

No. 370. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19th, 1918.

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

Price 2d.

# GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

## BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.

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

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

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

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

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEUK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

## MODERN WORK

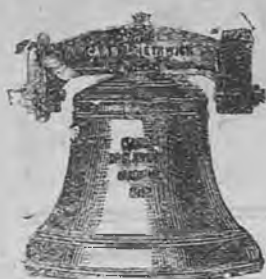
## NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Our recent articles with reference to the inactivity of the Norwich Diocesan Association have called forth a rejoinder from the Hon. Secretary on behalf of the Committee. The case for the Committee has been very temperately put, and the spirit of our reply will, we sincerely hope, be taken as the same spirit which underlies the Secretary's letter. Let us say at once, however, that in our opinion the arguments put forward by the Committee can scarcely be considered strong enough to justify their past three and a half years of inaction. There is nothing in the difficulties enumerated in the letter which do not apply equally to other associations which could be mentioned, yet these other organisations have kept their machinery going, have not only held annual meetings, but very successful district meetings as well.

It is not necessary to go over in detail all the points raised in Mr. Borrett's letter, but to take one or two of the arguments. We have studied the railway map of Norfolk and Suffolk, and cannot find that in respect to their railway communications that these counties are in any worse state than some other districts, such as, for instance, Lincolnshire, nor, for example, are they any worse off than Wilts and Dorsetshire, where the Salisbury Guild continue a very successful wartime activity. But allowing for the fact that railway communication is difficult, these are days when a great many men depend upon the cycle and not the railway as a means of locomotion, and a journey, say, of ten or even fifteen miles from home on a bicycle is not a serious undertaking even for a half-day. The questions of loss of time and cost of travelling enter into the difficulties of all associations, and are not peculiar to Norwich, and honestly we do not think that half-day district meetings in certain areas would offer insuperable obstacles.

The Committee, however, point out that they have given permission for district meetings to be held, and add that no district has taken upon itself to make any arrangements of this kind. In view of pre-war experience this, perhaps, is not very surprising, especially when it is remembered that the Committee itself has done little or nothing. Districts, like individuals, require encouragement, and we are afraid that this has been somewhat conspicuous by its absence in the Norwich Association. We are glad to read, however, that an attempt is to be made to hold a general meeting of the Association on Whit Monday, and if it takes place at a convenient centre, there is no doubt that the experience of the Norwich Association will be the same as that of other similarly placed societies—a gathering necessarily smaller than in pre-war days, but none the less successful.

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**SMETHWICK,  
BIRMINGHAM**

## BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,  
SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.**

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

## FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,  
STEEL OR IRON.

**Chiming Machines.**

Best Workmanship and  
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

## FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON  
BRACKETS.**

**HALLSABLE IRON BRACKETS;  
BEST BELL ROPES.  
REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL BRANCHES.**

**BELLHANGERS sent to inspect  
and report on Bells and Towers.**

**SEND FOR CATALOGUE**

**OPINION OF OUR  
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,  
Oxford.

Dear Sirs,

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

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

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

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.,  
Smethwick.

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

ESTABLISHED 1760.

## JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope  
Manufacturer.**

**40, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.**

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

**Late 188, Keeton's Road, Bormondsey.**

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

## TEN BELL PEAL.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, April 6, 1918, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 24½ cwt.

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

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Rung in honour of the induction of the Rev. Canon F. L. Shaw to the living of Chesterfield, which took place on April 2nd. At the conclusion of the peal Canon Shaw visited the belfry, thanked the band for ringing the peal, and promised a tablet to commemorate the peal.

\* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Bob Royal.

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

DEPTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 11, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lb.

JOSEPH LAW ... .. Treble	GEORGE DURLING ... .. 5
EDWIN J. PANNETT ... .. 2	WILLIAM A. MARTIN ... .. 6
FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON ... .. 3	ERNEST B. CROWDER ... .. 7
WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN ... .. 4	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES ... .. Tenor

Composed by H. E. TUCKER.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. This peal was rung as a compliment to Mr. J. Law, on his 76th birthday, and to Mr. F. W. Richardson, on his 38th birthday. Pte. W. E. Maulden, A.S.C., stationed at Lee, Kent, hails from Framlingham, Suffolk.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

WHISTON, NEAR ROTHERHAM, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 13, 1918, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, London Scholars' Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, Kent, Oxford.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

DAVID BREARLEY ... .. Treble	CHAS. FOWLER ... .. 4
JOHN R. BREARLEY ... .. 2	GEORGE HILL ... .. 5
HENRY STENTON ... .. 3	OLIVER CAWOOD ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE HILL.

First peal of minor on the bells, and first peal for the Association by the ringers of the 3rd and 4th. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the treble and 4th.

## BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Bath and Wells Association was held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday last, when members were present from Bridgewater, Burnham, Bristol, Huntspill, Nailsea, Taunton St. James', Weston-super-Mare, Wilton, and Worle. Tea, which was kindly given by a lady, was partaken of at Glass's Restaurant, after which the business meeting was held, the Rev. C. C. Parker, Master of the Association, presiding.

Seventeen new members were elected.

The annual meeting will be held this year at Taunton early in July.

Mr. Maddock asked the correspondents of towers, when any of their members left and went to other parishes, to communicate with the correspondent of the tower where they went to reside, in order that they might not be lost to the Association.

The Master proposed a vote of thanks to Prob. Norton Thompson for the use of the bells and for arranging the service, and to the Rev. Williams for taking the service in his absence.—The Rev. Williams responded, after which the service was held.

During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung on the bells.

**WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.****ANNUAL MEETING.**

The annual meeting of the Worcestershire Association was held at Worcester on Easter Monday, the programme being similar to that of other years. The attendance, considering the fact that so many are away in the forces or on Government work, and the difficulties of railway travelling, was very good and most representative.

The business meeting was held in the Cathedral Chapter House, the chair being taken by the President (the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, Dean).

The balance sheet, which was printed in the annual report issued that day, showed the total funds to be £77 14s. 4d. £30 of which was invested in the five per cent. War Loan, and the £30 previously invested in the 4½ per cent. Loan, having been transferred to the five per cent., thereby increasing its value to £31 11s. 6d.

The arrangements for the annual peal were left in the hands of Mr. H. Middleton, and Worcester was again selected for the next annual meeting.

Considerable discussion took place in regard to a proposal to raise the subscription of performing members from 1s. 6d. to 2s., in view of the increased cost of management due to the rise in prices. The matter was brought forward by the Master; but an amendment, moved by Mr. Pigott, to the effect that the time had not come for any alteration in this respect was carried almost unanimously, it being generally thought that, if necessary, the expenses could be curtailed either in regard to the allowance for tea or for delegates' expenses.

All the officers were re-elected including the Central Council representatives and the auditors the only alteration made being among the honorary members, the Rev. Canon Price, Rector of St. Helen's, Worcester, being elected in place of the Rev. J. E. MacRae.

The meeting closed with a general vote of thanks, moved by the Rev. J. F. Hastings, and as there was time to spare before the service, the Dean very kindly explained some of the new stained glass windows, lately put in in the cloisters, and which illustrate some early events in the history of Worcester.

Preceding the meeting, the Dean presented, on behalf of the Chapter and the Cathedral Guild, a handsome gold watch to Mr. W. H. Johnson, in recognition of his services as secretary of this Guild for the past 25 years.

After the meeting, the usual service in the Cathedral was attended by all, the Dean giving a special address at the close. Tea was served at the Angel Hotel, and although sugar is not allowed to be provided, a considerable number were not going to have their tea without, and various small boxes, etc., soon made their appearance.

Thanks to the kindness of the various clergy, all the bells in the city were available, the use of those at the Cathedral only being limited to one hour, and although several had to leave early in the evening, owing to the train services, full advantage was taken of the opportunity. Altogether a successful and enjoyable day was spent.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

A meeting of the Guildford District was held at Haslemere, on Saturday last, and was attended by ringers from Cranleigh, Chiddingfold, Aldershot Guildford, Godalming, and the local band, whilst visitors were also present from Hersham, Sandhurst, and Oatlands Park. Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. Wragge), who gave an interesting address. Tea was held in the School Hall.

Three new members were elected at the meeting, and a proposed joint meeting of the Yorktown and Guildford districts was decided to be held at Esher and Cobham on Saturday, May 4th. The handy peal of eight were rung muffled, owing to a funeral.

**THE MEETING AT WEST MEON.****To the Editor.**

Dear Sir,—I was sorry to see the remark made by your correspondent re resolution passed at above meeting (in your last issue), as I cannot believe it represents by any means the feeling of the majority of members of the Portsmouth district.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

West End, near Southampton.

Hon. General Secretary

**LADY RINGER'S WEDDING.****PRESENTATION AT NOTTINGHAM.**

An interesting little ceremony took place on Sunday evening, April 7th, in St. Peter's belfry, Nottingham, after ringing for evening service.—The Ringing Master (Mr. H. R. Cobbin), on behalf of the band, presented a solid silver bell-shaped inkstand suitably inscribed to Mrs. Lee on the occasion of her recent marriage. In making the presentation, Mr. Cobbin wished her every happiness and prosperity, and made mention of the fact that Mrs. Lee had rung with St. Peter's band for many years past. He expressed the hope, that pending her husband's return—he now being on active service—she would continue to come amongst them, where she was always so welcome.

