THE RINGING WORLD

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GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.

St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton.

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

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

RINGERS AND THE CHURCH.

"Belfry Reform," although it stands first in the objects of ringing associations generally, and, in the early days of these organisations particularly, was a very necessary feature of organised work, is in these times a somewhat delicate matter to handle. Happily, where the influence of the various associations has been able to permeate, there are few places in which the "scandals," common thirty or forty years ago, now exist. Drinking, smoking and such like irreverent behaviour no longer obtain, the belfry has become recognised by the ringers as part of the church, and within its sacred precincts the ringers realise that their conduct must be as decorous as in any other portion of the building. The part of the "reform" movement that is most acute at the present time is really the question of church-going. This is the rock upon which clergy and ringers now most often split, and it is practically the only one vexed question between them. In quite the majority of cases, it is gratifying to know that even this peace-disturbing element does not jar upon the good relations between the clergy and the ringers, for the latter realise their duties and privileges, and act up to them.

But there are two sides to this, as to every other question. Mr. Player, in his letter last week, showed the failings of some of the clergy; this week that champion of ringers' causes, Canon Papillon, writing from his wide experience, gives us the other view, and we think that he will not find himself alone when he advances the opinion that ringers are sometimes difficult to deal with, touchy and easily offended. Another writer, Mr. George Gutteridge, in his letter, strikes a balance by quoting the old saying that it is "six of one and half a dozen of the other." We think many of the troubles that arise on this question might be avoided if there were more tact shown on both sides. Ringers, like some animals we have heard of, may be led, but they won't be driven; and the tactful clergyman seldom has difficulty in leading the way from the belfry to the pew, even when there has not previously been a full realisation of the proprieties of the matter—to say nothing of the privileges of attending public worship in the church—among those who ring the bells. Perhaps there might be less heard of the absence of ringers from the services if a little more care were exercised in some places in selecting the recruits for a band. If a man comes in merely for the sake of the ringing and without any desire to promote what should be the first object of all ringers, it can hardly be expected that he will at once become a regular church-goer, if he is not already one. But if the selection were made only from among those who are first of all church-goers, and who would take up ringing as an act of service to the church, we think most, if not all, of the difficulties in this matter would vanish.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.

SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM

BELLS

FOR CHURCHES,

SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines

Best Workmanship and Satisfaction Guarantee.

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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.

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.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

JOHN NICOLL,

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.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CALVERLEY, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION
On Saturday, April 28th, 1917, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10¾ cwt.

WALTER POPPLEWELL...	*...Treble*	JOSEPH BROADLEY	5
WILLIAM BARTON	2	WILFRID LEE	6
SAMUEL WHEATLEY	3	WILLIE CORDINGLEY ...	7
SYDNEY KEIGHLEY	4	PRATT CORDINGLEY	*...Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER POPPLEWELL.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Private Harold Wheatley, who fell in action on July 1st, 1916. He was a ringer at this church before joining His Majesty's Forces.

The ringers of the 2nd, 7th and tenor belong to Pudsey, 5th to Shipley, the rest to Calverley.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 17, 1917, in Three Hours,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE THIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

PETER INCE	*...Treble*	JOHN MAKIN	5
TITUS BARLOW, JUNR. ...	2	GEORGE PINCOTT	6
THOMAS B. WORSLEY ...	3	WILLIAM PENNINGTON ...	7
SERGT. JOHN NUTTAL... ...	4	PETER NUTTAL... ...	*...Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

Rung at the request of Sergt. John Nuttal, who was on leave, after having been abroad in Egypt, the Dardanelles, and France since August, 1914.

SELLY OAK, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 19, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN THIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHN CARTER'S No. 35. Tenor 12 cwt. 0 qrs. 13 lbs.

JOHN E. EATON	*...Treble*	OLIVER NORMAN	5
*ALBERT SCRIVENS	2	LIONEL LONGNEY	6
*WILLIAM RANFORD	3	SAMUEL GROVE	7
HARRY WITHERS	4	EDWARD MANNERS ..	*...Tenor*

Conducted by SAMUEL GROVE.

