THE RINGING WORLD

No. 314. Vol. XII. FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 1917. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.

St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 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.

## ASSOCIATIONS AND THE COUNCIL.

Several of the associations have considered the question as to whether or not the Central Council meeting should be held this year, and, so far as we are aware, with one exception, they have decided that it would be best to postpone the meeting. This is the view we expressed two months ago, when the preliminary notice of the meeting at Gloucester was issued, and the reasons which were advanced have not been in any way modified. Since then association meetings in London, Lancashire and other centres have endorsed the arguments put forward; but this week we report a meeting at Bristol which was in favour of the Central Council meeting being held for the election of a president, and a further suggestion was put forward that a scheme of voting by proxy on the various resolutions which the agenda might contain should be adopted.

This would be quite a novel procedure so far as the Council is concerned, and we doubt whether it would be in any way satisfactory. It is not always possible for a person to make up his mind on a resolution until he has heard the arguments on both sides, while it is also quite possible that proxy votes might be used on exactly the opposite side to that which a member might wish if he had the opportunity of hearing a subject discussed. An ordinary postal vote would be equally unsatisfactory, and neither method, we think, is likely to commend itself to the members. Moreover, we doubt if the Council's rules would permit its general business to be disposed of in this way, and until its constitution provides for the adoption of such a method, neither its officials nor its Standing Committee would have power to make the arrangements to transact the business in this way. It seems to us that either the meeting must be held, and the business dealt with by those who attend, or it must be postponed.

As has been pointed out, the preoccupation of practically everyone in the work of the war, or in work which the war has made doubly heavy, and the fact that the expense, now that there is a great additional cost in travelling, would bear unduly on the associations who have to provide the funds, offer strong reasons why the meeting should be postponed this year. The point on which a decision ought to turn, however, is whether a meeting of the Central Council this year is vital to the interests of the Exercise. If it is, then those of the Council who can meet at Gloucester should do so; but if it is not, then, bearing in mind the present circumstances, the meeting, which at best is likely to be only poorly attended, might well be postponed. It is difficult to think that there can be any business pending of such importance that the Standing Committee could not take action, if immediate action is necessary.

# 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.

# JOHN NICOLL,

## Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope Manufacturer.

## 60, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

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

**Late 155, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.**

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.


## HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

*On Tuesday, March 13, 1917, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes,*

AT THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JAMES HUNT ... ... ... ... | 1—2 | FRANK SMITH ... ... | 5—6 |
| EDGAR WIGHTMAN ... ... | 3—4 | JOSEPH E. SYKES ... | 7—8 |

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Umpire: W. J. NUDDS.

Arranged by Spitalfields Bell Foundry Guild for Mr. J. E. Sykes and it was his first peal on handbells.

### TRING RINGER'S DEATH FROM WOUNDS.

News was received in Tring on the 10th inst. of the death, from wounds received in the Somme Advance last July, of Pte Arthur Davey, at the age of 23. He was brought to London to King George's Hospital, where, after long suffering, he died. He was a promising member of the Tring Parish Church company, and a much respected member of the Church Lads' Brigade. When war broke out he was among the first to join up from Tring.

The funeral took place at Tring Cemetery on Thursday afternoon of last week, with full military honours. As the body was brought to the church, and afterwards proceeded to the cemetery, the bells were rung deeply muffled, and again in the evening (by special permission of the Provost Marshal of Halton Camp), to Grandsire Doubles on the back six, the following ringers taking part: F. Minall 1, F. Reeve (junr.) 2, F. Fitkin 3, F. Waterton 4, F. Reeve 5, H. Heley 6, W. Redman 7, E. Noyce 8.

Much sympathy is felt for the mother, a widow, as Pte Davey is the second son she has lost in the war.

### SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

Owing, no doubt, to restricted railway facilities and higher rates of travel, the meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Society at Chesterfield was not so well attended as used to be the case at this tower in the somewhat remote time of peace. Perhaps this is what ought to be; we begin to realise that there is a deadly struggle going on not only "Somewhere in France," but in places still further away, and none the less serious. However, some twenty of the older hands put in an appearance, and the familiar sound of Chesterfield's ten was heard in Stedman Caters and Treble Ten (like some one or two other towers in the country, this is by no means a weekly occurrence). Double Norwich Major and Superlative also went very well, but nothing beyond was attempted.—Two new members were elected, the auditors checked the books and accounts, and a meeting of the committee was held, after which a short time, all too short indeed, was devoted to handbell practice.