Prior to the presentation, a well-struck touch of 1386 Grandsire Triples was rung by: Mrs. Lee 1, H. R. Cobbin 2, E. Hughes 3, T. H. Kirkby 4, F. J. Tite 5, A. Barratt 6, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 7, E. Wallace 8.

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.****CONTEST AT EARLSHEATON.**

The quarterly meeting and eight-bell contest was held at Earlsheaton on Easter Monday, when the bells and the school were kindly placed at the disposal of members by the Vicar. Six companies entered for the contest, but only five turned up, each set ringing 1,216 changes—Kent Treble Bob Major, preceded by three leads for practice. The judges for the day were Messrs. Goodall and W. Idle, of Earlsheaton. During the afternoon tea was served to about 100 visitors and friends.

The general meeting was held in the school at the close of the ringing, the President (Mr. Cotterell) being in the chair, supported by the Vicar and the society's officers. No invitation being forthcoming for the next contest, it was decided to leave the secretary to make arrangements.

A hearty vote of thanks to the local company and to the ladies for the way they had catered for the visitors was accorded.

The judges' decision was announced as follows: Almondbury, 185 faults; Birstall, 343 faults; Calverley, 246 faults; Halifax, 426 faults; Shipley, 306 faults.

Almondbury were, therefore, declared the winners.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for his presence and for the use of his bells.

The Vicar, in reply, said how pleased he was to see the members, and the people of the parish had been looking forward to the contest for many weeks. Although he did not understand ringing from the scientific side, he knew when the bells were rung properly, and he thought there had been some splendid ringing during the day. He had great pleasure in presenting the cup to Almondbury, but was sure his own ringers would have a good try to bring the cup back to Earlsheaton at the next contest.

A vote of thanks to the judges and the president brought the meeting to a close.

**ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.**

The quarterly meeting held at Penn, on Saturday week, was, under the circumstances, fairly well attended. The fact that a neighbouring Guild was holding its annual gathering, with the additional interesting feature of unveiling a tablet recording a peal rung in memory of a well-known figure, tended in a measure to lessen the success of the former.

At the service, the Rev. R. N. Lawson (himself a promising ringer) gave an interesting address, taking for his text, 'The objects of the Society.' A war-time tea was provided in the Parish Room, which proved to be very acceptable. It was agreed to re-commence combined practices (fortnightly), to take place in the following order: May 4th, at St. Luke's, Wolverhampton; May 18th, Penn; June 1st, Tettenhall; June 15th, Willenhall; all at 4 p.m.

The annual meeting, as previously arranged, is to take place at Penkridge on June 29th.—On the motion of Mr. Bradney, and seconded by Mr. D. Jones, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. R. N. Lawson for his address, (which was described by the proposer as 'something out of the ordinary'), and to the ladies for catering and administering to the hungry.

It is noteworthy that no less than five lady ringers were present from St. Luke's, Wolverhampton; though having had but a few weeks' tuition some are 'shaping' well, and promise to be soon filling the gaps made by their male friends, who have received the call to arms.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

A very successful meeting of the Central Division of the Sussex Association was held at Cuckfield on Easter Monday, over 40 being present, a notable feature of the occasion being the number of new members elected. Ringing commenced shortly after 12 o'clock, and continued until 4, when a short service was held, at which an address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon C. W. G. Wilson). Afterwards those present assembled at the Church Hall for tea, light refreshments having been provided for those present by the Vicar.

The usual business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding, and extending a kindly welcome to the Association. No fewer than thirty new members were elected, including the Vicar as a life member.

The following divisional officers were elected: Mr. A. D. Stone (hon. secretary), Messrs. R. J. Dawe, E. C. Merritt and F. Protherough (hon. mittee).

A vote of thanks was then passed to the Vicar for his kindly welcome his encouraging address, and for providing refreshment.

The tower was again visited until 8 o'clock, when the bells were lowered. The methods rung ranged from Grandsire Doubles to Simsalvado, Cambridge and London Surprise, on this capital peal of eight by Meads and Stainbank. The following towers were represented: Brighton (St. Peter's), Burgess Hill, Balcombe, Bolney, Crawley, Ditchling, Hove, Hove, Little Horsted, Seaford, Shoreham and the local branch.



