THE RINGING WORLD

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GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.

St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton.

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

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
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. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

ELECTIONS IN THE BELFRY.

A question which has vexed a good many ringing organisations was discussed at the annual meeting of the Lancs Association, but, unhappily, we are not told with what result. Most of the societies now permit the election of members in the belfry before a peal attempt, confirmation by a subsequent meeting being usually a necessary sequel to the belfry procedure. Generally speaking this method of securing members works well, but some ringers are opposed to this style of doing things. There are two main objections, one being that elections in the tower are sometimes of a slipshod order and that they are not always strictly bona fide, because the occasion of a peal attempt does not properly constitute a meeting of the society. The legality of the election, however, seems to us to be perfectly made good by subsequent confirmation by general meeting, this confirmation being really retrospective.

The principal objection, however, is to be found in the question of fees, for instances are not infrequent where a man is proposed as a member in the belfry before a peal attempt, and, the peal failing, he goes away and nothing more is heard about the election or the contribution. It is not really a very honest thing, but it does happen, and it is just how best to check it that concerns a good many associations. It is hardly possible to make those who elected him responsible for his contribution, yet it is upon these members that the onus is cast to see that the money is paid. Various ways have from time to time been suggested to cope with this little leakage, but none, so far as we are aware, has ever proved really satisfactory. We are afraid that, after a peal failure, it is not always the entire fault of the newly elected member, although it may be argued that the duty is upon him to pay. Many a subscription to Association funds from this source might have been secured by the dropping of a timely hint.

By far the large majority, however, punctiliously discharge their legal and moral responsibility by paying up promptly whether the peal be rung or not, and it would be a retrograde step, we think, in the administrative arrangements of an association, if the convenient method of electing a member in the belfry were ever done away with. Very often a peal is arranged at short notice for the convenience of a visitor, and, unless he could be elected in the belfry, it would frequently mean that a non-society peal would have to be rung, and while the value from a ringing point of view is equal, whether it be under the auspices of an Association or not, there is a very general objection to ringing non-association peals, and many a fraternal meeting would fall short of consummation by a peal but for the present arrangements for "roping" a visitor in when he comes to the tower.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.

SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM

OPINION OF OUR MODERN WORK.

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

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 CHURCHWARDENS 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.

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SINGLY,
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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

HANDSWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, October 2, 1915, in Two hours and Fifty-seven minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S.

THOMAS H. REEVES	...*Treble*	MORRIS J. MORRIS	5
SAMUEL GROVE	2	JAMES E. GROVES	6
*GEORGE F. SWANN	3	ALF. PADDON SMITH ...	7
CHARLES DICKENS	4	JAMES GEORGE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

* First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. H. Godden.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined the Forces:—

Spr. Jesse Moss, of Bolsover, Derbyshire, Royal Engineers, now in France.
Pte W. Evans, and
Pte E. Price, of St. Mary's, Kington, Herefordshire, 1st Herefords, both wounded at the Dardanelles.

From Frodsham, Cheshire:—
Rev. E. V. Blackburn, Chaplain of Forces.
Pte T. Fletcher, 5th Batt. Cheshire Regiment.
Pte R. Forster, Army Service Corps.
Pte T. Lightfoot, Coldstream Guards.

From Holy Trinity, Gosport:—
Sergt. E. Brown, 1st Wessex R.F.A. (T.), 3rd Hants Battery, now in India.
Corpl. G. Annells, Royal Engineers, B.E. Force.
Sapper E. Chapman, Hants Fortress Company (T.), Royal Engineers, now at Portsmouth.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL MINUTES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Referring to your leader upon the Minutes of the Central Council, may I explain that their publication in official form, which ucimally should take place as soon as possible after the meeting, is primarily intended to draw the attention of the Exercise to the precise decisions that have been arrived at.—Yours faithfully,

October 1st, 1915. ARTHUR HEYWOOD.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A good muster turned up for the fortnightly practice at North Stoneham on Saturday last, and amongst the touches, etc., rung, were 448 Superlative Surprise, 640 Double Norwich Major and Stedman Triples. The following visitors were present: The Rev. E. Bankes James, J. B. Williamson, H. G. Thompson, A. White, A. E. Wilkins (Lee-on-the-Solent), L. H. Page (Titchfield), Alfred Mears (Curdridge), A. Jones, A.S.C., with Messrs. G. Williams, C. J. May, W. H. George, W. T. Tucker and E. Dumper, of the local band. Visitors are always welcome at these practices, and the next meeting will be on Saturday, October 16th, at 6.30 p.m.

WEST WALES ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT CADOXTON.

The annual meeting of the West Wales Association was held at Cadoxton, juxt Neath, on Saturday week, members being present from St. Mary's, Swansea; St. Paul's, Skitty; St. Mary's, Aberavon; St. Catherine's, Gorseinon, and St. Thomas', Neath, in addition to the local band.

The pretty peal of six were kept going throughout the afternoon and evening, and touches of the following methods were rung: Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor. During the intervals handbells were indulged in, and touches of Grandsire Doubles, Oxford Treble Bob Minor and Grandsire Triples were also rung.

It is proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Gorseinon, and it is hoped that there will be a good attendance, as the church and tower has only recently been built.

New members were elected from Gorseinon and Neath. — It was decided to pay the subscriptions for those who have joined the colours. The meeting then came to a conclusion, the members having spent a very enjoyable time.

The members take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for placing the bells at their disposal.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE PENDLETON MEETING.

The annual meeting as recorded in our last issue was held at Pendleton on Saturday week. The proceedings commenced with a peal attempt to commemorate the completion of the 25 years' presidency of the Rev. H. J. Elsee, but a change course occurred which brought that to an untimely end. Ringing also took place at Eccles and Worsley, the conducting being divided between Messrs. W. C. Hunt, B. Knights, J. George (Rugby), the party being made up with Messrs. W. H. Shuker, J. Ridyard, A. Trippier, A. Knights and J. H. Banks. This latter ringing was extra to the programme of the day.