### THE LATE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

Bagshot, Surrey, was the country home of the late Duchess of Connaught, and on Sunday evening, at St. Anne's Church, which adjoins Bagshot Park, the royal demesne, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), was rung by the local band, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to Her Royal Highness: G. Pearce 1, J. Corbet 2, T. J. Gould 3, H. Stapleton 4, F. Nye (conductor) 5, F. Francis 6, H. J. Gould 7, W. Varndell 8.

We are asked to say that any soldier ringers in the district who would like a pull at this church on any Sunday should drop a line to Mr. T. J. Gould, Bagshot.

### SURFLEET JUVENILES CELEBRATE VICTORY.

From Surfleet Church no fewer than fifteen ringers are away serving in the Army, a record which very few towers can equal. But the Rev. H. Law James is not without ringers, and on Monday last, to celebrate the good news from France the bells were rung by the following band: Rev. H. Law James 1, Horace Edinborough (aged 16) 2, J. W. Flowers 3, Fred Flowers (aged 7), 4, Joe Drage (aged 13) 5, Sydney Flowers (aged 12) 6, Ruth Richardson 7, Herbert Flowers (aged 11) 8, Charles Rawding (aged 16) 9, William Welby (aged 16) 10.

SLINFOLD, SUSSEX.—On January 20th, at a practice meeting, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1260 changes): L. Paice (Hersham) 1, J. Edwards (Slinfold) 2, W. Short (Warnham) 3, Mrs. R. Whittington (Granleigh) 4, P. Doick (Pulborough) 5, R. Whittington (Granleigh conductor) 6.

SOLIHULL.—On Saturday, Jan. 20th, on handbells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: *E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 1—2, *H. Bragg 3, *G. A. Martineau 4, *V. Rigg 5—6. * First quarter-peal. This is the first quarter-peal ever rung on handbells in Solihull.

## YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### WESTERN DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Western District was held at Hunslet on Saturday week, and despite the wet day 30 members attended from 15 towers. The ring of eight were utilised until dusk in touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Plain Bob.

The business meeting was afterwards held in the Parish Room. Mr. G. B. Balland presided, supported by the Rev. C. C. Marshall (President of the Association), Mr. Cotterell (treasurer), Mr. P. J. Johnson (Ringing Master), etc. A newspaper cutting was read to the members describing the alarming experiences at sea of Mr. Herbert Dransfield (district committee-man), some details of which were given in the last issue of "The Ringing World." — On the motion of Mr. Reuton, seconded by the Rev. C. C. Marshall, the secretary was requested to send Mr. Dransfield a letter congratulating him on his safe return home, etc., and this was carried unanimously.

Mr. P. L. Cooper, of Holbeck St. Matthew's, was re-elected secretary for the next three years, and the following members were voted on the District Committee for the ensuing year: Messrs. Peel (Birstall), Bancroft (Keighley), Dixon (Guiseley), Hardcastle (Bradford), Herbert Dransfield (Earlsheaton), Gill (Bolton), Broadley (Shipley), Lawson (Lightcliffe), and Barton (Pudsey). Of these, Messrs. Peel and Broadley were appointed to serve on the Central Committee of the Association. The place for the next meeting was then discussed, and it was proposed that there should be a general meeting of the whole of the Association at Ilkley, in June, when the tablet erected by the Association in Ilkley Church to the memory of the late Mr. Wm. Snowdon will be unveiled.

The members expressed their pleasure in seeing Mr. A. Hudson, of Birstall, and Mr. W. Gage, of Burley, back with them again, both having been on active service for a considerable time, been wounded, and invalided out of the army.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and parish room, and to the local company for making the necessary arrangements, was passed, on the proposition of Mr. Williams seconded by Mr. Broadley.—Mr. H. Smith, of the local company, acknowledged the motion.—A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business, and afterwards handbell ringing was indulged in and brought a good meeting to a close.

## SILVER WEDDING OF MR. & MRS. J. W. JONES

The genial hon. secretary of the Llandaff Diocesan Association, and his good wife, have just celebrated their silver wedding, and in connection with the event the old Newport ringers on Saturday week attempted a peal at the Church of All Saints', but unfortunately it was one of those days when ringers were all "off," and the peal was a failure. However, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by Mr. J. W. Jones, the ringers taking part being: F. Atwell 1, T. Ford 2, J. Bullen 3, C. Greedy 4, J. Butler 5, J. Pippin 6, J. W. Jones 7, H. Forbes 8.