* First peal of Stedman.

SIX BELL PEAL.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
(BLACKBURN BRANCH).
On Monday, May 14, 1917, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE TOWER OF IMMANUEL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's called differently.

MISS EDITH SULLIVAN	*...Treble*	JOE RAWCLIFFE	4
JAMES HOULDSWORTH ...	2	JIM TOMLINSON	5
*MISS MARY ELIZA BARNES	3	JOHN BENTLEY... ...	*...Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES HOULDSWORTH.

* First peal. Rung as a farewell to Joe Rawcliffe, who joined the colours the following morning. John Bentley, of Hoylake, was on a visit. James Houldsworth has now rung peals on everyone of the eight bells in the tower.

BIRMINGHAM OCTOGENARIAN HONOURED.

On Sunday evening of last week, at Handsworth Parish Church, Birmingham, ringers from St. Martin's, Aston, and Perry Barr, met to show their respect to Mr. R. Faux (a vice-president of St. Martin's Guild), who attained the age of 80 years a short time ago. Mr. William Godden, an honorary member of the Handsworth band, on behalf of his fellow ringers, presented Mr. Faux with a pipe and pouch. On the latter was a bell-shaped mount, suitably engraved. Mr. Godden conveyed the best wishes to Mr. Faux in a felicitous speech, and afterwards a touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples was rung by: E. Wood 1, W. G. Ellis (conductor) 2, J. E. Groves 3, T. Verry 4, M. J. Morris 5, W. Kent 6, C. Williams 7, R. Speakman 8.

RINGER'S GIFT OF A WAR SHRINE.

Mr. J. Slarke, of Towcester, the president of the Towcester and District Association, who a few years ago, with other members of his family, gave two trebles to augment the Easton Neston peal, has presented a war shrine to the church. It has been erected in the belfry, and was unveiled on Sunday week, after the morning service. It comprises the record of a muffled peal rung as a tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the war, special mention being made of Lance-Corpl. Charles Faulkner, one of the ringers at the church, who has made the supreme sacrifice.

After the service the Vicar, churchwardens, and a large number of the congregation made their way to the belfry. The Vicar read some suitable prayers, and then took down the Union Jack which covered the shrine. In the course of an eloquent address, the Vicar said it was meant to be an outward and visible sign to those who had fallen in the war. They were deeply indebted to Mr. J. Slarke for putting up this memorial to their fallen brothers.

Mr. Slarke thanked the Vicar for giving him permission to erect the shrine, saying it was a pleasure, mingled with sadness, to do so. He made special mention of the late Lance-Corpl. Faulkner, of his untiring energy in ringing the bells for the services of the church, and of his thoroughness in everything he undertook for the good of the cause.

Mr. F. Wilford, hon. secretary of the Central Northants Association, on behalf of the ringers, made feeling remarks on the number of ringers who have fallen in the war. The following ringers were present and took part in the ringing: Messrs. F. Wilford, F. Hopper, R. Christian, W. Rogers, W. Farey, S. Lawrence, J. Hensman, T. Law, F. Rollings, W. Lambert, W. Roberts, J. Slarke, J. W. Unwin, J. W. Haynes, and H. Key.

After the service the ringers were kindly entertained by Mr. Slarke.

KILLED IN ACTION.

The War Office have recently notified his relatives that it must now be presumed that Pte A. G. Webber, of Brent Knoll, Somerset, who was serving in the Devon Regiment, and has been missing since July 1st last, was killed in action. His death is a heavy loss to the ringers of St. Michael's Church, Brent Knoll, where he was a staunch member of the belfry, a good ringer, and a member of the choir. On Saturday week a half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung to his memory by: C. Bird 1, J. Baker 2, J. Steer 3, F. Iley (conductor) 4, C. Hancock 5, H. Hobbs 6.

THE LATE SERGT. GARRISON.