There was an attendance of 130 when the special service began at 4 p.m. in St. Thomas' Church, Pendleton, the officiating clergy being the Vicar (the Rev. H. L. Fosbrooke, M.A.), and the Rev. H. J. Elsee (St. George's, Bolton), president. The preacher was the Rev. A. T. Beeston (New Mills). Taking for his text, St. Luke ii, 14, "And on earth, peace, goodwill, toward men," the preacher delivered an interesting sermon. He said the words of the text expressed the Divine ideal respecting the conditions under which human life was to be lived—a condition of peace. The ideal was based upon what actually existed in the nature and being of God. The Church of Christ was an instrument by which He worked in order to bring out the realisation of the Divine ideal. Not only as Churchmen or Christians were they called upon to co-operate and work with God for the consummation, but, he thought, they were called upon as ringers to do so. When peace came, when there was a termination of this disastrous war, there would be such bell ringing as had never occurred before in this country. They had to be the instruments of expressing the nation's joy at the restoration of things to their normal state, a state of peace and goodwill amongst men. But apart from that he thought there were reasons why ringers particularly ought to look upon themselves as a means of promoting the existence of peace on earth among men. The very condition under which they exercised their art taught them this.

THREE LAWS.

Proceeding, he said he would mention three things, each of which in connection with change ringing had to be fulfilled. First of all, in the pursuit of his art, the change ringer had to submit to what was called the laws of limitation. They had been ringing "Grandsire" before the service, which was made up of different pieces of work, each one absolutely distinct from the other, and yet each necessary according to rules applicable to the ringing of Grandsire. Each ringer in each lead had his specific piece of work to do. He had to mind his own business and not interfere or get in the way of any other brother ringer, and by submitting to the laws of limitation the result was success, joy, fulfilment, and peace. For when there was joy and fulfilment there could not but be peace in the end. Then there was the law of co-operation. In every method there was a certain number of specific pieces of work, and each had, so to speak, to be completed together, in order to bring out the desired result. Each one had to ring his part and do his particular work, and each one had to work with each other one, and the result was joy and satisfaction. Then, too, the ringer must observe the law of patient effort. They knew as well as he the difficulties of acquiring facility in ringing changes. They knew how much patience was necessary. It would not do to begin and leave off. They had to spend many a weary hour at practice, ere they reached and realised the joy, gladness and satisfaction of the art. Patient effort was necessary. They must not stop, as he had said, but they must go on. When these three things were recognised, limitation, co-operation and patient effort then, depend upon it, there would be a satisfactory result. In order that they might apply themselves to the fulfilment of these conditions there was one thing that was necessary, and that was the spirit of goodwill. They ought to have goodwill, because they were united in the pursuit of one object. He took it that all change ringers were keen and eager to advance from one degree of perfection to another in the pursuit of their art. If they were keen on the one object, it combined them together and led them to seek the society of one another. Then it was absolutely necessary that there should be a spirit of goodwill in order that they might combine in the pursuit of their common object, a readiness to submit to the law of limitation, the law of co-operation, and the necessity of patient effort. If they recognised the necessity of these things, all oiled, he might say, with the spirit of goodwill, then they found as a result that there were success, progress, joy and peace. He took it that all societies were governed by the simple laws that he had mentioned. In church life, in the life of their association, in national and international life, these three things required to be recognised and submitted to. Let them remember that each of them had his particular gift of God. Each nation, as a member of a great family of nations, had its peculiar characteristics and work given to it by God. These peculiarities and individualities which everyone possessed required scope for their activity. Let them apply these things not only to the belfry, but to the societies of which they were members, the home, church and nation, and the activity of each of the laws, oiled with the spirit of goodwill, would result in fulfilment, satisfaction, joy and peace.

A MEMORIAL PEAL BOARD UNVEILED.

At the close of the service there was an interesting ceremony in the belfry, the Vicar unveiling a peal board to the memory of Mr. J. Barratt (late Vice-President of the Association). The Rev. H. J. Elsee said he would like to explain that the board was to commemorate the muffled peal that was rung to show the respect of many Lancashire ringers for one who was very well known among them, who was one of the first members of the Association. Mr. Barratt was one of those loyal members and most diligent workers for the Association that they had ever had. It was a great shock to hear of his death, less than a year ago, after a very short illness. At Eccles, in his own tower, and at that church, the members showed their respect for his high character and for his services as a member and as vice-president, by ringing a muffled peal. It was to record that peal that the tablet had been erected, and he called on the Vicar of St. Thomas's to unveil it.

The Rev. H. L. Fosbrooke said he gladly responded to the invitation, because all vicars of St. Thomas's had always taken a great interest in the work of change ringing, and particularly in their own ringers. That tower meant a great deal to the people of Pendleton, and particularly to Church people of Pendleton.

The tablet (presented by Mr. A. Trippier, of Eccles) was then unveiled. The inscription records that a peal of Stedman Triples was rung in the tower on November 14th, 1914, in 3 hrs. and 9 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. James Barratt, Vice-President of the Association, conducted by J. Ridyard.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The members afterwards sat down to a substantial tea in the schools, and subsequently the annual meeting was held. The presentations to the President and the Hon. Treasurer, which were fully recorded in our last issue, took place at this stage.

The President proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. H. L. Fosbrooke for kindly arranging the service, and allowing the members to use the bells of St. Thomas.—The vote was carried with acclamation, and the Vicar, in reply, said he could assure them that they felt it a privilege to welcome the Association to Pendleton.

Mr. J. H. Banks then read the committee's report, which stated that the membership stood at 1,418, an increase of about 50 on the year. Ten members had been lost by death, including Corpl. E. Barton, who was killed in France, and Ptes W. Worthington and H. Fielding, who died while in training. The income of the Association was £41 11s., and the expenditure £51 9s. 7d. The peals rung during the year were 21. The report concluded with the thanks of the committee to the branch secretaries for their energetic services during the past year.

The balance sheet, which was printed, was taken as read.—Mr. A. Barnes (auditor) reported he and Mr. Gill had gone through the books and found all in order.

Mr. J. Ridyard was elected vice-president (Mr. Chapman retiring); Mr. H. J. Banks was re-elected ringing secretary, and Mr. A. Barnes, with Mr. J. T. Bottrill and Mr. B. Gill (provisional), as auditors. Certain alterations to rules were, on the suggestion of the committee, passed.—Three new members were elected, and Chorley was chosen for the next annual meeting.

The President referred in sympathetic terms to the death of Mr. Wm. Snowden, a former President of the Yorkshire Association, and it was decided to send a letter of condolence to his relatives.

Ringing was afterwards indulged in until 9.30.

It was "some" meeting, and one did not regret denying oneself of other pursuits in order to be present at so important an era in the society's gatherings. The pulses of its members were beating very high; indeed, it made one feel proud to be present at such an important function. The unbroken record which the Rev. H. J. Elsee now enjoys, viz., 25 years' presidency of the Lancashire Association, has been equalled by very few; in fact, the only other instance I can recall is that of the late Mr. William Snowdon, who presided over the Yorks Association for a quarter of a century.