After the ringing, Mr. Jones invited the party to his home, where they were met by Mrs. Jones and daughters, and partook of a lavish repast. The toast of "long life and happiness" to Mr. and Mrs. Jones was drunk with deep sincerity, and the wish expressed that they may live to pass their golden wedding.

Afterwards, with Miss Grace Jones presiding at the piano, Miss Dolly Jones gave a very charming selection of music, and several of the ringers contributed songs. Handbells were also requisitioned, and Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung, and a most delightful time spent.

When Mr. Jones came to Newport, 25 years ago, from Caerleon, only an old six bells, by Bailey, of Bridgwater, were available, and when they were rung the frame used to move at least two inches at each revolution of the bells. Only two years elapsed, however, and they were rehung, and two more added. Twenty years after the eight were taken down and recast, and rehung, and with two more bells, made into a peal of ten. Further, when the Church of All Saints was built, it was Mr. Jones' persistency with the donors that ultimately persuaded them to place a peal of eight bells in the tower. His well-known bonhomie has also served well with the church authorities in the district, as the following new peals in the Diocese during his career as secretary of the Llandaff Association will show: Caerphilly, Llanbradac, Pontypridd, Radyr, Machen, Peterstone and Marshfield, as well as many other restorations. His activities as a teacher are well known to many throughout the Diocese, and his good comradeship is always enjoyed by all who meet him. Hence the wish of all local ringers, that he and his wife may live long and enjoy their happiness together, is also the sincere wish of many ringers in a far wider circle. F. A.

## THE LATE MR. A. W. GRIMES' HANDBELLS.

In order to assist the widow and young family of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes, the deceased ringer's fine peal of 17 handbells are being disposed of. It is much to be hoped that a good sum will be raised by this means, and those who are willing to try and dispose of tickets, which are 3d. each, should communicate with Mr. W. Pye, 8, Sansom Road, Lansdown Road, Leytonstone.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

### PROXY VOTING BY CENTRAL COUNCIL SUGGESTED.

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at St. Luke's on Saturday. The bells (a peal of six) were raised soon after 5 p.m., and set going to touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Kent Treble Bob.

A business meeting was held in the Mission Room at 6 p.m., 15 members attending.—The Chairman (Mr. H. T. Howell) first extended a hearty welcome to their visitor, Mr. W. C. Hunt, of Nottingham, and said they were always pleased to have a ringing visitor at their meetings.

The proposal in regard to "peace" ringing, brought forward from the last meeting, was again discussed, and it was decided to leave the Association out of the matter, it being considered the better method as far as the branch was concerned, that companies should arrange bands amongst themselves.

It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting at Stapleton, on 14th April.

The question of holding the Central Council meeting was discussed and the following resolution was proposed, and carried: "That the Central Council meeting be held, and a president elected. The agenda be compiled and posted to all the representatives on the Council who should be permitted to vote by proxy or by post, should they be unable to attend the meeting." It was felt that the high railway fares now ruling would handicap those representatives who live long distances from the meeting-place, and the adoption of the method suggested would place all in an equal position.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar for kindly allowing the use of the bells, and to the steeplekeeper (Mr. A. Tidman) for his part in the arrangements.

Further ringing until 8 p.m. provided a finish to the meeting.

## AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD'S PERFORMANCE.

It is difficult to find the limits of age between which one may be a change ringer. At the age of eight years, Master E. Webb, son of Mr. H. Webb, of Croft, Leicestershire, has rung 1—2 to a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells. His brother, three years older, also took part in the course, the ringers being: E. Webb 1—2, H. Webb 3—4, H. Briggs 5—6, H. Webb, junr., 7—8. In addition to this a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, with different callings, was rung in 37 mins., by: C. Briggs 1—2, H. Webb 3—4, H. Webb, junr. (conductor) 5—6. The witness to the performance was E. Webb, and the ringing, which took place at Mr. Webb's residence, was a birthday compliment to H. Webb, junr., who reached his 11th year on March 16th.