On Saturday week, at All Saints' Church, Rotherham, a touch of 434 Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled, to the memory of Sergt. L. Garrison, late secretary of the All Saints' company, who, as recorded in our last issue, was killed in action on May 1st. The ringers were: H. Taylor 1, L. Brightman 2, J. W. Cottam 3, T. C. Ryder 4, A. Hague 5, A. Kettell 6, L. Littlewood 7, H. North 8. Touches of Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples and Bob Major were also rung, and the bells were kept muffled for both services on the following day.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The busy market town of Chippenham (Wilts) is singularly fortunate in possessing two very fine rings of eight, but their cheering tones are now seldom heard, as many of the local ringers are engaged in much sterner duties than bell ringing, but on Saturday last these bells once more pealed forth their music, the occasion being a meeting of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. A large attendance was not anticipated, but the depleted band of local ringers was augmented by enthusiasts from Marshfield, Swindon, and Wanborough, who met at St. Paul's in the afternoon, where several touches of Grandsire Triples were successfully accomplished. The "rationing" of the party was undertaken in a most thoroughly efficient manner by Mrs. B. Hunt, at the New Inn.

Mr. T. Daniels presided at the business meeting which followed, and it was decided to pay a visit to Kington St. Michael, on Saturday, June 16th.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Rev. D. B. Barclay, Rector of St. Paul's, and the Rev. L. E. Parsons, Vicar of St. Andrew's, for the use of the bells at their respective churches, a privilege highly appreciated by the visitors.

In the evening further ringing took place at St. Andrew's, bringing to a close a pleasant and enjoyable day's gathering.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of the Bolton Branch was held at Horwich on Saturday last, about 20 members attending from Walkden, Leigh, Tyldesley, Deane, Chorley, Bolton (Parish Church and St. George's), with the local men. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung. Two new members were elected. The next meeting will be held at Newchurch on June 23rd.

LADY RINGERS WANTED.

The Rev. R. L. Allwork, Vicar of Epping, has issued an appeal to his parish asking for women bell ringers.

Ladies have come forward very readily in many parishes, so there ought not to be much difficulty in filling the gaps at Epping.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

SATISFACTORY WAR-TIME POSITION.

Only a comparatively small number of ringers attended the annual meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society, at headquarters, on Saturday, May 5th, some 25 or 30 being present from Barnsley, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, North Wingfield, Ranmoor, Sheffield Cathedral, and Staveley. The ringing during the afternoon and evening did not, however, suffer from this, lack of numbers and plenty of good practice, with some capital striking, was obtained in quite a variety of methods, including Grandsire, Stedman and Erin Triples, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Superlative Surprise, Original, and Forward Major.

The business meeting was held in the Parish Room, the Vicar (the Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls), who had taken part in the ringing during the afternoon, being in the chair.

The Hon. Secretary pro tem. (Mr. Sam Thomas) presented the balance sheet for 1916, which showed the finances of the society to be standing the strain for war-time difficulties in a satisfactory manner. Although the year's working showed a small adverse balance, owing to some non-recurring expenditure, the total funds of the society at the close of the year were £15 13s. 1d., compared with £15 8s. 8d. in the previous year.—This was considered satisfactory by the meeting, and unanimously accepted.

The Hon. Secretary's report, the third as locum tenens, disclosed a slight increase in the membership roll, eleven new members having been elected during the year, while two had been lost through death. The number serving their country in the forces of the Crown kept growing steadily, and the subscriptions as a consequence grew less. The number of affiliated towers remain at twenty, the same as last year. For the ensuing year the committee had made a sensible alteration in the fixing of meetings; instead of the bi-monthly plan which had been adopted during the war, meetings are to be held only during the lightest months of the year, viz.: June, July, August, September, March, April and May. The number of peals rung during the year was eight, three being muffled peals on tower bells, and five on handbells.

With one exception, the officers were re-elected, Mr. John Holman taking the place of Mr. Wm. Biggin (vice-president), who resigned owing to lack of time to attend to the society's affairs, and for whose services a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

Replying to a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for use of bells and room, Mr. F. M. Tindall, Vicar's warden, gave the members a hearty welcome, and expressed the wish that the society would continue to prosper and keep up the work which it was doing so well.

The Vicar, who also replied, reminded the members of their duties as well as privileges, and then closed the meeting with prayer.