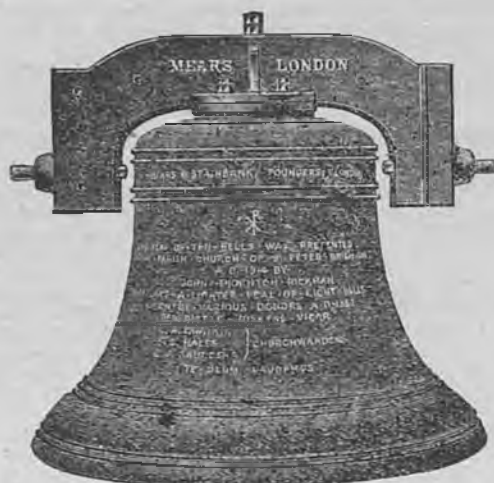
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**32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,  
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**Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.**

## ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

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**Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c**

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

### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Dear Sir,—At a meeting of the committee of the above Association, held on Easter Monday, I was instructed to reply to those parts of your Editorial notes of March 15th and 22nd, which particularly referred to us. This I gladly do, as it may enlighten some of your readers who do not realise the difficulties we labour under in this part of England.

Chief, of course, is the geographical difficulty, and if any stranger to these parts will study a map of Norfolk and Suffolk, together with a Great Eastern time-table, he will soon see how great this difficulty is. Our ground is nearly all agricultural, which means a widely scattered population, towns few and far between, and railway communication of the most meagre description. Half-day meetings are an impossibility for these reasons. I know of cases where members are eight miles from a station, and have to leave home at 5 a.m. to attend a meeting. Their return journey would be started at between 4 and 5 p.m., so as to allow them to sleep in their own beds that same night. We sometimes read in your notices of meetings, 'Bells ready at 3 p.m.,' and again, 'Bells raised at 5 p.m.' Ringers in these districts should count their blessings! Such notices were never applicable to this part of the world.

Then, too, I wonder if ringers in more favoured districts ever think what it may cost one of our members to attend a meeting. A day's work lost, railway fare anything up to 7s. or 8s., a dinner, and a cup of tea, and any incidentals. And—be it remembered—people are not earning anything like the wages here as in other parts.

The difficulties named we have had always with us and when to this was added increased railway fares, with a reduced train service, our committee felt that general meetings of the Association had no chance of success. The matter was discussed at great length two years ago, and it was pointed out to members, by circular, that under Rule 11, district secretaries could arrange meetings in their districts, where local conditions and circumstances were favourable, and that this policy was recommended by the committee.

So far as I am aware, not a single meeting of this kind has been held, and it would, therefore, appear local conditions and circumstances are not favourable. The matter was again under consideration at the meeting on Easter Monday, and although it was thought the past policy still the best, yet we decided to hold a general meeting on Whit-Monday next, at as convenient a centre as possible, and, all being well, we shall see how the experiment turns out.

Another trouble we have is that some of our clergy will not allow their bells to be rung except for services. A meeting is not possible, for instance, in Norwich for this reason, and there are other places I know of in like case.

I could also mention other things which work against us but the Defence of the Realm regulations forbid it, and, perhaps, I have already said enough to show that our particular bit of the country is not the most favoured just now. Our members, and you, too, sir, may rest assured our committee is alive to its responsibilities. Apologising for the length of this letter.—Yours truly

CHAS. E. BORRETT.

Norwich.

Secretary

### BELGIUM'S LOST BELLS.

#### A SUGGESTION TO THE RINGERS OF ENGLAND.

Dear Sir,—Your article on 'Church Bells for Guns' touches a question which I had intended to raise at the Central Council meeting last year, if it had been held. Notice had been given to the honorary secretary of a motion that the Council should inaugurate a fund to be contributed by the ringers of England and their friends to replace some of the bells, if possible a whole carillon, which had been stolen or destroyed by the Germans. My idea was that any money so collected should be invested in War Loan till after the conclusion of peace so that it might assist in the meantime in the prosecution of the war.

When the Council meeting was postponed, I made arrangements to consult Mr. Davies during a brief holiday in England, and he suggested that I should write to you, outlining the proposal. In the event of no adverse comment from your readers, we thought it might be possible to form a small committee, representing various districts, to proceed with the matter, and report to the Council this year. That the project has not gone further has been my fault. Shortly after seeing Mr. Davies, I was obliged to make a hurried return across the border on account of labour difficulties: for the last ten months, I have seen no chance of proceeding without taking up time which would be better spent in the manufacture of various materials urgently required for the war.

In the near future I hope if you will allow me the space to write to you again on the same subject. The publication of Cardinal Mercier's letter makes the present time a suitable one to test the feelings of ringers of this country as to whether they would like to assist the other country of bells to repair the damage which has been done.

Through the courtesy of a Belgian friend, I have been lent by the Belgian Government a set of lantern slides, made from official photographs of some of the ruined churches, and these will be available for use in connection with any appeal which it may be decided to make to ringers of their friends.

Waygatheshaw, Carlisle, Scotland.