## "THE FIRST PEAL OF REAL DOUBLE NORWICH."

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—In "The Ringing World" of Feb. 16th last, it is stated that the late Mr. William Banister called the very first peal of Real Double Norwich ever rung at Woolwich, in 1848. I beg to say that the first peal of Double Norwich was rung at Irthlingboro, Northamptonshire, on Saturday, December 10th, 1898, in 2 hrs. and 56 mins. The peal was composed by E. Banks James, and conducted by James Houghton, junr. In this peal all the calls are made in pairs. In Mr. Banister's peal there is but one call in each part which is made when the treble is behind as well as in front; therefore, in my humble opinion, ours was the first peal of Real Double Norwich. I have enclosed the figures of both peals. Perhaps we may have the opinion of ringers on the subject, so that it may be definitely settled who is to claim the honour (if any) of the first peal of Real Double Norwich ever rung.—Yours truly,

JAMES HOUGHTON.

5040

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 23456 | 1 | 6 | |
| 52364 | — | — | |
| 26354 | — | | |
| 65324 | — | | |
| 23564 | — | — | |
| 36524 | — | | |
| 25634 | — | — | |
| 53624 | — | | |
| 32654 | — | | |
| 56234 | — | — | |
| W. Banister. | | | |

First rung on Nov. 16th, 1848, at St. Mary's, Woolwich, conducted by its composer.

6720

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 23456 | 1 | |
| 35264 | — | |
| 65243 | S | |
| 54632 | — | |
| 43526 | — | |
| 32465 | — | |
| 62453 | S | |
| 52436 | S | |
| 32654 | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 32654 | 1 | |
| 52643 | S | |
| 24536 | — | |
| 43265 | — | |
| 36452 | — | |
| 65324 | — | |
| 25346 | S | |
| 54263 | — | |
| 46532 | — | |
| 36524 | S | |
| 26543 | S | |
| 64235 | — | |
| 43652 | — | |
| 53624 | S | |

E. Bankes James

Each part twice repeated, substituting a Bob for the last Single in the 3rd and 6th parts. Reduced to 5040 by substituting a Bob for the calls braced in the last 3 parts.

First rung as a 5040 at Irthlingboro', December 10th, 1898.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

**Foundry Established A.D. 1570.**

*Bellfounders & Bellhangers,*

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,

LONDON, E.

Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

**ESTIMATES SUBMITTED**

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

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


## GOLDEN WEDDING AT DEVIZES.

### HUSBAND AND WIFE AS RINGERS.

A paragraph appeared in our issue of March 9th recording the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. H. Brownlee West, of Devizes. Such an occurrence is rare enough on any occasion to call for notice, but this event is of special interest to the Exercise, for both Mr. West and his good partner of half a century are ringers, and this, we imagine, is the first time that man and wife, both active participants of our art, have celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day.

Although he had been fond of bells and church towers all his life, it was not until about the year 1908 that Mr. West had the opportunity of taking part in any ringing, and it says much for the spirit which animated him, that Mr. West should have taken up the art at the age of 63 years. In the first year of taking an active part in ringing, Mr. West was appointed tower master at St. James', Southbroom, and in 1911 he was elected hon. secretary of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild. The happy choice which the members made in this appointment is reflected in the successful progress of the branch, which, with its monthly meetings and ever-growing membership, is one of the most vigorous of the Salisbury Guild.

MRS. H. B. WEST.

MR. H. B. WEST.

Mr. West devotes a good deal of time to teaching lads and young men to handle a rope and to ring well. He has, of course, had to meet the same experiences as others who work in a similar field—as soon as a youth has developed into a useful member of a band he leaves his native town for some other sphere or the war; and then it is necessary to begin over again. But with the enthusiasm of youth, coupled with the stability of ripe years, Mr. West is never discouraged, and at the present moment has a band of six who are learning half-pull ringing, and making steady progress, ready to give a hearty welcome to the old members when they return home again.

Mrs. West, too, is very much interested in ringing, and although she does not perform on church bells, is very proficient in ringing double-handed on handbells. She is an honorary member of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, and when St. James' bells were rehung in 1909, and augmented to six, was the donor of a new second bell.

Mr. West is the assessor and collector of King's Taxes for his district, which office he has held for the past 41 years.

## HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week, a meeting of the West Herts District was held at Bushey Parish Church, members attending from Oxhey, Watford, Aldenham, Stanmore, Bushey, and Walthamstow, including a lady from the last-named place. Letters of apology were received from Mr. G. Cartmel, St. Albans; Mr. Norris, Berkhampstead; and Mr. Reeves, Tring. Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich and Bob Major were rung during the afternoon and evening, and 26 members sat down to tea, presided over by the Rev. G. M. Hall (Rector of Bushey), supported by the Rev. H. H. C. Richardson (curate), and Mr. C. E. Head (churchwarden).

The business meeting followed, at which three new members were elected, and Aldenham chosen for the next meeting to be held in June.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector of Bushey for the use of bells was proposed by Mr. Hodgetts, and the Rector, in reply, said he was pleased to welcome the Association to Bushey to meet the ringers.—Mr. Edwards proposed, and Mr. Smith seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Miss Harford, Mrs. Head, and Miss Wilkinson for kindly arranging the tea and waiting upon them (applause).—A vote of thanks to the Rector for presiding concluded the meeting.

# ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING 1916.

**Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.**

| Association. | TOWER BELLS. Stedman Cinques. | Kent Treble Bob Royal | Major. Caters. Stedman | Caters. Grandsire | Major. Surprise | Major. Double Norwich | Major. Treble Bob | Major. Plain Bob | Triples. Stedman | Triples. Grandsire | Minor. | Doubles. | Total on Tower Bells. | HAND BELLS. Stedman Cinques. | Royal. Plain Bob | Royal. Treble Bob | Caters. Stedman | Caters. Grandsire | Major. Treble Bob | Major. Plain Bob | Triples. Stedman | Triples. Grandsire | Minor. | Total on Handbells. | Total Points. | Average Points per Peal. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Anc. Soc. College Youths | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | 6 | 141 | 20.166 |
| Bath and Wells | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 7.000 |
| Bedfordshire | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 29 | 9.666 |
| Cambridge Univ. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 2 | 24 | 12.000 |
| Central Northants | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | 3 | 100 | 12.500 |
| Chester Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 19 | 9.500 |
| Cleveland and N. Yorks | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 7.000 |
| Dudley and District | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 17 | 8.500 |
| Durham and Newcastle | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 63 | 21.000 |
| Ely Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 2 | 59 | 6.272 |
| Essex County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 19 | 6.333 |
| Gloucester and Bristol | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 3 | — | 2 | 8 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 56 | 7.000 |
| Hereford Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 3.000 |
| Hertfordshire | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 7.000 |
| Kent County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | 1 | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 33 | 8.250 |
| Lancashire | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | 7 | 3 | — | 15 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 169 | 11.266 |
| Lincoln Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 8 | 8.000 |
| Llandaff Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1[a] | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 19 | 9.500 |
| London County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 48 | 24.000 |
| Middlesex County | — | — | — | — | 1[b] | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | 6 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 8 | 271 | 22.583 |
| Midland Counties | — | — | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | 2 | 1 | — | 9 | — | 1 | 1[c] | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 175 | 13.461 |
| North Notts | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 3 | 20 | 5.000 |
| Norwich Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 81 | 10.333 |
| Oxford Diocesan | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1[c] | — | — | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 109 | 18.166 |
| Peterborough and District | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | 5.000 |
| Royal Cumberland Youths | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 4 | 2 | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 10 | 159 | 15.900 |
| St. Martin's Guild, B'ham | 4 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 7 | 8 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 18 | 736 | 29.440 |
| Salop Archidiaconal | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | — | 1 | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 66 | 13.200 |
| Archdeaconry of Stafford | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 115 | 23.000 |
| Surrey | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 7.000 |
| Sussex County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 4 | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 26 | 4.333 |
| Winchester Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 4 | — | 6 | 130 | 13.000 |
| Worcestershire and Dist. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 5 | — | 1 | 3 | 8 | — | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | 2 | — | 6 | 140 | 14.000 |
| Yorkshire | — | — | — | — | 2[d] | 1 | 5 | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | 12 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | 4 | 229 | 14.312 |
| Independent Societies | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | 1 | 1 | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 61 | 7.625 |
| TOTALS | 8 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 11 | 6 | 18 | 43 | 20 | 10 | 134 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 19 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 14 | 83 | 3093 | 14.355 |

(a) Little Bob. (b) London. (c) Oxford Bob. (d) 1 Superlative, 1 Yorkshire. (e) Little Bob.