If a secret is to be well kept you can depend upon a Lancashire man to keep it. In fact, as an ingenious and well-manufactured "plot" the presentation "w're gradely done." Proof of this was largely demonstrated, for no one got a greater surprise than the Rev. H. J. Elsee when he received the very finely built model of a bell with all its appurtenances. On this, I need not dwell, justice has been amply done in the report which has already appeared in this journal.

Prior to the meeting an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after 40 minutes' effort, the following members taking part: W. C. Hunt (Nottingham) 1, James George (Birmingham) 2, J. H. Banks (Helmshore) 3, Benj. J. Knights (Leyland), conductor, 4, Arthur Knights (Chesterfield) 5, Harry Shuker (Manchester) 6, Joseph Ridyard (Worsley) 7, Amos Trippier (Eccles) 8.

We were not allowed to dwell on our disappointment, for a visit to Eccles Church was suggested. We boarded the first available tram, and after a few minutes the bells were set going. It cannot be said there was much enjoyment in looking for the other end of a touch, as the bells were not at all to our liking. Perhaps we were spoiled somewhat earlier in the afternoon at Pendleton. Some keen witted youth of the "family" suggested Worsley for the next tower. To

our surprise two taxis were requisitioned, and we were shot out at Worsley, and the bells at once set going to Stedman, under the conductorship of Mr. James George. Twenty minutes was the limit, after which we were under a penalty. Our petrol tank began to leak, and we had to send the chauffeurs about their business, taking car instead and sailing gaily on through the avenues of trees, hills and dales, and reaching Pendleton exactly at four p.m. for the service, which was conducted by the Vicar of Pendleton, and a most able sermon was preached by the Rev. A. T. Beeston (of New Mills), whose eloquence was beyond all praise; polished in detail. The text, "Peace and goodwill to all men," admirably synchronised, in all its meanings with the present conditions.

From the church we adjourned to the Schoolrooms, in close proximity, where tea and other good things were awaiting the hungry man. During this time an appetite of another sort was developing for the titbit of the evening: The presentation to the Rev. H. J. Elsee by Sir A. P. Heywood, on behalf of the whole of the members of the Lancashire Association. After passing through this happy ordeal we proceeded to the business of the meeting, viz., the election of officers and general items on the agenda. There are only two items that I would refer to, and the first is the question of proposing members in the belfry.

In nine cases out of ten election of full pledged members begins in the belfry preceding an attempt for a peal. Controversy as to these elections frequently crops up at different association meetings, and I think this matter should be taken in hand and decided once and for all. A ringer who desires to become a member of a particular association before a peal, is proposed and seconded by qualified members of the association concerned, and his nomination unanimously accepted, and his election is completed, subject to confirmation at a minor general meeting. What about the new member's subscription, one may ask, in the event of the peal failing? In many cases the association is given a lot of trouble regarding the subscription which has not been paid. Subject to this subscription not being paid at a given period, my contention is that the individual's election is not legitimatised. It is for the members who carry out the elections to see that the subscriptions are paid.

The other subject was concerning the utility of appointing representatives on the Central Council. The matter was very pointedly put before the meeting by one member who considered that no importance attached to sending delegates to the Council, as it was seldom the representatives returned with a report to their own association, and, further, constituted it merely as a holiday. I do not think this view will be generally endorsed by the ringing community at large. These representatives are appointed by their colleagues, which is tangible proof that they possess some sort of ability; moreover, they give the association the benefit of their experience. Are they not, under any circumstances, to be appointed to a position of honour, whether it carry labours or not? All honour to those who are put in power, proving them fit and proper persons. We have our ringing journals, which practically present the report to any association, giving, in fact, more explicit detail than a member could. An association meeting is not run jointly with the Central Council. Oftentimes the annual meetings of these associations are nearly ten or eleven months later.

H.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

CONTEST AT KIRKHEATON.

The general meeting and six-bell contest was held at Kirkheaton on Saturday last, when the bells and schools were kindly placed at the disposal of the members by the Rector (the Rev. J. W. Moore). Seven companies entered for the contest, each set having to ring 600 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, preceded by three leads for practice. The judges were: Mr. G. Symonds, of Elland, and Mr. T. Wadsworth, of Kirkheaton.

During the afternoon a splendid tea was served to the visitors, who numbered about 100.

The general meeting was held in the Schoolroom at the conclusion of the ringing, the President (Mr. Cotterell) being in the chair, supported by the Rector and the Society's officers.

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

The judges' decision was announced as follows: Heptonstall, 567 faults; Tong, 396; Holmfirth, rung out; Low Moor, rung out; New Mills, 370 faults; Ripponden, rung out; Shelley, 323 faults.

Shelley, were, therefore, declared the winners of the cup.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Rector for his presence, and for the use of his bells, and the Rev. J. W. Moore, in reply, said it gave him great pleasure to be amongst the ringers. They had a fine peal of bells at Kirkheaton, and they were proud of them, and liked to hear them rung. He often thought it would not feel like Sunday if they did not have their bells rung for the services. He had great pleasure in presenting the cup to the conductor of the Shelley team.

Mr. Roberts replied for the winners, and proposed a vote of thanks to the judges, which was carried unanimously.

The singing of the National Anthem brought a very successful and enjoyable meeting to a close.

CLEVELAND & NORTH YORKS ASSOCIATION

ENJOYABLE GATHERING AT CARLTON IN CLEVELAND.

A most successful meeting of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association was held at Carlton in Cleveland on Saturday week, there being present 65 members (including three lady ringers), representing towers at such far distributed places as Middleham, Darlington, West Hartlepool, Stockton, Middlesbrough, Marske, Saltburn, Whitby, Skelton, and Guisborough, and all agreed that the day was a most enjoyable one. The members arrived during the morning, and the bells of the Parish Church (a peal of eight, with tenor 15 cwts.) were soon merrily ringing.

Luncheon (kindly provided by the Vicar of Carlton, the Rev. J. L. Kyle, who is the President of the Association) was done justice to, and in the afternoon Busby Hall with its beautiful grounds were viewed by the visitors, thanks to the courtesy of Mr. L. F. Gjers.

The business meeting was held after tea, the first item being as usual, the honouring of the loyal toast. Five life members and three ringing members were elected to the Association, and a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by Messrs. T. Metcalfe 1—2, W. H. Porter 3—4, T. Stephenson 5—6, and F. A. Lellanby 7—8.

PRESENTATION TO LATE PRESIDENT.

The most important and interesting part of the proceedings was the presentation to the Rev. W. P. Wright of an illuminated address from the members. Mr. Wright was President of the Association for seven years, but owing to removal from the district resigned the post at the beginning of this year.