E. H. LEWIS.

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### ANNUAL MEETING AT HILLINGDON.

The twenty-first annual general meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday week, and despite the inclement weather, which no doubt kept many away, was a highly successful gathering, about sixty members attending. Thanks to Mr. W. Honor (steepkeeper), the ring of ten was in first-rate going order, and was kept going in variety of methods until service time, touches of Stedman and Grand sire Caters, Treble Ten, and Grand sire Triples being rung.

Service was held at 6 p.m., and was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. M. Carrick, M.A.). A pleasing feature was the attendance of ten of the choir boys, who were supplemented by six of the visiting ringers who are choristers, viz.: Messrs. W. Elson, W. Lawrence, A. Mason, J. R. Sharnan, W. Shepherd and J. Bruce Williamson, who responded to an invitation given in the belfry by the organist, Miss D. G. Feltham, to don cassocks and surplices and assist. Talise's Festal Responses were used, the 'Magnificat' was sung to Smart, the 'Nunc Dimittis' to Feltham (that grand composition with the opening chords in the minor key and concluding in the major). The hymns sung were: 'Christ the Lord is Risen,' 'On the Resurrection Morning,' and the ringers' hymn, 'Unchanging God who livest.' These were very heartily sung. In the course of the service the names on the Guild roll of honour were read out, and the departed remembered in the prayers. The lesson was taken from John xv., and an excellent address was delivered by the Vicar, based upon the words, 'Woe is unto me if I preach not the Gospel.' I Corinthians ix. 16. In the course of his sermon, he said he counted it a great privilege to be able to speak to a band of brothers, met to ask God's blessing upon their sacred work, which by their rules was one of the chief objects of their Association. The text, which was inscribed upon the great bell at St. Paul's Cathedral he was going to give them as a motto to carry away in their thoughts of that service. There was a great responsibility, for the bells preached the Gospel. Let them take care that they rang out that great message in their lives and showed it in their outward acts. Never let it be said of any of them, 'Though I call I preach not the Gospel.'

The service was a most uplifting one, and concluded with the National Anthem.

Subsequently the members adjourned to the school room, where, thanks to the energies of Miss N. G. Williams, and her loyal band of lady helpers, including Miss A. Carrick and Miss D. G. Feltham, a splendid tea had been prepared, and was greatly enjoyed by all.

### THE BUSINESS MEETING.

At the business meeting which followed the chair was taken by the President (Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O.), who was supported by the hon. treasurer (Mr. F. A. Milne), Major J. H. B. Hesse (vice-president), the Rev. R. M. Carrick, Messrs. W. Pye (Master), T. Beadle (S. and W. District Master), H. C. Chandler, and W. H. Oram (hon. secretaries).

The report and balance sheet for 1917 were presented, the latter showing a further reduction in subscriptions and an increased expenditure.

The report included the following: The close of another year of war finds us with the ranks of our ringers still further lessened by the calls made upon men of military age to take their part in fighting for their King and Country. The older men left behind continue to strive manfully to keep the bells going for Sunday services, in spite of the absence of their comrades at the front, but the conditions naturally vary in different belfries. In some cases the services of ladies have been encouraged and welcomed by enlightened Rectors and Vicars, while, in others, there has been distinct discouragement for reasons that are not readily apparent, and perhaps it may be truly said for no reason at all. Be this as it may, wherever the services of lady ringers have been available, they have shown themselves to be reliable. They can be depended on to be both punctual and regular, and are quick in solving the difficulties of those intricacies of ringing which require intelligence and skill. Men have always had a fascination for their art, and lady ringers have shown that they are equally fascinated, and, if we may venture to say so without offence, far more persevering than men. Both, however, are at present under a great disadvantage. The opportunities for united practice are almost at a standstill everywhere, owing to the exigencies of the Defence of the Realm Act; but the time will come, and, as we hope, at no distant date when all obstacles will be removed, and we shall be welcoming our brave men back again, and be ringing out notes of joy and victory in the places of notes of sadness and farewell. With the continuance of hostilities and further depletion among the ranks of ringers, the Association's work for the year was again limited. Of peals rung we can only claim four, which probably is the lowest ever recorded: two were rung on tower bells as a tribute to departed members and two on handbells.

The number of quarter-peals reported were 34. It is with pleasure we offer our congratulations to four members, on accomplishing noteworthy achievements: Mr. James George, who has passed 600 peals; and Mr. E. Barnett, senr., on completing 500; Mr. J. E. Miller, one of our auditors, on the completion of 25 years as a ringer at South-

gate; and to the Master of the Association, Mr. W. Pye on his splendid effort of raising £68 for the widow of the late Mr. Alf. Grimes (a true example of the brotherhood among ringers).