The 7 peals rung by Independent Societies were thus distributed: Derbyshire, 1; Essex, 1; Gloucestershire, 1; Staffordshire, 1; Westmoreland, 1; Ireland, 2.

The 19 peals of Treble Bob were rung as follows: In the Kent Variation, Royal 3, Major 15. In the Oxford Variation, Major 1.

The 52 peals of Grandsire Triples may be subdivided as follows:—Holt's Original, 9; Holt's 10-part and variations, 5; Parker's 12-part and variations, 24; Taylor's peals, 4; the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' peals, 2; John Carter's peals, 2; other peals, 6.

The 19 peals in Plain Methods comprised: Bob Royal, 5; Bob Major, 13; Oxford Bob Triples, 1.

The 10 peals of Doubles are shown in the following statement:—

| Association | No. of Methods. 1 | 2 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gloucester and Bristol | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Hereford Diocesan | 1 | — | 1 |
| Salop Archidiaconal | — | 1 | 1 |
| Sussex County | 4 | — | 4 |
| Worcestershire and Districts | 1 | — | 1 |
| Independent Societies | 1 | — | 1 |
| | 8 | 2 | 10 |

The conductors of four peals and over are as follows: J. E. Groves (handbells 11), 15 peals; S. H. Symonds, 9, all on handbells; C. Glenn (H.B. 7), 8; A. H. Pulling (H.B. 6), W. Pye (H.B. 5), 6; J. D. Johnson (H.B. 4), J. D. Matthews (H.B. 4), and G. F. Swann (H.B. 4), 5: J. Austin, A. E. Edwards, E. Wightman (H.B. 4), and C. F. Winney (H.B. 4), 4. There were 9 conductors of 3 peals, 17 of 2 peals, and 79 of one peal. In addition, there was one peal at which three conductors assisted, and one peal was rung without a conductor. One lady appears as a conductor in 1916, Miss E. M. Johnson, who conducted her first peal of Grandsire Caters on handbells for the Worcestershire and Districts Association.

The number of peals rung on Church bells during 1916 was 134; and on handbells, 83. Owing to the continuance of the war, there has been a further drop in the number of peals rung, the total for 1916 being 217 only, as compared with 259 for 1915, 1,415 for 1914, and 2,359 for 1913.

The peals rung month by month in 1915 and 1916 are appended for purposes of comparison:—

| | 1915 | 1916 | | 1915 | 1916 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| January | 26 | 60 | July | 10 | 15 |
| February | 16 | 16 | August | 21 | 14 |
| March | 19 | 13 | September | 18 | 11 |
| April | 29 | 20 | October | 19 | 6 |
| May | 24 | 16 | November | 27 | 14 |
| June | 18 | 17 | December | 32 | 15 |
| | 132 | 142 | | 127 | 75 |

Total for the year 1915, 259; total for the year 1916, 217, being a decrease of 42.

The total number of peals, whether on tower bells or handbells, rung year by year since 1881, is as follows:—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1881...156 | 1889...797 | 1897... 905 | 1905...1313 | 1913...2359 |
| 1882...244 | 1890...699 | 1898...1003 | 1906...1519 | 1914...1415 |
| 1883...330 | 1891...878 | 1899... 912 | 1907...1339 | 1915... 259 |
| 1884...419 | 1892...802 | 1900... 924 | 1908...1474 | 1916... 217 |
| 1885...500 | 1893...705 | 1901...1194 | 1909...1628 | |
| 1886...556 | 1894...859 | 1902...1313 | 1910...1725 | |
| 1887...646 | 1895...766 | 1903...1469 | 1911...1739 | |
| 1888...759 | 1896...791 | 1904...1512 | 1912...2329 | |

Grand Total, 36,454.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1916.

The continuance of the war has once more rendered the work of the Analysis Committee a comparatively light one, and the apportionment

of points has little meaning, though they have again been included in the Analysis.

A notable feature is the number of peals of Stedman Cinques rung by the St. Martin's Guild, viz.: 4 on tower bells and 8 on handbells, a total of 12 peals out of 25 rung by the Guild.

Of the 134 peals rung on tower bells, 94 were muffled peals, the lamented deaths of Sir A. P. Heywood and Mr. H. Dains adding to the number rung on account of the war.

