THE RINGING WORLD

No. 279. Vol. XI. FRIDAY, JULY 21st, 1916. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 1d.

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, 1913.

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.

LADIES' GUILD'S PROGRESS.

The Ladies' Guild had the most successful meeting of their career when they met to transact their annual business at Reading the other day. That the attendance numbered over thirty is an excellent testimony to the growth of membership and to the spreading interest in ringing among members of the fair sex, especially in view of the fact that their numbers are scattered. The progress of the Guild, too, is satisfactory, for its roll includes over 90 members, although, from what may be gathered from time to time, the number of lady ringers must be increasing at an even faster rate. The drain upon the belfries by the war, which has robbed many a tower of nearly every man, has brought into service the help of a great many ladies in all parts of the country. Doubtless, in time, they will all be affiliated to the organisation established especially to unite them in their work. This would, perhaps, be quicker brought about if the gentlemen who are responsible for teaching the new recruits would take the opportunity of bringing the Guild to the notice of their pupils.

At the Reading meeting the ladies had two real and serious subjects for discussion—outside the purely routine business which had to be transacted. One question was whether the organisation should in future be known as the Women's Guild, or retain its present appellation. What's in a name? The Women's Guild might have a more democratic sound in these democratic days than the word Ladies. But we are told that manners make the man. Equally, manners make the woman, under whatever title she is known, while it is at any rate more euphemistic to speak of "the ladies" than of "the women." We remember that the same question was discussed at the formation of the Guild, and the members by their decision have only confirmed the view they took in October, 1912.

The other subject of importance which the ladies discussed, and upon which decision was deferred, was the question of wearing a head covering when in the ringing chamber. This is a point which will doubtless require settlement, for it is an important matter of Church rule that ladies should be covered while they are within the precincts of the building. No one would think of a lady attending a service without a head covering, and, as the ringing is now recognised as being as closely allied to the service as, at any rate, the organ voluntary, and the belfry as part of the church, it seems to be in accordance with the canons of decorum that the ladies should wear a head covering. As to what is suitable, that is another question, which the ladies, in consultation with the clergy, must be left to decide. From mere man's point of view we should think nothing could be less conducive to comfort

(Continued on Page 26.)

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.

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.

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.
BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to Inspect and report on Bells and Towers

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

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Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope Manufacturer,

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Maker 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.

(Continued from page 25.)

and grace in ringing than some of the millinery styles which fashion decrees that ladies should wear. But the members of the Ladies' Guild in their combined and practical wisdom will, we have no doubt, arrive at some form of suitable head gear which will meet the necessities of the situation and prove becoming as well.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1916, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 11½ cwt., in F.

*CYRIL GENTRY	*Treble*	HARRY ALLEN	5
ALFRED TARBUN, Junr. ...	2	HENRY F. COOPER ...	6
JAMES TARBUN	3	HARRY RICHELL	7
PERCY TIMSON	4	*ALEXANDER H. BEWERS	*Tenor*

Conducted by HENRY F. COOPER.

*First peal. Rung at the special request of the Rector, the Rev. F. R. Thurlow, with the bells fully muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Lieut.-Col. Taylor, 2/5 Essex Regt. (churchwarden), who was buried just prior to the start for the peal. Messrs. Cooper and Richell are ex-members of the late Colonel's Regt. The ringers of 2, 3 and tenor are members of the local company, the rest belong to Chelmsford Cathedral. After the peal the Rector met the ringers and thanked them.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, July 15th, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lbs. in E.

*WILLIAM BODEN	*Treble*	ALFRED E. FULLICK ...	5
*LEONARD HEWITT	2	WALTER LAGO	6
JAMES YORK	3	CHARLES R. LILLEY ...	7
WILLIAM SAUNDERS ...	4	*HAROLD ASTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. R. LILLEY.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Private Frank S. Downing, of 2nd Co., 6th Batt. Royal Warwickshire Regt., who died of wounds received in action, June 30th, 1916.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 15. 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, UPPER CLAPTON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qrs. 9 lbs., in F.

GEO. B. LUCAS, Senr....	*Treble*	ARTHUR HUGHES	5
LCE.-CPL. W. J. KEMP ...	2	WILLIAM T. POWELL ...	6
JOSEPH WAGHORN, Senr. ...	3	JAMES HUNT	7
CHARLES T. COLES	4	STANLEY H. R. COOPER	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM J. KEMP.

Rung with the bells half-muffled, at the close of a memorial service, as a tribute of respect to Private George H. Orford, 10th Batt. Royal Fusiliers, treasurer of the St. Matthew's (Upper Clapton) Society of Ringers, who died on June 24th, 1916, of wounds received while serving his King and Country in France.

BRECON.—On Whit-Sunday, for the morning service, at St. Mary's Church, 1260 Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: W. Hargest 1, C. Birch 2, G. Giblin 3, S. Watkins 4, S. Brooks 5, G. W. Frayne (Chester) 6, W. Evans (conductor) 7, W. Griffiths 8. For evening service, 1008 Stedman Triples: S. Watkins 1, G. W. Frayne 2, G. Giblin 3, W. Hargest 4, S. Brooks 5, C. Birch 6, W. Evans (conductor) 7, W. Griffiths 8. Both touches were rung as a farewell to C. Birch, who is leaving the town.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers serving with the colours:—

Gnr. W. Pether, of St. Mary's, Bletchloy, Royal Garrison Artillery.
Spr. F. W. Naunton, of the Parish Church, Wrentham, Suffolk, Royal Engineers.
Spr. E. W. Leonard, of St. Mary's, Bletchley, Railway Batt., Royal Engineers.
Pte W. J. Croft, of St. Mary's, Hitchin, 5th Bedfordshire Regt.
Pte W. Rose, of St. Mary's, Thornham Magna, Suffolk, 15th Royal Fusiliers.
Pte Robert Matthews, of Wollaston, Worcestershire, 5th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers.
Pte George Martin, of Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, 3/2nd Company Royal Engineers.
R. Buckland, of Beaconsfield, Royal Naval Air Service.
Pte H. F. Hawkins, of High Halden, Kent, Army Service Corps.
Pte W. J. Hawkins, of High Halden, Kent, 8th Batt. the Buffs, now "somewhere in France."

From St. John's, Ranmoor, Sheffield:—

Driver A. H. Ward, 3rd West Riding (T), Royal Field Artillery.
Pte M. Ward, York and Lancaster Regt., attached 4th West Yorks.
Pte A. Ward, 15th York and Lancaster Regt.

From St. Mary Magdalene's, Bolney, Sussex:—

Spr. G. A. Lewry, Royal Engineers, now "somewhere in France."
Pte C. Starley, East Surrey Regt.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week the South-Eastern Division of the Essex Association held a quarterly meeting at the Church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr, Brentwood, and there was a good attendance from Boreham, Braintree, Barking, Chelmsford, Rettendon, Widford and Writtle, as well as several visitors, including Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, and several soldiers belonging to the units stationed at Brentwood. The bells were raised at 4 p.m., and ringing in various methods occupied the time until service was held in the church. After the service the members adjourned to the Coffee Tavern for tea, 31 sitting down to an excellent spread, presided over by the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre (general secretary of the Association).—The Rev. Newton welcomed the ringers to Brentwood.

The business of the meeting followed, at which the District Master presided.—Miss V. Robinson, of Fryerning, and Mr. W. Cranmer, of Ingatestone, were elected members.—Writtle was selected as the place for the next gathering, which will be the annual meeting for the district, and will be held in November.

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre proposed, and Mr. C. Howard (Master of the Association) seconded, a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells.