Mr. T. Metcalfe (hon. secretary), in introducing the matter, said the officials of the Association had thought, seeing that their late President was going from the district and resigning from his post, that they could not do less than provide a testimonial of their appreciation of his good work, and they had persuaded Mr. Wright to come there that day, with great inconvenience to himself, to receive it. He asked Mr. Kyle to undertake the duty of presenting the address to Mr. Wright.

The President, in making the presentation, spoke of the valuable and most successful and great work which Mr. Wright had done for the Association. He had, said the speaker, kept peace amongst them, and above all he had kept the Association together. To be President of a ringers' association required a very able and far-seeing man with a wisdom of Solomon, and to keep the peace as he had done was a very difficult task. Any man knew that even to keep one tower together was a task, and required very great skill. Even a parson made mistakes, and he might easily set the tower ringing in the wrong way. They were all extremely sorry to lose Mr. Wright, but now he had gone to another diocese, and the members had thought it time to get someone else. When the Bishopric of Sheffield was vacant, they all hoped to see Mr. Wright there, for he was certain that if he could keep the peace with bell ringers, he could keep the peace with a crowd of parsons (laughter and applause). Mr. Wright had left the whole of the towers throughout the district in a thriving condition. Every man said he was a careful man, and that he did the right thnig at the right time. He (the speaker) thought that for an Irishman like he was to follow a Yorkshireman was awfully difficult. Mr. Wright was a "canny" Yorkshireman, and he was able to keep his temper. Therefore, he (the President) could take two or three lessons from him. He must say to himself, "Now then, be as Yorkshire as you can; think before you speak; and go to Him who knows all for help in special cases." If Mr. Wright liked to come there at any time again, he would be glad to see him, and they were all extremely grateful for the way in which he had kept the Association together. If they could keep the bells going, they could keep the church alive. He asked the hon. secretary to read the address, which was handsomely illuminated, and worded as follows:—

"To the Rev. William Peter Wright, M.A., on your resignation as President to the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers:—

"Dear Sir,—On behalf of the members of the above Association, we desire to convey to you our warm appreciation of the valuable services rendered to this Association as President for the last seven years. We acknowledge with gratitude your unwearying efforts to increase the usefulness, and extend the influence of this Association the best interests of which we have ever found you anxious to promote. Having concluded your long connection with us as president, we take this opportunity of expressing to you our best wishes, and our greatest hope is that you may long be spared to continue the great work you have prepared yourself to do for God's Kingdom. (Signed) Rev. J. L. Kyle, M.A., president; George F. Alexander, Walter Pick, Alexander Macfarlane, John Stott, vice-presidents; Thomas Metcalfe, hon. secretary and treasurer, and seventeen members of the committee."

REV. W. P. WRIGHT'S REPLY.

The Rev. W. P. Wright, who was received with loud and prolonged cheers, said: You can quite imagine that it is with very mingled feelings that I find myself trying to express my thanks for this beautiful address, and the very kind thought which lies behind it. I must say that it is very kind and generous of you, and it is with the very greatest sorrow on my part, at any rate, that I have been obliged to vacate the chair which is now so able filled by Mr. Kyle. I would not have done that (with all due deference to his majesty at present in the chair), if I had been in the district, and, of course, if the mem-

bers wished it, but I felt it was not justice for me to be merely a figurehead. There are two most important meetings in the year, and I could not possibly attend them. Whit-Monday (one of our usual meetings) is always a very great day with Sunday School demonstrations and festivities, and such like, and you will quite see with me that it would not do for me to run away on that day. I could not be with you on our other general meeting (Easter Monday), as that is, as I expect most of you married men know, a great day for getting married. By the way, I have never found people so foolish about getting married as I have in the town. I put the question to the bridegroom at a marriage ceremony the other day, "Wilt thou have this woman?" and after a good deal of hesitation he thought he would. Then I put the question to the bride (or rather to who I thought was the bride), "Wilt thou have this man?" but got no answer, until after a while a voice far enough behind said that she didn't mind (laughter). I am sure half the people who get married don't know beforehand how to go through the marriage service. So you see, as Easter Monday is a day for people to get married, it would have been out of the question for me to attend that meeting. In September I would have hoped to attend, and I hope to do so in ordinary event. I had hoped to have arranged to have a week-end here, but unfortunately circumstances turned out that I have to make other arrangements as to being away, but our secretary said that you specially wanted me to get here, so I came. I have seen this beautiful address, which I am to take home as a heirloom, and as I sat at my table yesterday I had tea on the tray you so kindly gave me at Northallerton, a thing of use as well as ornament, and which in addition gives me the greatest pleasure, as it binds me with the Association. This beautiful thing which I can show to my friends with pride (not unlawful pride, I hope) will be a further bond of union between me and friends I have here. It is like new life to come back here, and to see you all, and the beautiful country here. You people don't half appreciate it, but you would if you lived in Sheffield. As I look at this in future it will recall to me the days of long ago, and as I think of the happy meetings we have had there is a feeling of sadness that they are days of long ago, and cannot be again. I do indeed thank you with all my heart for your kind thoughts and beautiful piece of work, and can assure you that it will ever remain one of the best and also one of my most valued treasures.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Now, I wish to say a few words as a member of the Association. I have not thrown it over, and do not mean to do so. I hope to attend such meetings as I can, and it falls to my lot now to propose a vote of thanks, which I am certain you will all receive with great acclamation. I wish to propose a vote of thanks in the heartiest manner possible to Mr. and Mrs. Kyle for the magnificent luncheon, unlimited tea, and the use of the bells, and all the other enjoyments we have had to-day. He talked about an Irishman succeeding a Yorkshireman, but it will not be his fault if he does not "make good." I have never met an Irishman who has not kissed the Blarney Stone, and that goes a long way. I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Kyle since long before the Association was formed, and before he was married, or I was for that matter. We have gone on "Bachelor Johns" together, and I am very glad he is seated in this throne of state. He has, I noticed, realised that "Uneasy lies the head which wears the crown." Mr. and Mrs. Kyle have shown unlimited hospitality in the past, and I am certain that he will welcome us again any time we like to come. I hope that his own tower will prosper, and will be a strong support to the Association, and that the ringers will thoroughly put their backs into the art of change ringing, so that, when the days of peace come, the Carlton bell ringers will be able to hold their own with any tower. On behalf of the members of the Association I wish Mr. Kyle many years of happiness, usefulness and prosperity, and if there is anything I can do for the Association I shall be delighted to put my services at your disposal (applause).