The membership of the Association is now 714. New members elected during the year were 32 in number, while death and other causes removed the names of 18. Of the new members elected ten were ladies, which is a pleasing feature of the South and West District. In issuing our new report we have started a roll of honour giving the names of those who have laid down their lives in the war. Our war roll now numbers 200. Though far from home, many have the Association still at heart (as their letters show), and we desire to extend them our best wishes for safety and good health, with the hope that their return home may be expedited. During the year 1917 our Association has lost by death 15. Some having reached the allotted span passed away, leaving records for future generations of ringers to honour and revere, while others with splendid promise gave their lives on the battlefield. May they rest in peace. To all their relatives we extend our heartfelt sympathy and condolence.

### BELL RESTORATION.

Turning to the matter of bell restoration, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank report that they have completed the rechanging, etc., of the peal of ten at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, E.C. They have also rehung the 7th with new gudgeons and bearings at St. Bololph, Bishopsgate, and have in hand the rehanging of the peal of eight at St. Stephen, Rochester Row, Westminster. The bells are to be quarter-turned, the frame strengthened, the peal rehung with new gudgeons and bearings, and the tenor to be fitted with a new iron headstock. Messrs. John Warner have no restorations to report for 1917, but hope at the conclusion of hostilities to again play a leading part in bell founding and repairing.

In concluding another report we are able to say we have weathered the storm with our finances and in spite of increased expenses and a smaller income show a satisfactory account of the year's working. We would appeal to all members at home to do their best to keep things going, especially to those whose subscriptions may have slipped their memory. The payment of a small subscription is not an onerous duty, but it is a necessary one to enable us to pay our way. Many Associations are helped largely by honorary members, and though any that come our way are always welcome, we do not lay ourselves out to press for them. If, however, the humbler subscriptions are withheld members are directly damaging our health and wealth. We do not expect our comrades at the front to be mindful of the elusive shilling, and are quite content if we are able to show as hitherto, a balance on the right side. It is only fair to acknowledge with many thanks the continuance of voluntary extra subscriptions from those at home, which have helped so much in the success that we have met with in our endeavours to pay our way. Once more we desire to acknowledge with gratitude the work of our joint honorary secretaries during the year. While we naturally look forward to the safe return of Mr. C. T. Coles, whom we all gratefully remember for his good work, we are bound to add a word of recognition for the excellent services of Mr. Oram, whose zeal and ability in carrying on the work of the Association during the absence of Mr. Coles is beyond all praise.

The President, in moving the adoption of the report and balance sheet, reviewed the proceedings at some length, referring to the difficulties under which the work had been continued.—The motion was seconded by Mr. J. Weghorne and carried.

Three new members were elected, viz.: The Rev. R. M. Carrick, M.A., as a life honorary member, and Miss Carrick and Miss N. Honor, of St. John's, Hillingdon, as ringing members.

The whole of the officers were re-elected en bloc, and after several suggestions had been made as to the place of the next annual meeting, it was left with the secretaries to make all arrangements.

The meeting concluded with hearty votes of thanks to the Rev. R. M. Carrick for his kind welcome for the service and for the use of the bells; to the choir for their help at the service; to Mr. W. Honor, the steepkeeper, for having everything in readiness; and to the Misses N. G. Williams, Carrick, and Feltham for so successfully carrying out the tea arrangements.

At the close of the meeting, handbell ringing was indulged in, and a faultless course of Stedman Cinques was rung by: Mrs. F. Hairs 1-2, W. S. Wise 3-4, G. R. Pye 5-6, Wm. Pye 7-8, W. Shepherd 9-10, G. H. Horton 11-12. Another good course followed, with G. M. Kilby 1-2 and J. Bruce Williamson 3-4. Next came some Treble Ten and Double Norwich Major, in which W. Hewett took part. This brought a most enjoyable meeting to a conclusion.

### WINDSOR PARISH CHURCH BELLS REPAIRED

The bells of Windsor Parish Church having got into very bad going order, have been repaired by Messrs. John Warner and Sons, of London. Mr. Frank Smith was entrusted with the work, which was tested by a band of ringers, including himself, on Friday evening last, permission being given by the Vicar (Rev. E. M. Blackie). A quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by the following, in 46 mins.: T. Smith 1, W. Henley 2, G. Gutteridge 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. T. Lender 5, Frank Smith 6, E. Hooper (conductor) 7, C. Farr 8. The going of the bells was found to be very much improved by the work done to them.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.****ENJOYABLE MEETING AT WHISTON.**

A showery morning on Easter Monday did not promise well for a ringing meeting in the country, but the day belied its opening. The afternoon proved really fine and typically spring-like, and the rain ceased in time for a large number of members to make the journey to Whiston, a village situated on the outskirts of Rotherham, where a recently augmented ring of eight bells were placed at their disposal. Some of the visitors made the journey from Sheffield by the electric cars which run through one of the busiest and not the least important bits of Old England it is possible to find, where on either hand are old and new factories all engaged on the production of munitions of war. A change of cars at Rotherham for a short run of about five minutes and then another change, but what a change! Not only on to 'shanks' machine,' but across fields some recently ploughed and sticky, but withal pleasant, with skylarks making sweet melody overhead, gardeners busy with their allotments, and the bells actually peaking out 'Violet'—a contrast between war and peace.

