22nd.—W. H. Hayward, Branch Hon. Sec., 1, Bowling Green Road, Cirencester.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Harston on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service, followed by tea at the invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. P. G. Ward. All welcome, but please send a card either to the Vicar or myself if you are coming.—C. W. Cook, Dis. Sec., Newton, Cambridge.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The branch annual meeting has been arranged at Burnham, Bucks, on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Guild service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., at 1s. per head, for those who notify me not later than April 22nd. Phone Slough 23260. Annual meeting 5.45 p.m. Hitcham bells (6) available afterwards.—A. D. Barber, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

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

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting will be held at Olney on Saturday, April 27th. Service 3.30. Learners and beginners invited.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

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

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual general meeting will be held at Burley (St. Matthias') Church on Saturday, April 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Unveiling of golden jubilee peal board by the Vicar of Leeds at 3.15 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., will be arranged for those who notify Mr. L. Drake, 7, St. John's Terrace, Leeds, 3, by April 24th.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Liss on Saturday, April 27th. Bells of St. Mary's Church (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea in Parish Hall 5 p.m. Business meeting follows. Bells available after meeting until 7 p.m. Numbers for tea must reach me not later than Tuesday, April 23rd.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

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

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Acton on Saturday, April 27th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service at 5.15 p.m.; preacher, Rev. Percival Gough. Tea in Church Hall at 5.45 p.m., for which there will be a collection. Business meeting to follow. All members requiring tea must notify Mr. J. E. L. Cockey, 16, St. Stephen's Road, W.13, by April 23rd. The bells at St. Stephen's, Ealing, 4, to 4.50 p.m., and Christ Church, Ealing, 7.30 to 9 p.m., also available.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Gen. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 27th. Ringing at the Cathedral (12), St. Giles' (8), and St. Peter-at-Gowts (6) from 2 p.m. Service at the Cathedral at 4 p.m. Tea at Newport Hall at 5 p.m., followed by meeting. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. J. A. Freeman, 95, Sincil Bank, Lincoln, by the Wednesday previous? No names, no tea.—F. W. Stokes, Hon. Sec., Blankney, Lincs.

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

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

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Barnby Don on Saturday, April 27th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Will those who require tea please let me know by Tuesday, April 23rd?—Ernest Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Olveston on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (8) open 3 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. It is most essential to advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Branch Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Southern District will be held at Bishop Auckland, on Saturday, April 27th. Bells (8, tenor 12 cwt.) available from 2.30 p.m.—J. T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

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

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held in Brighton on Saturday, May 4th. Bells of St. Nicholas' and St. Peter's available during the afternoon and evening. Service at St. Nicholas' 4.30, with address by the Rev. L. N. Phillips, M.A., M.C. Tea (price 2s. 6d., 1s. to members) 5.15, by ticket only, obtainable from the undersigned on receipt of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp, not later than May 1st. Half rail fare (maximum 2s. 6d.) allowed to resident members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec., 24, Kenmure Avenue, Brighton, 6.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—On Saturday, May 4th (D.V.), a meeting will be held at Chiddingstone. Please book this date now. Further details next week.—Alec. E. Richardson, 24, Norton Road, Southborough.

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

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Newington on Saturday, May 4th. Further particulars next week.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

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

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

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

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Mary's Deane first and third Saturdays in the month. Bells available afternoon and evening.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

ST. PETER'S, SOUTH CROYDON.—We are now practising on Monday nights from 7.45 to 9.15 p.m. All ringers who can come along will be welcome.—H. E. Wills.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—All communications should now be sent to Mr. H. J. Hazell, acting secretary, 15, King's Hill Avenue, St. Albans. The association's library is now in the hands of Mrs. A. M. Fergusson, 23, Hall Place Gardens, St. Albans. Will members please make a note of these alterations?—H. V. Frost, St. Albans.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.—Sunday service ringing, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Practice every Wednesday evening (handbells and tower bells, 10) 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. All visitors welcome.—W. Saunders.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mr. R. H. Bartram and family wish to thank all their friends for the tokens of sympathy and condolence in their great loss.

STAFFORD VETERAN'S BIRTHDAY.

At St. Mary's, Stafford, on Sunday, March 17th, to celebrate the 87th birthday of Mr. Z. Baker, the veteran of the band, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Eley 1, F. Wiggin 2, W. Cowan 3, J. Warrilow 4, A. E. Garbett 5, W. G. Curtis 6, R. J. Warrilow 7, F. Ryell 8. Also on Sunday, March 24th, for Easter evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. Dunn 1, E. W. Vaughan 2, F. Eley 3, J. J. Taylor 4, W. G. Curtis 5, A. E. Garbett 6, R. J. Warrilow 7, J. Warrilow 8. First quarter-peal for the treble man and first quarter-peal of Triples 'inside' for the ringers of the 2nd and 3rd. Conducted by R. J. Warrilow.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES BRANCH.

A quarterly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at Bishop's Cannings last Saturday. Ringing began at 3 p.m., and the methods rung ranged from Double Norwich to Grandsire Triples, with rounds for those who desired them. At the service the Vicar (the Rev. S. L. R. Sharp) officiated. Mr. C. D. Heginbotham read the lesson, and the organist and choir were in attendance. Tea followed in the Village Hall, to which about 30 sat down, and visitors from North Stoneham, Broadchalk, Chippenham and Swindon were made very welcome. Ringing continued in the evening till about 7.30 p.m., which brought another happy meeting to a close.

COUNTRY MEETINGS.

The Rev. J. F. Amies is trying to keep up interest in ringing in the Newport Pagnell Deanery of North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild by arranging fortnightly meetings. One such was held at Tyringham (five bells), in charming country just off the Newport Pagnell-Northampton main road on Saturday.

The Rev. J. F. Amies voiced the thanks of the ringers to the Rector, to the organist and to the local ringer and his wife who provided tea.

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