The Rev. J. L. Kyle, in replying, said there were lots of other people to thank besides himself, and especially they should thank the cook of Busby Hall, and Mr. Gjers, who was always giving. He added that they were there for the good of the Association, and he wanted to impress upon them one thing, and that was that the tower does not belong to the parson, and when they rang the bells they were doing a public good, and not doing it for the parson's sake. They all had their faults, and even the parson had his. "When you ring the bells," proceeded the President, "I don't want you to say 'I am doing it for the parson.' Don't think you are doing it for my sake, but get the idea that you are doing it for the sake of the country. If I do ask you to come to prayers, don't get a hump on your back and say that the parson is always getting at you. I am sure that some of you bell ringers want a punch in the eye instead of a touch under the chin (loud laughter). I say that if you cannot do it for the love of God, well clear out. But about my own ringers I will say this, that they have all done well. We have never had a strike, even though at times the wild Irishman has gone too far. But the man next to me (Mr. Gjers) does not forget the bell ringers, and when I make a mistake he only smiles, and says, 'Have a whiff, and we will spend the evening together' (laughter). When the day of peace comes I hope to have another meeting here, and we will have all the parsons together, and talk everything over, and settle lots of things. I am delighted to see you all, and hope to meet you all again soon. I wish to say a word about the manager of my pub, and I feel very grateful to him and to the waiters and waitresses for the kindly way they have looked after us all."

Mr. J. Clarkson proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Gjers for his kindness in opening his beautiful grounds to the members. It was really a great pleasure to go round the grounds and to view the beautiful house and pictures, and it had added immensely to the pleasure of the day.

Mr. Gjers briefly replied, and the members then made their way back to the tower, where the bells were kept going until a fairly late hour. But enjoyments have to come to an end some time, and it was with very deep regret (to the writer at any rate) when the close of the day came, and the members departed to their respective towns.

DEDICATION OF SANCTUS BELL AT SPALDING.

The bell-cote at the east end of the nave of Spalding Parish Church had for a long period been untenanted; in fact, there is no record of a bell hanging there, although the evidence of the cote itself plainly shows by the indentations in the stone work that two bells of different sizes have hung there since the building of the upper portion of nave circa 1450.

Mr. Rd. Mackman, who has completed 40 years' service as verger, wishing to commemorate the event in a fitting manner, approached the authorities with the offer which was gratefully accepted of a Sanctus Bell, to be hung in the cote, as a thankoffering from himself and family. Accordingly, on Sunday, Sept. 27th, after Matins, it being the harvest festival, the dedication took place, the ringers, including two of Mr. Mackman's soldier sons, opening the ceremony with a short touch of Grandsire Triples. After a procession with hymn, by a full choir with the clergy who remained at the rood screen, the dedicatory prayers were impressively read before a large congregation by a former Vicar (the Rev. Canon Bullock). The bell was then rung in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Mackman, through a serious illness, by his eldest son, Company Quartermaster-Sergt. J. R. Mackman, which gave out a beautiful clear note in D.

The bell is a fine casting, by Messrs. Taylor and Co., weight 2qrs. 14lbs., and is inscribed:—

"By R.M. To commemorate his 40th year as verger. E.P.G. V. 1915."

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Western Branch was held at Upton-on-Severn, on Saturday week. Droitwich had been selected for the gathering, but that being inconvenient to the authorities, the Rector of Upton was approached, and he immediately gave his consent to the meeting being held at his church. There was not a large gathering, but the branch was fairly represented. There was ringing during the afternoon, and a service was held, at which the Rector gave a homely address. By the invitation of the Rev. and Mrs. Edmondson, tea was served on the Rectory lawn.

The meeting followed, the Rector presiding. The quarterly peal was arranged to be attempted at Upton, Mr. C. Camm to be conductor. The next quarterly meeting was fixed for Droitwich or Dodderpill, on January 29th, 1916.—One honorary and one performing member were elected.—The whole of the branch officers were re-elected, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for presiding, giving the tea, and making the arrangements. Courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters, and tunes were rung on handbells during an interval by Miss Johnson, J. D. Johnson, and others, much to the delight of the Rector and his family. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major were rung on the tower bells during the day. Although the attendance was small, the meeting was acknowledged by all to be a success.

MR. PITMAN'S PEAL OF GRANDSIRE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I beg to state that I have examined W. Matthews' 12-part peal of Grandsire Triples, as it appears in "Central Council Collection of Peals," and fail to see on what ground he claims my peal which appeared in your columns on September 18th. In the first place the calls in the two peals are arranged in a different order, and on the other hand the part bells in the peals are worked on a different plan.

For instance, you will notice that he has one bell, in this case the 6th, doing the three-lead course through every part, while my plan has been to get two bells doing the three-lead course work alternately, in this case 5th in the first part and 7th in second part, and so on.

While he has the three-lead course bell in his peal to be the part bell, the part bell in my peal is not a three-lead course bell. I may mention that I have not seen Mr. W. Matthews' peal before, as only to-day I had a copy of the "Central Council Collection of Peals" in my possession for the first time. Under the circumstances mentioned, I fail to see how it can possibly be the same peal or a variation of same.—Yours faithfully,

A. J. PITMAN.

5, Prior Street, Port Talbot, October 3rd, 1915.

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HEROES FROM THE BELFRY.

Pte. Lawrence Edlin Mears, of St. Wulfram's, Grantham, 6th Lincolnshire Regiment. Killed at the Dardanelles.

Lc.-Cpl. Lionel Alfold, of Sunbury-on-Thames, 5th Middlesex Regiment. Killed in Action in Flanders.

Cpl. E. J. Webb, of St. David's, Bangor, 6th Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Died of Wounds received at Dardanelles.

LIEUT. W. D. JAMES KILLED.

A WELL-KNOWN CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY RINGER.

We deeply regret to record the death of Lieut. William Douglas James, B.A., of the Royal Garrison Artillery, who was killed in France during the great assault on the enemy's position on Saturday, September 25th. The deceased was the eldest son of Mr. Charles Henry James, J.P., and Mrs. James, of Ingledene, Plymouth, and grandson of the late Sir James Douglas, F.R.S. He was educated at Plymouth College, where he was a member of the Cadet Corps for five years. He was also a keen athlete, being the Victor Ludorum in 1910. He went to Pembroke College in 1912, and studied on the engineering side. He took his B.A. degree and second class honours in the final engineering tripos. While at Cambridge he was a member of the University Officers' Training Corps. On leaving the University he became an articled pupil of the chief engineer of the Mersey Harbour Board, but, before he could take up the duties, war broke out, and he at once applied for a commission, which he obtained in the Royal Garrison Artillery. In September of last year he proceeded to Southsea Castle, and, after qualifying in gunnery, was sent to Spiteback Fort. Two months since he volunteered for a trench mortar battery, and was at once dispatched to the front, where, as already mentioned, he was killed in the engagement of September 25th. Just before he met his death he had been promoted to full lieutenant.