After the meeting more ringing followed, until nine o'clock finally put the closure on what all hope will be the last annual meeting to be held during this strife of nations.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week, St. Andrew's, Wells Street, Oxford Street, W., was visited by a large number of members of the London County Association and friends, who took the opportunity of having a pull upon this splendid ring of eight. The bells were raised at 4 p.m., and touches in Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major, were indulged in until 7.45 p.m.

At the business meeting, held in the Parish Hall adjoining, presided over by the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), the Rev. J. K. Knight, Vicar of St. Andrew's, kindly attended, and extended a very hearty welcome to the visitors, and also tendered his grateful thanks for the ringing, of which he was a great lover. Although not proficient in the art of change ringing, he had, he said, passed through the preliminary stages prior to taking up his duties at St. Andrew's.

Miss Edith K. Parker, of Enfield, and Mr. Arthur W. Davis, of Shepherd's Bush, were elected members.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Saturday, June 9th, particulars of which will appear in the "Ringing World" in due course.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens of St. Andrew's for their kind welcome, and for the use of the bells.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Axbridge Branch was held at Mark recently, 37 members being present from Badgworth, Brent Knoll, East Brent, Burnham, Bridgwater, Weare, Weston-super-Mare, Huntspill and Worle. The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening to Grandsire, Stedman, and Plain Bob. Service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. F. Turner), who also gave a very appropriate address. Tea was partaken of on the vicarage lawn.

At the meeting which followed, presided over by the Rev. Preb. R. Hayes Robinson, twelve new members (all of Worle) were elected, and Cheddar was selected for the next meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for arranging the service, and for the use of the bells.

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.

BELLS AND BELFRY REFORM.

RINGERS DIFFICULT TO HANDLE.

To the Editor.

The letter of Mr. C. W. Player, in your last issue, invites some comment. With its main contention—that neglect of church bells and belfries is too often the fault of clergy and church authorities—I am compelled to agree. It is they who are responsible to the parishioners for the proper care of valuable church property; and sometimes, I fear, they neglect their trust. But parishioners who take no interest in their bells, and make no attempt to keep their church authorities up to the mark, are at least participes criminis; and ringers themselves, so far as my experience goes, do not always make things easy for the clergy and churchwardens. Some clergy, I admit, are too exacting, and seem to forget that ringers are grown men, who cannot be treated like children, and must be led, not driven. But ringers are sometimes difficult to deal with, touchy and easily offended, terribly irregular and unpunctual, with (apparently) no consideration for other people's convenience. My own personal relations with them for 25 years were generally pleasant and friendly; but early in my ringing career I was nearly driven to cut my connection with it altogether, in despair at their casualness and unpunctuality. I was glad that I "stuck it out"; but had I not done so, the fault would have been theirs, not mine.

With respect to "rights" in the bells, the case (I believe) is this: The incumbent and churchwardens are jointly responsible to the parish for care of the bells, as of other "goods of the church"; but control of the belfry and of admission thereto is by law vested in the incumbent, who can exclude anyone, even a churchwarden, subject to an appeal against his action before the Bishop and Archdeacon. Churchwardens, in their turn, may (and sometimes do) object to provide funds for keeping belfry and bells in proper order and repair. But incumbent and churchwardens alike are only trustees for the parishioners, who are the real owners of the bells and other "goods of the church." The pity is that they do not always recognise the obligations of their trusteeship: and that through neglect or personal friction, aided by indifference on the part of those for whom they are trustees, a state of things should arise which deserves Mr. Player's strictures. If ever it is necessary for men to "be of one mind in an house," it is so for those who live side by side in a parish, and share common duties and responsibilities towards their fellow parishioners.—Yours faithfully,

T. L. PAPILLON,
Formerly Master of the Essex Association.

SIX OF ONE, HALF A DOZEN OF THE OTHER.