The members then adjourned to the belfry for further ringing. The methods rung during the day included Double Norwich, Superlative and Treble Bob Major, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples. The bells of Shenfield Church were also available, and several members took the opportunity of visiting this tower.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT BERKSWELL.

A hearty welcome was again extended to the members and friends of the Warwickshire Guild, by their President (the Rev. H. C. A. Back), at whose kind invitation the Guild held their meeting at Berkswell on Saturday last, when about 30 visitors attended from various towers in the county. The bells were raised about 4 p.m., and various methods were rung until 4.45, when a short service was held, conducted by the President, who also gave an appropriate address, the Guild's own form of service being used.

The members afterwards made their way to the Rectory grounds, where a sumptuous tea had been provided, and which was presided over by the President and Mrs. Back.

A short business meeting was afterwards held, and Chilvers Coton was selected for the next quarterly meeting on September 30th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells and for conducting the service, and also to Mr. and Mrs. Back for the excellent tea which they had provided. The handbells were then brought into use, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Caters were tapped off in good style. Various methods were afterwards again rung on the tower bells till it became time to make tracks for home, after spending a very enjoyable afternoon and evening.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A well-attended meeting of the Bolton Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at the grand village of Deane on Saturday last. Members from Ashton, Manchester, Blackburn, Bolton, Tyldesley, Walkden, Worsley and Hindley, with several of the local company, attended. Some very good touches of Double Norwich, Stedman and Treble Bob were rung, and the members were very pleased to welcome and ring with Mr. J. W. Washbrook.—A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells; also to the local ringers for their kind welcome, brought to a close one of the best meetings held in the Bolton Branch for some time.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

ENJOYABLE MEETING AT MISSON.

Fine weather favoured the members on the occasion of their first quarterly meeting, which was held at Misson on Saturday week. There was a good gathering of ringers from various parts of the county and some from kindred associations, the towers represented including Anston, Harthill, Norton Cuckney, Worksop, Overton, West Retford, Ordsall, Misson, Treeton, and Gainsborough. As it was the village "feast day," the picturesque little place attracted quite a large number of visitors, and by 3.30 p.m. there were upwards of 40 ringers present. Before the commencement of ringing, Mr. Kelk, of Worksop, got together a nice little choir of voices, and a few suitable hymns were sung in the church, Mr. Kelk presiding at the organ.

Then followed a muffled 720 of Bob Minor, rung as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Thomas Smith, of Harthill, who for 25 years was a member of the Association, and also a committeeman. After the muffles had been removed a considerable amount of good ringing was done in the methods of Kent, Oxford and Violet Treble Bob. Tea was partaken of by 43 members and friends. The number necessitated two "sittings," a splendid repast being provided by Host and Hostess Whitehead, of the White Horse Inn.—The Vicar (the Rev. F. W. Keene) presided, supported by Mr. S. W. Law (churchwarden) and the hon. secretary and assistant hon. secretary.

At the business meeting, which followed, the Secretary (Mr. H. Haigh) made fitting allusion to the loss the Association had sustained in the death of Mr. T. Smith, of Harthill, and moved that a vote of condolence be sent to the bereaved family. This was carried unanimously, the ringers rising and standing a few moments in silence.

The next meeting was fixed for Everton, in Septemmer.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar of Misson for presiding, for use of bells and schoolroom, and also to him and Mr. S. W. Law (churchwarden) for their attendance and past kindnesses to the ringers; and both gentlemen suitably replied.

During the evening some of the members availed themselves of the opportunity of looking round the Vicarage gardens, whilst the youthful musical enthusiasts accepted an invitation to hear some good selections played by a deft and skilled lady pianist. Others made their way to the gardens to sample the raspberries. Altogether a most pleasurable time was spent, good use being made of the Daylight Saving Bill. A splendid drive home in the beautiful moonlight, or riding by "bike," was enjoyed by all.

SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday week the quarterly meeting of the Salop Archidiaconal Guild was held at St. Andrew's Church, Shifnal, which possesses a fine peal of eight bells (tenor 19 cwt. in E), dating back to 1771, and a very clean and cosy ringing chamber, the walls of which are covered with peal tablets recording peals rung by the Albion Society, including Oxford and New Treble Bob Major, Bob and Grandsire Major and Stedman and Grandsire Triples. It is believed that the second peal of Stedman Triples was rung here, and one notices on some of the boards the name of the late Samuel Lawrence. Most of the visitors to the meeting had a look at the house where he used to reside, and also visited his grave, which is close to the tower. Shifnal probably holds the record for peals in Shropshire towers.

Members attended the meeting from Highfield, Wellington, Coalbrookdale, Malins Lee, St. Peter's and Luke's, Wolverhampton; Shifnal, St. Chad's, Shrewsbury and Prees, there being 26 present. The ringing included Kent Treble Bob Major, Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples, and three courses of Grandsire Major were rung to oblige a very dear old friend. Several rang their first touches of Grandsire Triples.

Tea, which was served at 5 p.m., was followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. F. Tennison (the secretary) presided. Several new members were elected, and it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Wellington.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to Mr. W. Page, the genial captain, for the excellent arrangements, one and all having spent a most enjoyable time.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very enjoyable meeting of the Gainsborough District (Northern Branch) was held at Owston Ferry on Saturday last, and attended by ringers and friends from Gainsborough, Haxey and Bigby, in addition to one or two of the local company. The bells, a ring of six, were available during the afternoon and evening and utilised to the methods of Grandsire, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob, but owing to the bad going of the tenor not many touches were successfully brought round.

An excellent tea was provided by Mr. Pettinger, and was followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. H. T. Parry (Rector of Bigby) presided. After the routine business had been disposed of, Mr. J. C. Tinker gave a very hearty welcome to those who were present from Bigby (Grimsby district) and the Rev. H. T. Parry responded.

The usual votes of thanks brought the proceedings to a close, after which the ringers returned to the church, where the bells were kept going until about 7.30, and, in spite of the aforementioned difficulty, one more red-letter day for the Gainsborough district was added to those that have passed.

AMERICA'S ANCIENT BELLS.

AN ARTICLE BY DR. NICHOLS.

Dr. Arthur H. Nichols, of Boston, U.S.A., has contributed another interesting article to the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register," and has dealt on his occasion with the bells of Trinity Church, Rhode Island. These bells have an interest for ringers on this side of the Atlantic, for some of them came from English bell foundries. The first of the bells was a small one of 125lbs. placed in the tower in 1702, having probably been cast by Thomas Bilbie, junr., a member of a firm established at Chew Stoke, Somerset, in 1698, and lasting till 1813. In 1709 the original bell was replaced by one weighing 800lbs., the gift of Queen Anne, and which became cracked in 1739. The next bell, 1,000lbs. in weight, was placed in the tower in 1741, and did service for 63 years before it, too, cracked. The fourth in line, was cast in America. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, says Dr. Nichols, the art of bell founding was in its infancy in America, and the crude, unhomogeneous castings of that period resulted generally in fragile instruments of harsh, shrill sound, some specimens of which are still extant. Notwithstanding the difference between castings at that date of domestic and foreign manufacture, the committee accepted in June, 1804, a bid of Fenno and Crocker, of Hartford, Conn., for a bell of 1,200 lbs., with the stipulation that the work of casting should be entrusted to a Mr. Doolittle, "who had a good reputation in that line," and that the old bell should be incorporated in the new amalgam. When installed, 4th September, 1804, it was voted "that the sexton ring her as usual at sunrise, one of the clock, p.m., and at nine in the evening: and that he be permitted to raise money by a general subscription to reward him for doing the same." As to the qualifications of the artisan, Mr. Doolittle, it is perhaps significant that this fourth bell became cracked in November of the same year.