Of the other peals, one was the first on the bells, and three first after restoration. Six were arranged for ringers on leave, and seven for Church Festivals, etc. Five were farewell peals, four wedding and three birthday peals, while no special reasons were given for the other eleven. Six ringers rang their first peal as conductor.

(Signed).—
E. W. CARPENTER, Boothby Rectory, Grantham.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN, 11, Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent.
ARTHUR T. KING, 1, Southsea Terrace, Southsea.
GEORGE WILLIAMS, West End, near Southampton.

## DEATH OF A CHESTERFIELD RINGER.

It is with profound regret we have to record the death of Mr. George Davies, which sad event took place on Monday of last week, at 31 Higher Albert Street. Deceased, who was 47 years of age, first learned the art of ringing at Sutton Coldfield, going to Chesterfield about 28 years ago, since which time he had been a most respected member of the Parish Church company.

A ringer of no mean ability, he could always be relied upon when taking part in a peal or touch, to make no mistake, especially in the way of striking, and for Sunday service ringing punctuality was his motto.

Unfortunately, for a number of years, he had not enjoyed the best of health, a fact which kept him out of a number of peals, but although unable to take part, he was such a keen critic of the striking that he would invariably be outside the tower at the finish, having heard most, or the whole of the peal, and if not to his entire satisfaction, each man had to go "through the mill," generally commencing with the "skipper."

Mr. Davies was a great lover of handbell ringing, and was never happier than when seated with a pair, his very last touch of all being one of Stedman Triples, a method which had a fascination for him, and, in his opinion, put all others into oblivion. His last visit to the tower was on Sunday, February 24th, when he took part in the ringing for both services, but he was evidently suffering then, and gradually losing strength, he was obliged to take to his bed on Friday, March 9th, and at last his big, brave heart, and indomitable pluck, which had helped him through many an anxious time, gave in, and the Great Conductor of all called him home.

The deceased leaves a widow and one son, Pte F. Davies, who is at present in hospital in London recovering from wounds.

Mr. Davies had rung 39 peals, made up as follows: Grandsire Triples 2, Grandsire Caters 9, Stedman Triples 3, Stedman Caters 5, Stedman Cinques 1, Canterbury Triples 1, Caters 1, Bob Major 3, Treble Bob Major 1, Treble Bob Royal 3, Double Norwich Major 2, Little Bob Royal 1, Forward Royal 1; and on handbells one each of Bob Major, Bob Royal, and Little Bob Royal, and three of Grandsire Caters, all rung under the Midland Counties or Yorkshire Associations.

The funeral took place on Thursday, when he was carried to his last resting-place by six of his brother ringers: Messrs. Allwood, Gore, Hollis, Thyng, Thompson, and Nuttall, the four first named ringing a course of Grandsire Triples over the grave. The Chesterfield branch of the National Union of Railwaymen, of which the late Mr. Davies was a member, was represented by two of his fellow workmen, and among the floral tributes was a cross from his brother ringers.

On Sunday last, at Chesterfield Parish Church, for morning service, with the bells muffled, as a last tribute of respect, 350 Grandsire Triples: F. Jacobs 1, T. W. Gore 2, W. Nuttall 3, G. Hollis 4, W. J. Thyng (conductor) 5, A. Knights 6, G. Thompson 7, W. Allwood 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: F. Jacobs 1, W. Allwood 2, W. Nuttall 3, A. Knights 4, G. Hollis 5, G. Thompson 6, W. J. Thyng (conductor) 7, T. W. Gore 8.

## THE OLDEST RINGER IN THE WORLD.

### LOOKING FORWARD TO RINGING FOR PEACE.

A Guildford correspondent writes:—"Seeing your par re Mr. John Heathorn being obliged to keep his bed, I paid him a visit, and found to my surprise that so far from the old veteran, who is 93, keeping his bed, he had just returned from his week's shopping, and his increasing deafness did not interfere with his forcible remarks on the prices of provisions, and his remarks about what ought to be done to profiteers were enlivened by references as to what he would like to do with them and a rope, not a bell-rope. Judging from present appearances the oldest ringer in the world may yet pull a rope on the declaration of peace. I might add that he has twelve grandsons in khaki."

# NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 27th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Margaret's Church, Rainham, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Half rail fares allowed. Please note subscriptions are now due. — E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday March 24th, at St. Thomas, Newhey. Bells ready at 2 o'clock until dusk. Meeting 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The district meeting for the South Eastern Division will be held at All Saints', Writtle, on Easter Monday. Bells available 2.30. Service 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting in the Iron Room. Tea, ninepence each. Please notify me not later than Wednesday, April 4th.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.—Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Cirencester on Easter Monday, April 9th. The bells of the Parish Church (12) and Holy Trinity, Watermoor (8), will be available throughout the day. Will members and friends who intend to be present kindly notify me as early as possible?—R. W. Hyner, Hon. Sec., 46, Goddard Avenue, Swindon, Wilts.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 9th. Full arrangements will be advertised in due course. All outstanding subscriptions should be paid at once, either to District Secretaries, or to G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., "Duffield," St. Albans.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday, April 9th. Ringing at St. Martin's and St. John's from 11 a.m. Tea (1/- each) at 4.15 p.m. at the 'Granby' Restaurant, near the G.P.O. Committee meeting same place at 3.30 p.m. Will those persons who intend being present for tea kindly notify Mr. W. Willson, 23, Hopefield Road, by the Thursday evening previous, as a guarantee must be given to the caterers?—W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Worksop (8 bells) on Easter Monday. Further particulars next week.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting and six bell contest will be held at Mytholmroyd on Easter Monday, April 9th. Draw for order of ringing in the school at 10.45 a.m. Entries for contest to be sent to me not later than Monday, April 2nd.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 9th, 1917. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman, The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea will be provided at the Angel Hotel, Tidbury, at 5.15 p.m., for all those who notify me before Wednesday, April 4th, 1917; to cover additional cost, a charge of 6d. per head will be made. Bells available:—Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), Hallow (8), St. Helens (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6). These bells will be available for short touches until 9 p.m. Subscriptions should be paid, expenses received, and reports obtained, in St. Helen's Church House, between 12 and 1. Peal book on view.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

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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WANTED.—Set of handbells for table ringings on hire, view purchase.—Address, "Bells," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

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### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

SHINFIELD, BERKS.—On Sunday, Jan. 21st, 1917, 720 Bob Minor: Air-Mechanic J. Thomas, R.F.C., 1, Air-Mechanic L. C. Griffiths, R.F.C., 2, W. Hibbert 3, C. Giles 4, A. Wiggins 5, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 6.

LONDON.—On Sunday, January 21st, for evening service, at St. Giles', Camberwell, S.E., 1440 Kent Treble Royal, in 1 hr. 3 mins.: F. Davis 1, E. Gibbs 2, H. Springall 3, W. G. Matthews 4, C. Dean 5, C. F. Winney 6, S. Collins 7, J. Milner 8, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 9, R. Sanders 10.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Sunday, Jan. 21st, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, F. Stonton 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris 4, H. Sear 5, F. Hedges 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, Corpl. H. Taylor, R.E., 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples, conducted by H. Sear.

BARNES. — On Sunday, January 21st, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 44 mins.: W. H. Stevens 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, R. Mackrill 4, C. Hunt 5, H. Cook 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, G. Hunt 8. Rung as a farewell to R. Mackrill, who was leaving to join the army.

FULMER.—On January 26th, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, 600 Oxford Bob Minor, and a 720 of the same method, were rung by: Miss W. M. Cooper 1, J. J. Parker 2, W. H. Fussell 3, G. Gutteridge (conductor) 4, T. Smith 5, Corpl. K. G. Hawkins (2nd Life Guards) 6. Miss E. Fuller and Miss Florrie Cooper also took part in the ringing arranged for Corpl. Hawkins, a member of the local band, home on leave from France.

TAUNTON. — On Sunday, January 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: J. Maddock 1, T. Doble 2, W. Cording 3, F. Millard 4, W. Evans 5, Corpl. H. Bosley 6, E. E. Burgess (conductor) 7, E. Freddle 8. Arranged for Corpl. H. Bosley, who was home on leave.

FINCHLEY.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, 28th January, for morning service, in 23 mins., 720 Bob Minor: F. G. Symonds (conductor) 1, E. G. Hibble 2, W. Webb 3, F. S. Tubb 4, B. Tubb 5, F. Fensom 6.

PUTNEY.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, January 28th, for C.E.M.S. service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: H. Whanslow 1, —. Lee 2, E. A. Reeve 3, A. Cutmore 4, C. E. Collis 5, T. Bolton 6, W. T. Elson 7, L. Attwatter (conductor) 8.


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