Lieut. W. D. James.

Ringing was amongst Mr. James' hobbies, and he was a very able exponent of the art. He received his early tuition at Charles Church, Plymouth, under the present leader, Mr. Marsh. On going to Cambridge he proved a valuable recruit to the University Guild, and quickly took his place in the handbell band, which brought the Guild into special prominence about that time. He was a safe ringer on both tower and handbells, and had conducted a goodly number of peals. His 100th peal was rung at Great St. Mary's, Cambridge, on August 4th, 1913, and was a peal of Stedman Cinques by the Middlesex Association. Mr. James was well known in many parts of the country, where ringing had taken him, and while at Cambridge he was Master of the University Guild. Retiring and unostentatious, he possessed all the attributes which go to make a really first class ringer, and the Exercise is much the poorer by his death. While peal ringing was out of the question during the war, he found time from his military duties to do a little ringing in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth and Southampton. He spent a day at Titchfield a few Sundays ago with ringers from the neighhood, none of whom knew of his departure for the front, and the news of his death has brought with it a sense of personal loss, and much sympathy will be extended to the gallant young officer's relatives in their bereavement.

Lieut. James' brother, Second-Lieut. D. C. James, of the South Staffordshire Regt., was engaged in the same action, and is reported to have been severely wounded.

HINTS ON CONDUCTING.

HELP FOR BEGINNERS.

Last week I explained that the observation bell in a six-score of Grandsire Doubles could be doing only one of two things throughout the twelve lead ends, either making the ordinary 3rd's place or double dodging in 4-5 up. Now let us see how the conductor, having his own bell doing a fixed work, can keep the rest of the bells running in their proper paths. This is done by watching, and, indeed, anticipating the coursing order of the bells (*i.e.*, the order in which they will lead, or will be met by the observation bell), for it is not sufficient to note the various other bells as they cross the path of the fixed bell; the competent conductor knows beforehand exactly which bell he will meet in any given place, and as he goes from lead to lead he has mentally to transpose the coursing order.

In the plain course, the bells follow one another to lead in the order 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, the 1, 2, being placed, in the various leads, between each of the other pairs, according as 5, 3 and 4 make 3rd's place. But in the full 120 the transpositions vary according as to whether a plain lead or a bob lead is rung. If a plain lead, then, as in the plain course, the bell in front of the treble going down, is put behind the bell in the hunt going up. In a bob lead the two bells hunting down in front of the treble before the bob was called, hunt up immediately after the treble, the first of them having taken the place of the bell in the hunt. Thus in the first of the 120's given last week the following would be the lead ends and the coursing order of the first half :—

	Lead End.	Coursing Order.
	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	1 2 5 3 4	1 2 5 3 4
B	1 3 4 2 5	1 3 4 2 5
	1 3 5 4 2	1 3 5 4 2
B	1 4 2 3 5	1 4 2 3 5
	1 4 5 2 3	1 4 5 2 3
S	1 3 2 4 5	1 3 2 4 5

It will be noted that the coursing order is the same as the lead end row from which the coursing begins, but this only happens in Doubles, and will not be found on the higher numbers. What I want to make clear, however, is that in transposing the coursing order, the conductor has to remember that at a plain lead he has to put the bell, which was before the treble, behind the bell in the hunt, and at a bob, the two bells which were in front of the treble, behind that bell, leaving the other two to follow on. I have laboured the point somewhat here, because it is the basis of the transpositions which have to be made on higher numbers, and if the principle is grasped in Doubles it ought not to be difficult to apply it in Triples later on.

The study of coursing order is one of the best aids to calling from a non-observation bell, but there is little difficulty even for a beginner in conducting, to manage Doubles, from a working bell, as long as he is able to notice when the fixed bell is hunting down immediately in front of the treble. In the first half-dozen of the six scores set out last week, he will find, on examination, that when he meets the observation bell (either the 5th or 3rd) hunting down in front of the treble, to come "before," he will pass the lead without a call, and put in the bob or single, as the case may be, at the next lead, duly watching the bell in front of the treble, so that the call may be made at the right moment. In the last four 120's a single is called at every lead when the observation bell is not "before," that is to say, not met hunting down immediately in front of the treble, and a bob on alternate occasions when the fixed bell goes down with the treble next behind it.

One other point about the calling of Grandsire Doubles. Whatever position the bells may be in, they can always be brought round with two calls, at most. If the 4th happens to be in the hunt one will suffice, by calling her out, the lead after the 5th comes "before," with a bob if the 3rd hunts down in front of the treble or with a single if the 2nd is in front of the treble. If the 4th does not happen to be in the hunt, call her in, either with a bob or single, as quickly as possible and then proceed as above. But before commencing to call the bells round make sure they are not already in the plain course. CONDUCTOR.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at the pretty village Church of St. Michael and All Angels', Hilperton, on Saturday, and although it was a very wet and uncomfortable day, a fair number of ringers assembled. Ringing commenced with Grandsire Doubles, which went well on this light ring of six, with a tenor of 7¼ cwt. A service was held in the church, the form used being the Diocesan one sanctioned by the Bishop, and a beautiful address was given by the Rector (the Rev. W. C. K. Sylvester). The singing of the Canticles, Psalms and Hymns was very hearty, being joined in by all present. Mr. Wilfred Harding (one of the ringers), organist of North Bradley, kindly presided at the organ.

Tea was partaken of at the Lion and Fiddle Inn, to which 17 sat down, and fully enjoyed the excellent spread, prepared by the Host and Hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Hoar.—A short business meeting followed, presided over by the Rector, supported by Mr. H. Brownlee West (hon. secretary), and ringers from Trowbridge, Hilperton, Southbroom, Holt, Chirton, Westbury and Steeple Ashton. One new life ringing member, Lieut. Robert Falconer, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, was proposed and elected. The company then discussed the places for the next three meetings, and upon hearing that the bells of Steeple Ashton had been recently restored and rehung, that tower was selected for the meeting on November 6th; Market Lavington for December 4th; and Trowbridge, St. James', for January 8th, 1916.—A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector of Hilperton for the use of the church bells, for the service in church, and also for presiding at the meeting, to which the reverend gentleman genially responded. Some of the ringers then returned to Hilperton tower, whilst others went into Trowbridge to ring at St. James' Church, and then a very pleasant meeting was brought to a close.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A district meeting of the Ely Archdeaconry was held at Whittlesford on Saturday week. The opening touch was 720 Oxford. A short service was held, and in the absence of the Vicar (the Rev. R. Letts), the Vicar of Ickleton (the Rev. P. H Cooke) kindly officiated, and gave a very instructive address.