The fifth bell, weighing 1,375 lbs., was cast by Fenton and Cochran, of New Haven, Conn., and was the 115th cast at the same foundry during a period of ten years. This one lasted until 1842. The next one was put up in 1843, and cost 234 dollars. It weighed 1,876 lbs., and was cracked in 1876.

Of the seventh bell, Dr. Nichols gives the following particulars: The present bell, into the amalgam of which the metal of the sixth bell entered, "out of deference to Dr. King and others," was cast by Mencely and Company of West Troy (now of Watervliet), N.Y. It weighs 3,450 lbs., is of deep, mellow tone, and bears the following inscriptions:—

Vivos voco; mortuos plango.
When I do ring, God's praises sing.
When I do toule, pray heart and soule.
The Gift of Queen Anne to Trinity Church, Newport, R.I., 1709.
Recast in 1843. Recast and doubled in weight, 1876

Inasmuch as this seventh bell weighs more than four times that given by Queen Anne and contains no portion of its metal, the above inscription is of questionable propriety. It may be said, however, in explanation, that inscriptions on old bells are sometimes reproduced as a matter of sentiment on modern instruments with which they may have a certain relation. Thus, on three bells of the English peal placed in 1912 in the Memorial Tower at Hingham, Mass., are repeated the identical inscriptions brazed on the bells of St. Andrew's at Hingham, co. Norfolk, Eng., the old home of many of the pioneers of the Massachusetts settlement.

OTHER ANCIENT BELLS.

Comparison with other old bells bearing authentic dates indicates that the bell of 1702 is one of the few of that period which have escaped the mismanagement of a careless sexton. When tracing the history of the bells cast by Revere and Son the writer learned that while fifty were broken, presumably by faulty handling, no less than thirty-nine disappeared when the church edifice was destroyed by fire, attributed almost invariably to an overheated stove or furnace.

The original bells of Trinity Church, New York City, cast about the year 1700, are said to have been the gift of Queen Anne. Of these, three were transferred to Trinity Chapel and a fourth is still in use in St. Paul's. Of the peal of bells now suspended in Trinity steeple, five remain of those imported in the year 1797 from the Whitechapel foundry, London, and one bears a date prior to the Revolution. Another bell, given to this society by the Bishop of London, was cast in 1704 and now hangs in St. Augustine's steeple. In the steeple of the Dutch Reformed Church, Fifth Avenue, is a bell cast at Amsterdam in the year 1731 and removed from the old church on Nassau Street, a legacy from the will of Col. Abram de Peyser. Preserved in the Washington Headquarters at Newburg, N.Y., is a bell of 25lbs., cast at Amsterdam in the year 1716, and given in 1719 to the first settlers of Newburg, who loaned it temporarily to the Lutheran Society in New York, until a church was built by the pioneers in 1733. It is probable that the oldest English bell remaining in this country is that in the Court House at Barnstable, Mass. It is inscribed: "Si Deus pro nobis, quis contra nos. 1675," and was the gift of the widow of Peter Adolph of New York to the First Parish Church, Sandwich, Mass., in gratitude to the people of that town for recovering the body of her husband, who had been drowned in a wreck off the shore. After the sale of this church the bell came into possession of the County Court House. Although this building was totally destroyed by fire in 1827, the belfry tipped forward in such a way as to bring the bell to the ground uninjured. Raised to the cupola of the present Court House in 1833, it was cracked by blows from a blacksmith's hammer, 4th July, 1872.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Burnham on Saturday week, when 85 members were present, representing 18 towers. On account of the war the customary dinner was omitted, and the business meeting was held in the Church Hall in the afternoon, the Rev. C. C. Parker (Master of the Association) presiding, supported by the Rev. H. G. S. Atchley, Godney; the Rev. E. de Saint Croix, Holy Trinity, Bridgwater; the Rev. H. Tritton, Burnham; Mr. F. G. May, Bristol, and others.

MASTER'S REPORT.

The Master read his annual report, in which he said: "We meet again under the shadow of a war which is being felt in every department of the nation's life; but we, as an Association, have much to be thankful for in that our position remains sound financially, and that so far our efficiency has not been materially lessened. Our secretary has received the names of 218 members who have joined the Forces, but a large number of towers have failed to send in their lists, and the total is probably far greater. We regret that our annual meeting could not be held in Wells, but as it was the wish of the Bishop and the Dean that the cathedral bells should not be rung we had no alternative but to change the place of meeting to Burnham. We are, therefore, most grateful to the Vicar of that parish for receiving us so kindly at so short a notice. I regret to note that 15 towers have been lost to the Association. Some have resigned and others have dropped out owing to arrears. On the other hand we have added four towers to our list, so that our numbers have not decreased to any great extent, and, including performing, honorary, life members, etc., total 1,416. The treasurer's report is satisfactory. The receipts from the Deaneries are not so large as they have been in the past, but, under the circumstances, they have done very well, and we have a small balance to the good, which for one reason and another we have not had for some years. Four meetings were held during the year, and the following towers were added to the Association: Keynsham (8 bells), Tinsbury (6), All Saints', Clevedon (6), Radstock (6). Peals, except for some special reason, are not encouraged during the continuation of the war, so that there are only three to chronicle last year, amongst them being a peal of Grandsire Triples rung by ladies at Portishead. The others were a peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Bath, and a peal of Grandsire Doubles rung at Ubley. Let me conclude my report by expressing the hope that every Deanery tower and member will do their utmost to maintain the interests of our Association in these trying times, and though we cannot expect a great advance yet, let us be ready when peace is declared, with God's help and blessing, to increase our usefulness in the service of the Church and Diocese."

The Secretary (Mr. E. E. Burgess) presented the balance sheet, which showed receipts for the year amounting to £72 17s. 8d., and expenditure £70 9s. 8d. This was adopted, and the usual honorarium was granted to the secretary, on the proposition of Mr. Holmyard, seconded by Mr. Prescott.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The next business was the election of Master, and Mr. Taylor, after paying a high tribute to the Rev. C. C. Parker for the way he attended the meetings and conducted the business, proposed his re-election. — This was seconded by Mr. Maddock, and carried with acclamation, and Mr. Parker returned thanks.—Mr. Moulton proposed, and Mr. Prescott seconded, the re-election of the secretary and treasurer, and this having been carried, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. A. J. Hook for auditing the accounts, and his re-election was agreed.

Thirty-one new members were elected, among them being two new bands of lady ringers, who received a hearty welcome to the Association. These companies have been formed on account of the men joining the colours.

The places for the quarterly meetings for the year are West Coker, in September; Long Ashton, in December; and Dunster after Easter.

On the motion of Mr. W. G. Prescott, seconded by Mr. F. G. May, a vote of sympathy was passed with the relatives of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart; Messrs. Henry Dains (London), Charles Hattersley (Sheffield), and James Fussell (late secretary of the Bath Deanery).

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by the Master to Preb. Hayes Robinson, Vicar of Burnham, for arranging the service and for the use of the bells; to the Rev. H. Tritton for assisting, and to the organist for his services.—This was carried unanimously, and concluded the business.

Tea was partaken of in the Lifeboat Pavilion, after which service was held in the Parish Church, at which Preb. Hayes Robinson gave a very appropriate address.

During the day touches in various methods were rung on the Parish Church bells, in which several of the ladies took part.

PROOF AND COMPOSITION

OF TREBLE BOB METHODS

By Gabriel Lindoff.

(Continued from Page 237, Vol. x.).