In the church and the churchyard were ringers from a round dozen towers, including Anston, Bolsover, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Doncaster, Ecclesfield, Haylandswaine, Rotherham, Sheffield Cathedral, St. Marie's, Sheffield; Treeton and Worksop, also Mr. Wm. Warburton, an ex-Rotherham ringer (who is endeavouring to get a local band together, a rather trying task in these days), and several of his pupils of both sexes. The Rector (the Rev. A. G. Alton) was also there, extending a hearty welcome to all, and giving particulars of the church generally. In reply to a vote of thanks for the use of bells and Church Institute, he apologised for not being also to provide the visitors with a cup of tea, owing to something in the shape of a war somewhere. At the same time he hoped to be more hospitable in the near future. He also placed the Vicarage grounds at the disposal of any who cared to look round.

At 4 p.m., the committee were gradually drawn from the tower to the Church Institute, where Mr. Arthur Knights presided over a muster of ten who shaped the course of events for the next year's programme. Then the fun commenced. Friend Haigh having found out how to make water hot the kettle was surrounded by ladies of both sexes, who, like the wise virgins of old, had come provided with tea and something they used to call sugar, as well as 'nose bags,' making a very good substitute for a family tea party, accessories being available in the Institute in the shape of cups, saucers, and tables, not forgetting the tea-urn, teapots, and 'lading can.'

Through the kindness of Canon Goodall, the peal of ten at Rotherham Parish Church were placed at the disposal of the society from 8 to 8 in the evening, so a little before 8 p.m. the Chesterfield and Sheffield contingents turned towards Rotherham, where the bells were soon raised and put to some good practice, ten bells being seldom heard in Rotherham during these days. As regards the ringing the standard was a high one both at Whiston and Rotherham, the opening touch of Stedman Caters at Rotherham being well nigh perfect. Other method-rings were: Grandfire Caters; Treble Ten and Little Bob Royal while at Whiston Stedman Tringles Superlative Surprise and Double Norwich were amongst the methods rung on the eight. Cambridge Minor being included in some very good ringing on six bells. This being the society's first visit to Whiston, it was also the first visit of a good many of the ringers, all of whom will have pleasant memories of a very enjoyable afternoon.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**

On Easter Monday the quarterly meeting of the North Forest Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association was held at Corse Church, when 17 members attended from Newent, Barnwood, Gloucester, Corse, Bramsherrrow and Staunton. The bells, a nice little ring of six in G, were raised at three o'clock, and kept going till five o'clock, when a short service was held. The Rev. A. C. Lucy delivered an excellent address, and welcomed the ringers to Corse.

Afterwards a short business meeting was held in the vestry, the Vicar presiding, and Hunlley was selected as the next place of meeting. Four lady ringers were present—two from Barnwood and two from Newent, and they felt quite at home on the light bells.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also to the organist, Miss Ricking.

At the Corse House, Mrs. T. H. Hulls had an excellent tea awaiting the visitors. It will be remembered that it was the late Mr. Hulls who had the four old bells at Corse restored, and had the two new trebles added, as well as putting in the new chiming apparatus at the cost of about £500.

Mr. Williams proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Hulls for her great kindness in inviting the ringers to her house to tea, and hoped she would be willing to accept the office of vice-president. This Mrs. Hulls consented to do, and said she should be very pleased to entertain the bell ringers another year, for she was always delighted to hear the bells.

When the party broke up all were agreed that the meeting had been a great success.

**NOTICES.**

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Estab. 1637).—A meeting will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on April 23rd, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Estab. 1755).—Quarterly meeting at Aston on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (10) available from 4 o'clock. Business meeting in belfry at 6 o'clock.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Offenham on Saturday, April 20th, 1918. Service in church at 5 p.m. The bells (6) will be available afternoon and evening.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, April 20th. Bells ready at 3.30; meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions are due; reports to hand.—John H. Haydock, Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The first meeting of the new St. Albans District will be held at Hatfield on April 27th, 1918. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. All ringers will be welcome.—Wm. Nash, "Glenhorpe," North Mymms, Hatfield, Hon. Dist. Sec.

**ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY** will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, April 27th, at their headquarters, St. Michael's Parish Church, Ashton-under-Lyne. Bells ready at 4 p.m.; business meeting 7.30 p.m. All ringers invited.—C. Bower, 25, Chadwick St., Ashton-under-Lyne.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—It is hoped to hold the postponed annual meeting at Burton-on-Trent on May 4th or 11th. Full particulars in next issue.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, May 4th, at Shore Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting at 6.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The annual meeting will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, May 4th. Ten bells available from 3 o'clock. Business meeting in vestry at 5 o'clock.—Sam. Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown and Guildford Districts.—A combined practice meeting of these districts will be held on Saturday, May 4th, when several towers will be visited. Full details later.—F. J. Shepherd, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, J. J. Jones, Bridge Street, Guildford, Hon. Secs.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, May 4th. Further particulars next week. All ringing friends welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

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



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# LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch should have been held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday last, but on account of the Tank week celebrations taking place in the vicinity this was found rather inconvenient. However, the difficulty was overcome, through the kindness of the Vicar of St. Alban's Church, who placed his tower and bells at the disposal of the branch. Members were present from Glodwick, Middleton, Milnrow, Newhey, Oldham, Rochdale Parish, St. Alban's, Todmorden, Bacup, and Huddersfield. Touches of Grandsire Minor and Doubles, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor were rung, but owing to the fact that members kept constantly going to look at the Tank, a band of eight could not be got together.

At the business meeting, a resolution of condolence with the widow of the late Mr. Joseph Ridyard (Vice-President of the Association) was passed in the usual way, by all members standing.

It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Shore Parish Church on Saturday, May 4th.

The meeting was brought to a conclusion with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the tower and bells; to the local ringers for having everything in readiness; also to Mr. S. Stoll, of Oldham, for presiding.

In the opinion of the visitors, the tenor bell of St. Alban's is in need of attention, as it appears to be loose on the stock.

# MANCHESTER BRANCH.

On Saturday last, the Manchester branch held its usual monthly meeting at Reddish. Members and friends attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Hyde, Miles Platting, Prestwich, and Pendleton. Mr. Jas. Shaw presided over the business meeting, at which a vote of condolence was passed, by all standing, to Mrs. Joseph Ridyard and family, on the death of Mr. Joseph Ridyard.—St. James' Birch-in-Rusholme, was chosen as the next meeting, to take place on May 18th.—A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar, and to the local ringers for the use of the bells.

# ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the North Eastern Division of the Essex Association was held at Witham on Easter Monday. Service was held at the Parish Church, conducted by the Rev. Canon Galpin (Vicar), who preached from Proverbs xii, 20, 'The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the Lord hath made even both of them.' In the course of his address, the Vicar said he felt it a great privilege to speak to the ringers, as he felt they were carrying out a priestly office in their work as ringers.

Tea was provided at the Church House, when ringers were present from Bocking, Braintree, Rayne, Sible Hedingham, Dunmow, Maldon, Colchester, Feering, Great Totham, and the local company.

Mr. H. F. Cooper (District Master) presided at the business meeting, supported by Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Association), Rev. H. T. W. Eyre (general secretary), Canon Galpin, and Mr. B. Redgwell (district secretary).—Eight new members were elected from Sible Hedingham, of which four were lady ringers.

Colchester was selected as the place of next meeting, to be held on August Bank Holiday.

Ringling during the afternoon included touches of Cambridge, Double Court, Kent, Oxford, and Plain Bob.

# A SILVER WEDDING.

Mr. W. Bolton, the energetic Master of the Llandaff Association and leader of the St. John's Band, Cardiff, and his wife have just celebrated their silver wedding. To mark the occasion, and as an appreciation of his untiring services, members of the Association assembled at St. John's, Cardiff, on Easter Monday for an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Caters. Ringing had not been in progress long when a trip occurred, and gland was called. One of the band, not feeling well a start was next made for a peal of Triples, but this, too, was doomed to failure, after an hour's excellent ringing. Not to be denied, arrangements were made for another attempt on Saturday week, an exceptional privilege, by the way, as permission to ring on Saturdays has practically always been a refusal, owing to the church being situate in the midst of business, Cardiff. However, the bells on this occasion were available, and a start made about five o'clock, but after about an hour's excellent ringing over-anxiousness was predominant, and a collapse occurred, much to the disappointment of all. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was then rung, and beautifully struck by the following: A. Rowley 1, J. Harris 2, F. Chamberlain 3, S. Dawe 4, W. Bolton 5, F. Edwards 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, S. Barker 8.

At the conclusion, many happy returns were accorded Mr. Bolton, and the wish expressed that all will be spared to make an attempt on the occasion of the golden wedding.

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