A tea was provided at the Wagon and Horses, followed by the business meeting, the Rev. P. H. Cooke being in the chair.

There were also present Mr. A. E. Austin (general secretary), Mr. F. Webb (district secretary), and members from Cambridge, Fulbourn, Royston, Sawston, Shelford, Stapleford, Barley, Barkway, Melbourn, and the local band.—New members were elected, and it was resolved to hold the next district meeting at Fulbourn in October.—Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the organist and to the Rev. P. H. Cooke for his kindness in coming over to take the service, and for presiding at the meeting.

The Chairman, in reply, said he was only too pleased to come over, and he hoped he should have the pleasure of welcoming the members to Ickleton before long.

During the evening the following methods were rung: Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Sawston bells were also available, and several members made use of them, touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples and a course of Stedman Triples being brought round.

FELSTED BELL FUND.

The following amounts have been received towards the Felsted Bell Fund: Great Baddow ringers, 7s. 6d.; Braintree, £1 15s.; Coggeshall, 3s.; Dagenham, 4s. 6d.; Felsted, £1; Leytonstone, 8s.; Maldon (All Saints'), 5s.; Romford, 5s.; Stansted, 8s. 6d.; Great Totham, 5s.; West Ham, 2s.; Wanstead, 4s. 6d.; Mr. W. Keeble (Kelvedon), 1s.; Mr. W. H. Newman (Feering), 2s.; total, £5 11s. Further donations will be gratefully received by E. J. Doherty, Vicar, Felsted Vicarage, Chelmsford.

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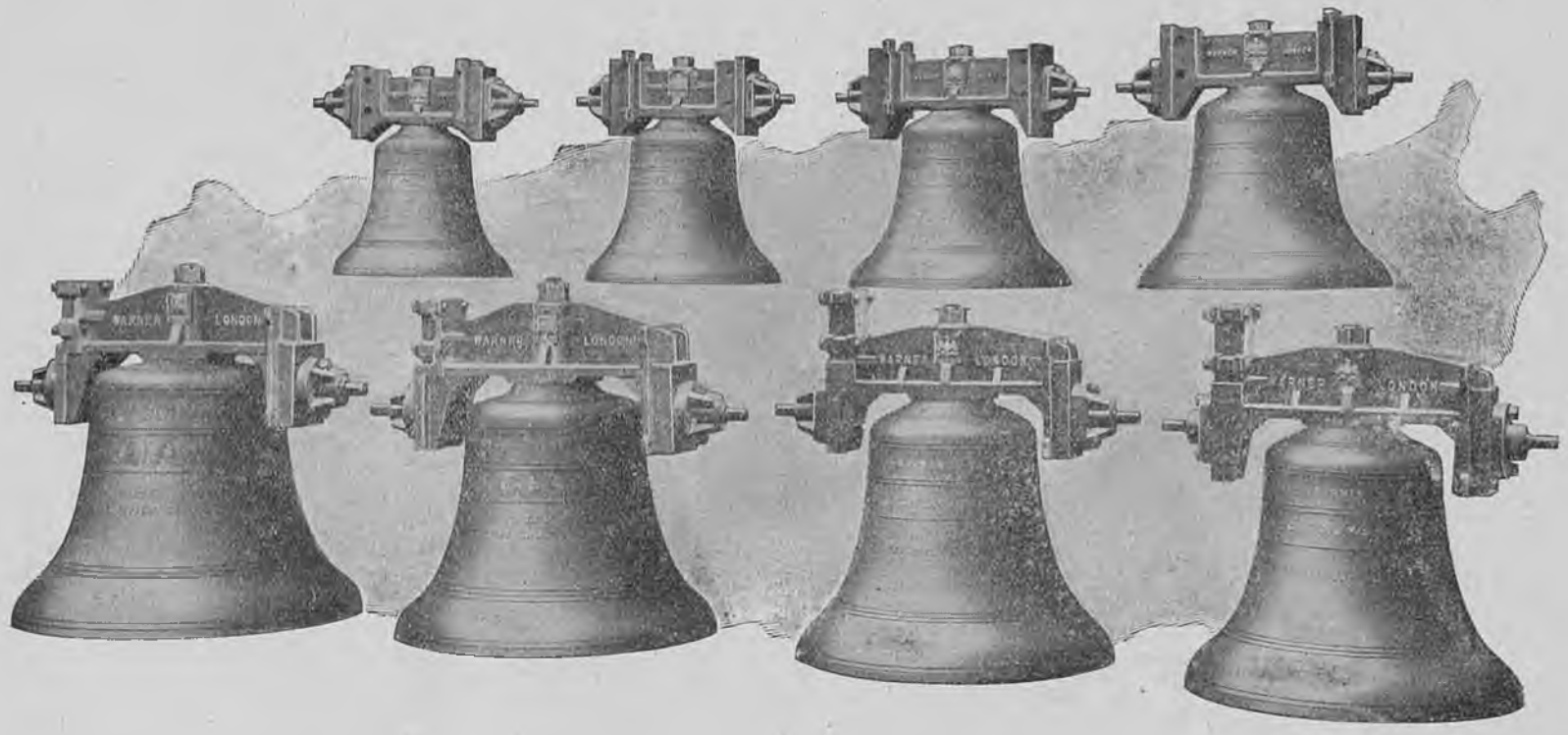

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NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Ringing for Divine service at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, at 10 o'clock. — H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District.—The next meeting will be held at Charing on Saturday, October 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; short service at 5; tea, kindly provided by the Vicar, at 5.30. The hon. general secretary of the Association (the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore) has promised to attend this meeting.—Stephen Hazzelden, Hon. District Secretary, Lower Street, East Farley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Prestwick on Saturday, October 9th. Bells available 5 to 7 and 7.45 to 9 p.m. Meeting to be held during the interval. Subscriptions are now due.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary, 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Overbury on Saturday, October 9th. Service in church at 5 p.m., at which members are requested to attend. Tea will be provided in the Village Hall by the Vicar (the Rev. W. Lea). Branch officers will be elected at this meeting. By kind permission of Sir Richard B. Martin, Bart., the Court gardens will be open to ringers. The bells (6) will be available.—James Hemming, Branch Secretary, 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on October 21st for handbell practice; and on the 12th and 26th for business. St. John's, Hackney, for service on the 10th at 10 a.m. No ringing in the evening until further notice.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Walton-le-Dale on Saturday, October 9th. Bells ready at 5 o'clock.—A. E. Woodhouse, Honorary Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Rishton on Saturday, October 9th, 1915. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Kettering Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Isham on October 9th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—R. F. Turner, District Secretary, 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Folkestone on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30. Tea at the Fernley Hotel, Guildhall Street, at 6.15. As the Association allowance for tea is limited to 1s. each member, members will be asked to pay 3d. each to defray the extra cost. The business meeting to follow the tea. All who intend being present for tea kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, Oct. 12th. — C. Tribe, Hon. District Secretary, British School Villas, Tenterden.