In my last article I gave the 64 possible sets of thirty true course-ends which can be used for Treble Bob composition or any method with the same proof scale. I now append a five-part table which is built up from No. 53.

FIVE-PART TABLE.

	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.
1	42635	35426	26354	54263	63542
	56324 35246	64253 26534	43562 54623	32645 63452	25436 42365
	35264	26543	54632	63425	42356
	23564	52643	65432	46325	34256
	52364	65243	46532	34625	23456
2	42356	35264	26543	54632	63425
	63524 56243	42653 64532	35462 43625	26345 32456	54236 25364
	56234	64523	43652	32465	25346
3	25463	56342	64235	43526	32654
	34652 63524	23465 42653	52346 35462	65234 26345	46523 54236
	63542	42635	35426	26354	54263
	56342	64235	43526	32654	25463
4	54326	42563	26435	63254	35642
	63245 26453	35624 63245	54362 35624	42536 54362	26453 42536
	26435	63254	35642	54326	42563
	34256	46325	65432	52643	23564
5	23456	34625	46532	65243	52364
	64532 56324	56243 25436	25364 32645	32456 43562	43625 64253
	56432	25643	32564	43256	64325
	45632	62543	53264	24356	36425
	64352	56423	25634	32546	43265
	36452	45623	62534	53246	24365
	43265	64352	56423	25634	32546
	24365	36452	45623	62534	53246
6	32465	43652	64523	56234	25346
	54623 65234	26534 52346	35246 23465	42365 34652	63452 46523
	65423	52634	23546	34265	46352
	46253	65324	52436	23645	34562
	24653	36524	45236	62345	53462
	62453	53624	24536	36245	45362

This table is built up in the following manner: Rule your paper into five columns, and spaces for six courses in each column. Then take each block of five course-ends separately and find the M lead in each course (treble seventh and tenor can be omitted). This can be done quickly by transposing each course by 42635.

Thus $\frac{2345678}{4263857}$ CE $=$ $\frac{23456}{42635}$ M

Having obtained the M leads of a block, write them in the table, one in each column. Then proceed with the remaining five till the whole thirty are disposed of.

Now these thirty M leads are from natural course-ends, and cannot be followed by a bob in the same position. Any additional leads to be bobbed to them must precede them, not follow them.

As the whole sixty M leads can be introduced we now look through those we have written in the table, observing the last two bells, with the idea of bringing each pair behind to its full complement, namely, three.

Some pairs you will find have their three representatives in the table. Underline these, as they can be extended no further. For example, see M leads with 35 behind. Their three members appear in Col. I, Course 1, Col. III, Course 3, and Col. III, Course 4. We will now take an example of two members appearing in the table. Take 56 behind. In Col. I, Course 2, we have 42356, and in Col. I, Course 5, 23456. Therefore, in 42356 and 23456 the missing lead can only procede 23456. Add this missing lead above 23456 and underline the two members to show they have been dealt with. In Col. I, Course 6, with 65 behind, we have an example of only one member appearing in the table, viz., 32465. The two missing members can both be placed before it in their proper order.

Having examined all the M leads, and filled in all the missing members possible, we next proceed to fill in the first W lead in each course that will turn up after a bob before has been called. This is done by transposing the last middle lead in each course by 64532. These W leads can now be examined, and their missing members filled in where possible. This filling in can be done in a downward manner and not upward, as was the case with the Middles.

Great care must be made to avoid the course 1 M. B. 1 W. You will sometimes find that after one in the middle has been added that you can add 1 W. This must not be added, as it would split up five courses into five round blocks.

After all the possible W's have been added, transpose the last W's by 42536, which will give the first H in each course. These can be examined and extended in the same manner as the W's.

The rows to the right of each course denote the W lead that would turn up if the Bob before was omitted.

In my next article I will endeavour to show how peals can be obtained from this table.

BROMLEY YOUTHS' TRIP.

The Society of Bromley Youths, the ringers attached to the old Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Bromley, held their annual outing on July 3rd, when eight members, accompanied by Mr. W. Hewett, of Camberwell, visited the towers of Edenbridge and Chiddingstone, Kent. An early start was made, Edenbridge being reached at 8.45 a.m., where the party were met by Mr. J. W. Steddy, the genial secretary of the local band, who had kindly made the necessary local arrangements.

The first move was, of course, for some refreshments, which partook somewhat of the nature of breakfast and lunch combined and the next for the belfry, which contains a really splendid ring of eight, with a 14 cwt. tenor, installed some six years ago by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The bells were raised in peal, and several touches of Double Norwich and Stedman Triples were rung, Mr. Steddy taking part in a touch of the former method. After a look round the church and another touch in each method, the bells lowered in peal, every one of the visitors expressing his opinion that, for the weight, the tone and go of the bells leave nothing to be desired. After a capital dinner at Belton's, in the High Street, a pair-horse brake conveyed the excursionists to Chiddingstone, about half an hour's drive through beautiful country, bringing them to the small but pretty village of Hever, whose ancient castle is the home of the newly created peer, Lord Astor, who is said to be rich enough to ignore the Daylight Saving Act. Here the party stayed a short time, and had a look round the church, where there is a peal of six, but could not get permission to ring, as there was a death in the parish, and it is a rule there never to ring the bells when a parishioner lies dead.

One of the sights of the church is the tomb of Sir Thomas Boleyn, father of Ann Boleyn, who lived at Hever Castle. On the top of the tomb is a beautiful brass of Sir Thomas, in his full insignia of a Knight of the Garter. Next the visitors inspected the house across the way, the King Henry the Eighth, with its unique signboard, the front view of the King of many wives on one side, and the back view of him on the other. Then the journey was continued to Chiddingstone, where Mr. Steddy had also obtained permission for ringing. One interesting point about the visit to this tower was that there is recorded in the old peal book of the Bromley Youths a peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt's ten course, rung at Chiddingstone by the Bromley Youths on August 4th, 1798.

On arrival the bells were raised in peal, and three courses of Stedman Triples were followed by touches of Double Norwich and Bob Major. The bells are a very good old peal (tenor 19¾), but the ringers were soon satisfied so they lowered the bells in peal and adjourned to the Castle Hotel for tea. Some of the party visited the chiding stone in the park, from which the village is supposed to take its name. A pleasant walk to Penshurst Station, and home to Bromley by rail, concluded what all agreed had been a very happy and enjoyable day. The excursionists' one regret was that their lads in khaki were not able to be with them, only one of five who have joined up being able to accompany the party, whose thanks are due principally to Mr. Steddy, who did all that was asked of him; to the incumbents of both parishes, and also the steeplekeepers for having everything in readiness and thus assisting the Youths to spend a very enjoyable day.

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CASULTIES AMONG RINGERS.

KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THE BIG " PUSH."

In the great British offensive in France, which began on July 1st, many ringers took their share, and some of them have laid down their lives in this new phase of the titanic struggle which has begun.

SECOND-LIEUT. A. G. SHORTER.

Among the toll of lives which have been taken is that of Second-Lieut. Alfred George Shorter, who was killed in the offensive. The deceased officer was an enthusiastic ringer, and did good service for many years in the Durham and Newcastle Association. He was captain of the Consett company, which he brought to a high state of efficiency, but enlisted soon after war broke out in the Royal Field Artillery. In March of last year he obtained a commission in the 7th Batt. Durham Light Infantry, and he proved himself a very keen soldier. The son of the late Mr. A. J. Shorter, Unionist agent for North-West Durham, and of Mrs. Shorter, of Bank House, Consett, the deceased was formerly employed in the offices of the great Consett Iron Company. His death will be much regretted among the ringers of the Northern dioceses, but his example in always striving for the best in the belfry as elsewhere will ever remain a cherished memory.

SEC.-LIEUT. A. G. SHORTER,
7th Durham Light Infantry.

"WOUNDED AND MISSING."

Among the officers reported as " wounded and missing " is Lieut. R. W. Falconer, of the 16th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers. Lieut. Falconer, who belongs to Gosforth, has been a tower of strength to the Durham and Newcastle Association, in which he takes the greatest active interest. A clever ringer and a magnificent type of the manly Northumbrian, he quickly responded to the call of duty, and has carried into his soldiering the same characteristic energy that marked his doings in peaceful pursuits. Much sympathy will be extended to his family in their anxiety, with the sincerest hopes that he may be quickly restored to them.

Pte Slarke, of Towcester, grandson of Mr. James Slarke, President of the Towcester and District Association, was wounded in the advance while serving with the Northants Regiment. One leg has been severely damaged, and he is now in hospital at Rochester, and is going on as well as can be expected.

Nothing has been heard of Lance-Corpl. Faulkner, of the same tower, who has been missing since the Loos fighting on Sept. 25th last.

We shall be glad if ringers' friends will inform us of casualties among members of the Exercise.

Pte W. Stratford, a member of Bishop Ryder's Society, Birmingham, was wounded on July 2nd (his 21st birthday) by a bullet through the shin during a bayonet charge. He is now in Rouen Convalescent Hospital. He writes: " Nearly all my pals were killed in that charge, and I was buried twice with shells bursting near. Now I am convalescent, I have plenty of good food, cigarettes and chocolates, and am quite comfortable. I should like a pull on the bells again. You ought to see some of the church towers out here, close to the line; they are in a terribly battered state. I think the war will soon be over."

SEC.-LIEUT. ARNOLD TAYLOR KILLED.

Another gallant young officer, whose death will be much deplored throughout the Exercise, is Second-Lieut. Arnold Bradley Taylor, fourth son of Mr. John W. Taylor, of the Loughborough Bell Foundry, and the late Mrs. Annie Mary Taylor. Born on January 23rd, 1894, Lieut. Taylor was educated at Shaftesbury and Denstone College, where he was in the O.T.C. for two years. On leaving Denstone he joined his father's business at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough.

On the outbreak of war he enlisted in the 4th Public Schools Battalion, and was given a commission in January, 1915, in the 9th Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment, and went to the front in February, 1916. He fell in action on Tuesday, July 11th.

Three of his brothers are serving in the forces in France. Lieut. Pryce Taylor, who was also in the Loughborough business, has gone through the great advance safely up to the present with nothing worse than a hand scratched by barbed wire. A brother officer by his side was wounded in the foot, and is now in Newcastle Hospital.

SEC.-LIEUT. ARNOLD TAYLOR.
9th Leicestershire Regiment.

Mr. J. W. Taylor was on military duty at Retford when the sad news of the loss of his gallant son reached him. It is interesting to note, too, that Mr. Taylor's daughter is a Red Cross nurse in France.

The fullest sympathy of ringers in all parts of the kingdom, among whom he is so well known, will go out to Mr. J. W. Taylor and his family in the loss of one so dear to them. The deceased officer was an hon. member of the Midland Counties Association, of which his respected father has just been elected President.

Mr. J. W. Taylor has received the following letter from Sec.-Lieut. Batcheldor, a brother officer of Lieut. Taylor:— :

" Dear Sir,—A few lines to let you know how very deeply I sympathise with you in the loss of your son, Sec.-Lieut. A. B. Taylor, who was killed in action near ——— last Tuesday, the 11th instant. It happened about mid-day. He had just come back to the trench after helping to bring wounded in, when a heavy shell burst near by, and a piece of it went right through his body. He only lived a few minutes. I was not present when he was hit, but am confident he did not linger long. I am writing this because he was the best chum I have had out here, and just before going into action we exchanged addresses in case anything happened to either of us. He was the most conscientious subaltern in the company, and his loss will be sadly felt by all of us."

COALBROOKDALE RINGER KILLED.

It was with deepest regret, after waiting a week for further news of Pte Frank S. Downing, 2nd Company 6th Batt. Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who was wounded in action in the great battle of the Somme, on June 30th, that on Sunday, July 9th, the sad news arrived at Coalbrookdale that he had died of mortal wounds at No. 7 Collecting Hospital, in France. The deceased was one of the local ringers,

and the sympathy of all who knew him will go out to his wife, parents, relatives and friends. Pte Downing was one of eight of the Coalbrookdale band that have joined the forces, and are serving in various parts of the world.

In 1907 he took up ringing, and did much good work to raise the standard of the belfry in many ways and ringing generally. He was a member of the Hereford Diocesan and Salop Guilds, and a member of the C.E.M.S. He rang 13 peals in all, including Grandsire Doubles 2, Grandsire Triples 10, including the first by a local band, and in which six of the ringers averaged only 18 years of age. This peal was also the first rung by a local band for 19 years. He also took part in the first half muffled, and muffled peals on the bells, two of these being for the late King Edward VII. On Tuesday, December 27th, 1910, he rang his only peal of Stedman Triples at Coalbrookdale with St. Leonard's, Bridgnorth, company, and a local tenor man, he being the first local ringer to ring a peal of Stedman with a bob bell. Ten of his peals were rung at home, one at High Ercall on October 22nd, 1910 (the only peal rung there since 1812), one each at Malinslee and Madeley, Salop.

The deceased also took a keen interest in friendly society work, and after passing through the various offices of Court Royal George A.O.F., Ironbridge, in 1912 was appointed Chief Ranger.

At the end of that year he went to Birmingham and worked there till November 11th, 1914, when he joined the Warwickshire Regiment, and after training in various camps in England went out to France on May 21st last. His last visit to Coalbrookdale was in April, when he took part in the ringing for morning service on Sunday, April 9th, while on the Saturday afternoon he spent an hour at the belfry tapping handbells double-handed, he being one of the first local ringers to ring changes double-handed, and being able to ring 5—6 with ease to Grandsire Triples and Caters.

He was very consistent in all he undertook. As a ringer his regularity and punctuality were a pattern to all. Bands of ringers losing such valuable members as he was must and will find it most difficult to fill their places.

On October 17th, 1859, the deceased's grandfather, Thomas Downing, rung the sixth bell through the first peal on the bells, a peal of Treble Bob Triples (5040 changes), in 3 hours 10 minutes, the band being: William Aston 1, George Cowner 2, George Beardshaw 3, George Parker 4, Thos. Parker 5, Thomas Downing 6,, John Rogers 7, Joseph Pritchard 8. Conducted by John Rogers.

Pte Downing's father was also a ringer.

On Saturday last a muffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung to his memory at Coalbrookdale Parish Church.

BROTHERS WOUNDED.

In the rank and file among those who were wounded were the brothers Lance-Corpl. W. Emerson and Pte T. Emerson, of Radcliffe Parish Church, Lancs. They were serving in the Loyal North Lancs Regiment and were wounded on July 7th in the advance on Contalmaison. They reached the German third line before they were hit, being in action 3¾ hours. Lance-Corpl. Emerson had a finger smashed by a bullet, and Pte Emerson suffered a bullet wound through the hand. These two brothers enlisted together, went out to the front together, were wounded at the same time, and are now in hospital together at Bury, about three miles from their home. While in France they were in action on various parts of the front, including that at Vimy Ridge, which they helped to capture, but which was subsequently retaken by the Germans.

HARTHILL RINGER'S DEATH.

The death has taken place at Harthill, Notts, of Mr. Thomas Smith, one of the local ringers, and an enthusiastic churchworker.