AN UNOFFICIAL MEETING will be held at Bampton, Devon, on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea (6d.) in the Infants' School at 5. Change ringers will greatly help by their presence. Names of those requiring tea should be sent to me not later than Tuesday, October 12th.—Rev. E. V. Cox, Bampton, Devon.

ARCHDEACONRY OF SALOP GUILD. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Coalbrookdale on Saturday, October 16th, 1915. Ringing at 3 p.m. Tea in Trinity Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting after tea.—Rev. H. B. Beckwith, Honorary Secretary, Ridgemount, Shrewsbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. George's, Bolton, on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available from 5 p.m. Meeting 7.30. Subscriptions now due. — G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting, at which the peal board recording the peal rung by the Ladies' Band at Portishead will be unveiled, will be held in the tower at Portishead on Saturday, Oct. 16th, at 4 p.m.—E. E. Burgess, Honorary Secretary, Taunton.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Aston on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (10) ready at 3 p.m. Service at 4. Committee meeting at 5, tea at 5.30. General meeting after tea. Ringers requiring tea kindly communicate with Mr. J. George, 125, Victoria Road, Aston, Birmingham, H. Kettle, Allesley, Coventry.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District. — A meeting of this district will be held at S. Laurence on Saturday, October 16th. Half-fares up to but not exceeding 2s. will be allowed. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.45 p.m.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Honorary Secretary.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The annual district meeting will be held at Rayne, October 23rd. Bells 2.30. Short service, with address, 4.15. Meat tea, 6d. each, at the Sunday School, 5 o'clock, followed by meeting for election of district officers and other business. All those intending to be present please notify me not later than October 20th.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755. — Next quarterly meeting will be held at the Cathedral (St. Philip's), Birmingham, on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells (10) available from 4 to 5.30, and from 6.30 to 8 o'clock. Business meeting in belfry at 5.30.—A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Milnrow on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, 12, Union Street, Middleton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A short meeting will be held at Twickenham on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells raised at 4 o'clock prompt. All ringing friends welcomed.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Secretary, Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Provisional Notice. — The annual meeting will be held in Darlington on Saturday, October 30th. Full particulars will appear in next week's issue.

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.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED, a set of 8 or 10 handbells, small size. State price to John Clark, Fernlea, Chase Road, Ross, Herefordshire.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

The autumn meeting of this society was held at Great Barr on Saturday last, but through the inclement weather the attendance was not as good as would otherwise have been expected. A short service was held in the church, at which the Vicar (the Rev. Arnold Partridge) gave a helpful address, as well as officiating at the organ.

Tea was served at the "Beacon" Inn, presided over by the Vicar, to whom a vote of thanks was accorded for his good offices. The bells were made good use of during the afternoon, the Standard methods, as well as Cambridge Surprise, being practised.

The next meeting is to take place at Bloxwich early in January.

CALVERTON RINGER'S WEDDING.

The wedding was solemnised at All Saints' Church, Calverton, on Saturday week, of Mr. H. C. Edwards and Miss E. Monday. Mr. Edwards is a much respected member of the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild, and also a member of the Parish Church choir. The Rector (the Rev. R. F. Rumsey) officiated, and the service was choral, and at the conclusion of the ceremony 720 Grandsire Doubles were rung on the bells by J. H. Tompkins 1, E. Yates 2, H. E. Tompkins (conductor) 3, H. Tompkins 4, R. Underwood 5, J. Tompkins 6. It was only owing to the war that a peal was not attempted. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have the good wishes of a large circle of friends.

THE FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

Last Wednesday was the anniversary of the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung. It was achieved by the College Youths on October 6th, 1788, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and is recorded on a tablet in the belfry, as follows: "The Society of College Youths did ring, on October 6th, 1788, a complete peal of 6204 Cinques on Stedman's Principle in 4 hrs. and 47 mins., this great performance being the first in the method on twelve bells, is an instance of that unrivalled merit only to be equalled by a similar assiduity and perseverance. The performers were: Thomas Blakemore treble, Robert Pye Donkin 2, John Povey 3, Christopher Wells 4, James Worcester 5, John Inville 6, James Hammett 7, Nathaniel Williamson 8, William Lyfort 9, Samuel Lawrence 10, Edwin Sylvester 11, Philip Pilgrim tenor. Composed and called by Thomas Blakemore.

AN OLD FOUNDER.

According to the ancient registers of Chacombe, Henry Bagley, the son of a blacksmith, and the first of the Northamptonshire bell founders, was baptised at Chacombe on October 2nd, 1608. He apparently started bell founding in 1632, that being the earliest date which has been found on any of his bells, his name being spelt Henry Bagle. His trademark was three bells, one above the other two. His favourite inscription seems to have been "Cantate Domino Canticum Novum" (Sing unto the Lord a new song). He died about the year 1676, and his two sons, Henry and William, and a nephew, Matthew, carried on the business.

EPPING. Essex Association.—On Sunday, Sept. 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1248 changes): O. Twist 1, G. Dent 2, H. J. Tucker (conductor) 3, H. Smale 4, H. Dew 5, H. Rumens 6, W. Tarling 7, G. B. Lucas 8.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sept. 14th, 1344 Superlative Surprise Major: Henry Cee 1, *Edward Brettle 2, Victor White 3, A. E. Parsons 4, *W. Bird 5, *G. N. Cockin 6, *W. H Webb (conductor) 7, *Alfred Hackett 8. * First quarter-peal in the method.

MILNROW. — Lancashire Association, Rochdale Branch. — At St. James' Church, on Sept. 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes), in 50 mins.: R. Buckley 1, G. Staff (conductor) 2, J. Fitton 3, W. Brearley 4, E. Schofield 5, C. Fielding 6, J. Massey 7, H. Buckley 8.

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