A native of Everton, near Bawtry, he came to reside at Harthill when a boy, and here he lived for nearly 60 years, taking an active and useful part in the religious and social life of the village. He was employed an engineman at Kiveton Park colliery for 48 years, earning the goodwill and confidence of his employers and fellow workmen alike.

In the village life deceased will be much missed, his genial disposition and generous nature having made him many friends. He had been connected with All Hallows' Church Sunday School as a teacher for over 30 years, and up to the time of his death he was a sidesman and a whole-hearted churchworker. The Coronation Hospital Committee lose in him a hard-working member, he having been a collector since the fund's inception 13 years ago.

Deceased was a good six-bell ringer, and had been connected with the North Notts Association 25 years, but had done little peal ringing at Harthill on account of the bad "go" of the bells. He was 68 years of age.

The Rector, the Rev. B. Darley, late secretary of the North Notts Association, officiated at the funeral, which took place amid many signs of regret. In the church the hymn, "Rock of Ages," was sung, and in the evening a muffled peal was rung to his memory by his old colleagues, and an evening or two later the Anston company met at the Harthill belfry and paid a similar tribute of respect to his memory.—R.I.P.

H. H.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING REMINISCENT OF PRE-WAR TIMES.

On Saturday last a most successful meeting of the London County Association was held at St. Giles', Camberwell, a large number of members attending from Southwark, Chelsea, Fulham, Mitcham, Leatherhead, Beddington, Croydon, Westminster, Clapham, Barking, Wolverhampton, Swindon, Bishopsgate, etc. The splendid ring of ten were kept going to Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Kent and Cambridge Royal until 7.30 p.m.

At a business meeting, held subsequently at the Stirling Castle, adjacent to the church, three new members were elected unanimously, viz.: Mrs. F. I. Hairs, of Clapham; Mrs. T. Walker, of Bishopsgate; and Mr. Percy H. Smith, of Eccleston, Chester and London, the two ladies having taken part in a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples on handbells about a week previously.

A vote of sympathy was passed with the relatives of Pte A. Fluck, of Clapham, a much respected member of this Association, who unfortunately had been recently killed in action.

Sympathetic reference to the illness of Mr. A. W. Grimes, a member of the society, was made by Sapper Pike, R.E., Mr. W. A. Alps and others, and the hon. secretary was requested to convey to him by letter their regret at his continued illness, and hopes of his speedy and complete recovery.

The date of the next meeting was again left to the secretary to fix, with the request that St. Luke's, Chelsea, be applied for, failing which All Saints', Fulham, notice of which will duly appear in "The Ringing World."

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. W. Reeve to the Vicar and churchwardens for their kindness in placing the bells at the disposal of the Association, and Mr. A. J. Perkins (Beddington) proposed a similar vote to their old friend and member, Mr. H. Flower, tower-keeper, for the excellent manner in which the arrangements were made by him for the comfort of all.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to touches on the handbells in various methods, and tunes by Mr. F. Davis and Mr. and Mrs. T. Walker, interspersed with a song or two. This enjoyable evening, reminiscent of pre-war times, was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem and Auld Lang Syne.

SALMON AND GREEN PEAS.

The annual Severn salmon and green pea supper arranged at Lydney, Glos., by the genial local ringing enthusiast, Mr. J. W. Davies, took place on Saturday week, and proved to be, as in the past, a great success. A peal of Kent Treble Bob Major had been suggested for the afternoon, but fell through owing to keenness for peals being "off" under present circumstances.

Early in the afternoon the visitors, including Mr. S. Hector, of Trowbridge; Mr. R. J. Wilkins and Mr. C. Gordon, of Bristol; and Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, put in an appearance at the church, where the Vicar, who, is always a trump to ringers, was waiting to give welcome. The bells were raised, and after a few touches had been brought round, the Gloucester visitors arrived, including the Master (Mr. J. Austin), Mr. J. Gillett, Mr. G. Costick, Mr. T. Baldwin, and others. At 6.30 the company assembled at the Queen's Hotel, where Mrs. Mays, the proprietress, had prepared a most inviting spread, which included an abundance of the principal items of the menu. The excellent repast was fully enjoyed, and afterwards the usual toasts were given.

The social which followed was presided over by the Master of the Association, and several excellent songs were rendered, interspersed with the handbells, a most enjoyable evening being spent.

Arrangements had been made for the visitors to stay the night, and after an early breakfast, a start was made with a pair of horses and brake for a drive through the Forest of Dean to Ruardean to ring for service. On arrival there the party found that the locals had already got the bells ringing to welcome the visitors. They immediately handed over the ropes, and a touch of Stedman Triples was brought home. They were met there and joined in the ringing by Mr. Chew, of Whitchurch, near Cardiff, formerly of Mitcheldean. After giving the horses a rest, and refreshing the inner man, the drive was continued to Mitcheldean, where it had been arranged to ring during the afternoon. Halt was made on the way at the residence of Mr. Chew's parents, from which spot a magnificent view was obtained of the Severn and surrounding country. After partaking of Mr. Chew's hospitality, and enjoying a stroll on the lawn, which was surrounded with magnificent roses, the party drove on, reaching Mitcheldean somewhat later than expected, and to meet them there, after a four hours' bicycle ride, and a long wait, was the Swindon enthusiast, Mr. J. H. Shepherd. Various methods were rung, including Grandsire, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich.

Then the drive was resumed to Newnham, at which place the party had to separate, the Gloucester and Bristol friends having to catch their train at this point. Those who remained returned to Lydney, seven miles distant, and as they drove off the Newnham bells struck out for evening service, but time did not permit the visitors to ring here. Beautiful weather was experienced the whole time, and a most enjoyable day was spent. The party are grateful and indebted to Mr. J. W. Davies for making the whole of the arrangements, and it is hoped that next year a similar trip may be arranged.

DOMINION DAY.

BURNHAM BELLS' CELEBRATION.

Those who, with fame eternal, their own dear land endowed,
Look on them as a mantle the shade of death's dark cloud;
Yet dying thus they died not, on whom is glory shed
By virtue which exalts them above all other dead.

Sir J Rennell Rodd.

Dominion Day was not only celebrated by the ringing of Burnham bells on July 1st, but also by the British advance in France, on the west front, where Dominion and Colonial troops gloriously distinguished themselves, as well as a regiment of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry. Therefore, the ringing of bells in the County of Bucks by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild appears to be a fit and proper duty on such a day. Owing to the sad illness of the late Vicar, and the absence of the steeplekeeper, Mr. G. Allder, who, with Mr. J. Eldridge, of Boyne Hill, had been away on war work in South Wales, the practices at this tower had been suspended for awhile.

On Dominion Day, however, the under-mentioned members of the local branch, representing seven towers, met at the belfry, and London and Cambridge Surprise, Double Norwich, Treble Bob and Stedman were rung to oblige all-comers. The ladies and the Vicar took part in a touch of Grandsire Triples, much to the interest of the Vicar's daughter, who came to see the work, with the hope of taking it up some day.

The Branch Hon. Secretary, on behalf of those present and a few absent friends, congratulated the Rev. P. P. Nott, M.A., upon his recent appointment as the Vicar of Burnham, the advent of a "ringing parson" always being a matter of much interest to adherents of change ringing.

This the Vicar acknowledged with thanks and appreciation, expressing a wish to organise a special ringers' service during the autumn on some suitable Sunday, and similar to others held by him in Lancashire.

The Misses Dancer, Gudgeon, Cooper and Nott, Messrs. G Martin (looking fit and well in khaki), J. Eldridge, W. H. Fussell, G. Allder, P. Jones, T. Smith, W. Garsway, W. Welling, W. Burden, J. Bert, W. Henley, G. Gutteridge and G. T. Leader were those who took part in the ringing.

W. H. F.

PATRIOTISM AND PROFIT.

Sir,—I have just read the annual report of the Essex Association and my eyes has caught the comments of the Master—Mr. C. H. Howard who, inter alia, says:—"The balance sheet discloses that £50 of our reserve fund which was formerly in the Post Office bank at 2½ per cent. has been re-invested in the 4½ per cent. War Loan, thus showing our patriotism to the national funds, and securing a larger income from the capital."

Will the Master, Mr. C. H. Howard, kindly enlighten me, as a student of finance, where the patriotism comes in, to take from one Government bank at 2½ per cent. and re-invest in another bank of the same Government at 4½ per cent.? I think I am right in saying that up to the moment of writing, the Government has not asked for the P.O. savings to be disturbed; and that for reasons which must be obvious. While the country, i.e., the Government, needs money to carry on the war to a victorious conclusion, perhaps ringers have as much right to bleed the country white, and demand their pound of flesh the same as every other horde of shylocks; but to mention it and patriotism in the same breath is, to my mind, the acme of cant—or thoughtlessness.—Yours very truly,

Leicester, July 15th. W. WILLSON.

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

A "STRAWBERRY" MEETING.

The twenty-six members and friends of the Middlesex County Association who attended the meeting held on Saturday last will remember the tea-table with its piles of luscious fruit, for one always associates Harlington with strawberries, and this year the fruit was very fine. We found kind ladies, too, who take a pleasure in entertaining us, and a Rector (the Rev. H. Wilson), whose joviality at once puts everyone at his ease. The ladies who took part in the ringing were Mrs. and Miss Newman, of the local band, and two visitors—the Misses Honor and Maidment, from Hillingdon; and we had the pleasant company of Mrs. and Miss Elson at the tea.

The business meeting followed with its usual formula.—Mr. Wm. Shepherd thought that St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, should be the next place of meeting, and this was generally approved.—He proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector, and to the ladies who so kindly assisted at the tea and in the belfry.

The Rector, in replying, said how pleased he was to see the ringers at Harlington again. He regretted that so few of the local band were present to meet them, but so many were away serving their country.

The members present included the District Master (Mr. T. Beadle), and representatives from Heston, Hersham, Hillingdon, Harlington, Isleworth, Putney, Sunbury, Willesden and West Ealing.

In the evening some of the ladies added their charms to a pretty photographic view—which was taken by one of the ringers—and it included the fine western avenue of yew trees, the large cedar tree, and the church and tower with its interesting and curious bell cote.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT FROCESTER

Beautifully fine weather, a splendid peal of bells which go excellently, and a most hearty welcome from the Vicar, churchwardens and ringers, were the conditions with which the Stroud and District Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association met at their quarterly meeting at Frocester on Saturday week. There was an excellent attendance, 31 ringers being present and representing most of the towers in the Stroud branch, and others from the neighbouring towers of Wotton-under-Edge branch. Everything was in readiness, and the bells were raised in peal and rung during the afternoon. Many musical touches were brought round, two lady ringers from Dursley, who were accorded a hearty welcome, taking part. The Vicar (the Rev. G. N. Unwin) visited the tower and welcomed all.

A service was afterwards held in the Parish Church, and then a nice walk brought the ringers to the Vicarage, where kind friends had tea laid on the lawn, where all were well looked after by the ladies present, and a most pleasant time was spent.

A business meeting followed, and Haresfield was unanimously selected for the next quarterly meeting, and Stroud and Leonard Stanley for the monthly meetings.—Three new members were elected.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. H. Fussell, and seconded by Mr. J. Singleton, to the Vicar for his excellent address; the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and kind hospitality: and the local ringers, organist and ladies for making the meeting so successful. Several courses of Grandsire Triples were rung on the fine peal of handbells kindly lent by Mr. J. Earl, in which the lady ringers took part. The tower was then again visited, and the bells kept merrily ringing in musical touches in standard methods till 9 p.m. Some of the bells in Frocester tower date from the year 1639.

CHELTENHAM PARISH CHURCH.

NOTABLE EVENTS RECORDED.

An interesting ceremony took place in the belfry of the Parish Church, Cheltenham, after evening service on Sunday week, when the Rector (the Rev. H. A. Wilson) unveiled a board recording notable events in the history of the tower and bells. The board, which is of handsome design, records the restoration of the tower and the augmentation of the bells from ten to twelve, the first peal (Grandsire Cinques) on the larger number, and the long peal of Grandsire Caters rung in 1889.

The ceremony began with a short service, and then the Rector removed the flag which hung over the board, and read the inscription. He also said how pleased he was to make this visit and to testify to his confidence that the ringers entered into their work in as earnest spirit as did the preachers in the pulpit and the office-bearers in the church.

Mr. E. B. Wethered (churchwarden) next explained the steps taken to secure the record, and pointed to some of the most interesting features of the belfry.

Mr. W. T. Pates, on behalf of the ringers, thanked the Rector for his kind words, and asked him to wait while the bells were rung, which was done. Among those present were Mrs. Wilson and daughter, Messrs. Ayris, Whittaker, Ballinger, etc., and a number of the choir boys.

The board bears the following record:—

"The Parish Church, Cheltenham.

"By the gale of December 16th, 1910, the apex of the spire was damaged, and in 1911 the upper part, some 14ft. in height, was rebuilt, a previously discarded old weathercock being refixed on a shortened vane. The whole steeple was repaired, internal stages renewed, and the walls of the belfry strengthened. The ten bells were re-hung, the old 6th bell being re-cast, and the peal augmented to twelve by the addition of two bells, the latter the gift of Alderman J. B. and Mrs. Winterbotham. The work was completed and dedicated by the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of the Diocese on February 25th, 1912, the total cost amounting to £1,243 6s. 8d.

"On Thursday, March 19th, 1914, the first peal was rung on the twelve bells by the local company in 3 hours and 38 minutes, 5016 changes: W. T. Pates treble, G. H. Phillott, M.A., 2nd, A. W. Humphris 3rd, W. Brinkworth 4th, G. F. Pearce 5th, W. Dyer 6th, H. Halford 7th, F. Musty 8th, G. Walters 9th, W. Yeend 10th, J. Ballinger 11th, J. Parsons tenor. Composed and conducted by W. T. Pates. Guild Master, D. Davis; secretary, A. W. Humphris. Weight of tenor 22cwt. 2qrs. 16lbs., in E flat.

"Canon F. L'Estrange Fawcett, M.A., R.D., Rector; F. W. Dwelly, M.A., F. Tucker Harvey, B.A., curates; E. B. Wethered, J.P., T. Overbury, wardens; F. Ticehurst, hon. treasurer.

"On Easter Monday, April 22nd, 1889, ten members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change Ringers rang in this tower a true peal of Grandsire Caters, 15,227 changes, in 9 hours 43 mins. This peal supersedes all previous records in any method of ten bells: F. Musty treble, G. H. Phillott, M.A., 2nd, S. Reeves 3rd, H. Roberts 4th, F. E. Ward 5th, C. H. Hattersley 6th, J. Plant 7th, W. T. Pates 8th, T. Reynolds 9th, tenor A. W. Humphris. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson, of Birmingham, and conducted by W. T. Pates; Mr. J. Belcher, umpire."

NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held to-morrow (Saturday), July 22nd, 1916, at Bury Parish Church. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637. — Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on July 27th for handbell practice, and on August 1st for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Central Division).—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hurstpierpoint on Saturday, July 22nd. Tower open at 2.30. Short service at 4.30. Tea in Schoolroom at 5, price 6d. —A. D. Stone, 156, Upper Lewes Road, Brighton. Note new address.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, July 22nd. Tea will be provided at the Café, High Street, at 4.30. Business meeting to follow. Bells available 5.30.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Secretary.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary Cray on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available at 3.30 p.m. Service (association form) at 5.30 p.m., and address by the Rev. A. H. Stevenson (Vicar). Being the first meeting held here it is hoped there will be a good attendance. Tea 1s. per head in the Parish Room, adjoining the Vicarage. Business meeting to follow. Half rail fares, up to 2s., paid to those attending.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. — The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Goosnargh on Saturday, July 22nd. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock.—A. E. Woodhouse, Honorary Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth's, Reddish, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.— West Dorset Branch.—A meeting will be held at Whitechurch Canonicorum on Saturday, 29th July. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea (by kind invitation of the Rev. E. H. H. Lee) at 5.30 p.m., followed by meeting. Ringing till 9 p.m. Stations: Axminster, Bridport, or Lyme Regis. Will those intending to be present inform me by the 24th inst. at latest.—Frank Bugler, Hon. Sec., Beaminster.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—Quarterly Meeting will be held at Solihull on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (10) available from 4 o'clock. Tea, 1/- per head, will be arranged at the Mason's Arms Hotel for all who advise me not later than the 26th inst. of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual business meeting will be held on Saturday, July 29th, in the Chapter House at Christ Church, Oxford, at 3 p.m.—Albert E. Reeves, 5, Fatherson Road, Reading.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Winscombe (Cheddar Valley) on Saturday, July 29th. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting (at Bird's Restaurant) to follow. Bells (8) afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham, Som.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Marden on Saturday, July 29th, 1916. Tower open at 3.30. Service in church at 5. Tea at 5.45, followed by business meeting. Members intending to be present at tea must notify the district secretary not later than Tuesday, the 25th inst. Half travelling expenses up to but not exceeding 2s. each will be paid to members attending.—W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Rumney, near Cardiff, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea provided. — Rev. Connop L. Price, J. W. Jones, Honorary Secretaries.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Todmorden Parish Church on Saturday, August 5th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual festival will be held at Crewe on Monday, August 7th. Service in Christ Church at 11 a.m. Preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon Paige Cox, M.A., Vicar of Hoylake. Particulars by circular.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Secretary, New Mills.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Treeton, near Rotherham, on Saturday, August 5th, six bells, available from 3 to 8 p.m. Treeton Station. Midland Railway.—Sam Thomas, Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—IMPORTANT NOTICE.—In consequence of the postponement of the Bank Holiday the annual meeting will be held at Braintree on Saturday, August 5th, 1916. The bells of the following towers will be available all day, except during the time of service and meeting: Braintree (8), Bocking (8), Felsted (8), Stisted (6), Rayne (6), Black Notley (5). A short service in the parish church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. J. H. France, M.A.), at 4.30 p.m. Tea to be followed by the annual meeting at the Mechanics' Institute at 5.30 p.m. It is most important that those who intend being present should give me notice not later than Monday, July 31st.—H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Secretary, Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

DEATH.

TAYLOR.—Killed in action in France on July 11th, Arnold Bradley Taylor, Second-Lieut., 9th Leicestershire Regt., fourth son of John W. Taylor, Bellfounder, Loughborough, Leicestershire, and the late Annie Mary Taylor. Aged 22 years.

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.

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KING'S CLIFFE BELL FUND.

Subscriptions to the fund for recasting the tenor bell of King's Cliffe, near Peterborough, are still coming in, though not as rapidly as one could wish. Thore is need for wider help, for it is a claim upon the generosity of ringers which should commend itself to all. The parish is quite unable raise the money necessary, having less than two years ago spent nearly £200 on bell restoration. Now £38 is needed, owing to the tenor cracking, and an appeal is confidently made to the Exercise at large to come to the aid of the parishioners. The following further amounts have been received: Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, 5s.; All Saints', Hull, band, 5s.; O. W. L. and J. H. S., Slough, 5s.; Air-Mechanic W. H. P. Mellin, R.N.A.S., 5s. From the list given last week we omitted the contribution of 4s. 6d. collected at a district meeting of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild at Stow, which brings the total amount to date to £8 9s. 6d. Contributions should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, near Peterborough.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

PLEASANT MEETING AT LOUGHTON.

The summer quarterly meeting of this society was held on Saturday last, when between 30 and 40 members were attracted to Loughton, Essex, by the prospect of a pull on a good peal of eight and a few hours enjoyment of this pleasant countryside on the edge of Epping Forest. The bells were set going at three o'clock, and continued at intervals until just after six, when an adjournment was made to the King's Head, where tea had been arranged for by Mr. Rann, one of the local ringers. This proved very acceptable, and was followed by a very brief meeting, there being but little business to transact.

The chief of this was, perhaps, the vote of condolence, passed in the usual manner, with the relatives of the late Mr. F. Rumens, of Walthamstow, who in May last had made the necessary arrangements for the Cumberland meeting at his tower, and had then expressed his hope to meet the society again at Loughton.

The next quarterly meeting it is hoped may be held at Shoreditch some time in September.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and Mr. Rann for their kindness respectively in allowing the use of the bells and making the arrangements, regret being expressed that the Vicar had been unable to fulfil his intention of being present at the meeting owing to unforeseen circumstances.

An enjoyable hour was afterwards spent with the handbells, Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples, and Treble Bob Major and Royal being successfully brought round, while Messrs. Scarlett and Stubbs intervened with a few airs, the former also rendering his well-known "patter" turn. Nine o'clock saw the members wending their way stationwards after a very enjoyable meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

ILMINSTER.—On Whit-Sunday, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: G. Sibley 1, V. Crabb 2, C. Raison (Trowbridge) 3, W. Coombs 4, J. Matthews 5, H. Shire (Clevedon) 6, D. G. Taylor (conductor) 7, H. Raison 8. For evening service, 672: H. Shire 1, G. Sibley 2, V. Crabb 3, W. Coombs 4, J. Matthews 5, C. Raison 6, D. G. Taylor (conductor) 7, H. Raison 8.

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, on Whit-Sunday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 44 mins.: J. Wilmott 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, R. Mackrill 4, F. Skevington 5, H. Cook 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, G. Hunt 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 minutes, by the same ringers, conducted by F. Skevington.

STRETFORD.—Lancashire Association.—On Whit-Sunday, for morning service, 720 Oxford Single Bob. For evening service, in 1 hr. 6 mins., a date touch of Box Minor (1916 changes). The ringers taking part were: J. J. Moss, C. W. Birchall, T. Birchall, W. Wigglesworth, T. Aldcroft, A. Bannister, W. J. Moss (conductor). Rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a last tribute of respect to Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener.

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Whitsun Day, for morning and evening services, 240 and 180 Oxford Bob, 216 Bob Minor and 720 Oxford Treble Bob, the following taking part: G. Bertram, E. Chatten, J. Spencer, A. J. Naunton, L. Naunton, N. R. Bailey, F. W. Naunton (conductor).

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS. — For Whit Sunday services, 408 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, F. Hedges 3, W. Sear 4, J. D. Matthews (London) 5, E. Marks 6, H. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8. 224 Bob Major: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, J. Mead 3, F. Storton 4, H. Sear (conductor) 5, E. Marks 6, F. Hedges 7, W. Sear 8. 336 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, J. Mead 2, W. Mead 3, H. Sear 4, W. Sear 5, E. Marks 6, F. Storton (conductor) 7, F. Hedges 8.

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