Dear Sir,—Will you be good enough to spare me a little space, wherein to say a few words upon "Bells and Belfry Reform," as I have read with interest the letters appearing in the "Ringing World" recently. I have been a church bell ringer about 20 years, and I fear I cannot quite agree with Mr. Player's letter, as it is obviously unfair to the clergy generally. It always seems to me (to put it in as few words as possible), "Six of one and half a dozen of the other," as, if ringers were to take more interest in the church services, I am quite sure most of the clergy would take more interest in them and their ringing. The Vicar in one of the parishes in the East Berks and South Bucks branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild told me some few weeks ago, when refusing us the use of his bells for some ringing, that his experience was that the men who invariably never came to church were the ringers. I might add that the services at this particular church on Sundays are as well attended as any in the district. It has never been my experience to see round ringers handle their bells better than change ringers, or strike more accurately, but rather the reverse.

We all know quite well that the help of the clergy in securing probationary members for the belfry would be much appreciated, and their presence at the practices, quarterly meetings, etc., would be an incentive to the youngsters to try and improve, but we can hardly make comparisons in the ringing of our church bells, to playing cricket or football, as surely our primary motive in ringing is (or ought to be) the love of our Church. Let us strive to persevere steadily under whatever difficulties may present themselves, rather than to be discouraged, because those in authority do not appear to take the amount of interest in our doings which we think it their duty to do.—Yours, etc.,

Iver Heath, Uxbridge. G. H. GUTTERIDGE.

HIGH WYCOMBE PEAL BOARD UNVEILING.

The Bishop of Bucks has kindly consented to dedicate the peal tablet recording Stedman Cinques rung at High Wycombe last New Year's Eve, at 2 p.m. on Monday instead of 4, as mentioned last week. The belfry will be open by consent of the Rev. Canon Ridsdale, Rector, from 1 to 5 for touches, when London "unattached" members and visitors will be welcomed by the steeplekeeper. A neighbouring tower will be available for the evening at 6.30, if required.

SOLDIERS INVITED.

Any ringer stationed at Morfa Camp, Conway, North Wales, will be heartily welcomed at the Parish Church, Llandudno, which is the nearest peal. Practices, Monday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.; Sundays, 10.15 a.m. and 5.45 p.m. If ringers will kindly communicate with R. W. Thompson, bookseller, Mostyn Street, Llandudno, ringing can be arranged.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION'S PRESIDENT.

THE REV. B. H. TYRWHITT DRAKE.

The Hertford County Association have been fortunate in their succession of Presidents, and in the selection of the Rev. Barnard Halsey Tyrwhitt Drake, who has been re-elected this year, they have one who is a keen ringer, and who, had the times been different, would without doubt have done much to further the interests of the Association in the belfries of the county. His first election to office was in 1916, but the call to service as a Chaplain of the Forces prevented him from going about among the towers, and it was the hope that during the coming year Mr. Drake would be able to carry out his great wish to visit all the belfries in the Association that prompted his re-election at Easter.

Born at Great Gaddesden Vicarage, on August 22nd, 1882, the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake was the third son of the Rev. W. T. Tyrwhitt Drake; and it was at Great Gaddesden that he had his first ringing lesson, although his real instruction in the art was received from the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, President of the Cambridge University Guild, when Mr. Drake was at Cambridge in 1901, after being at school at Tyttenhanger Lodge, St.

THE REV. B. H. TYRWHITT DRAKE.

Albans, and Haileybury College. While an Undergraduate at Pembroke College he joined the University Guild, and took part in handbell ringing with the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, F. S. Poole, H. S. T. Richardson and E. H. Lewis. His first peal was of Bob Major at St. Andrew's, Cambridge, on June 17th, 1903, and on October 8th of the same year he rang his first handbell peal. This was also Bob Major and took place at Southwell. Before leaving Cambridge, Mr. Drake took part in peals of Bob Royal and Maximus, Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal and Grandsire Caters in hand and Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major on tower bells.

Mr. Drake took his B.A. degree in 1904, and was at Wells Theological College 1904-1905. On December 21st of the latter year he was ordained Deacon in Wakefield Cathedral, Priest in the same Cathedral exactly a year later, and was Curate of Almondbury, Huddersfield. He became M.A. in 1908, and in 1909 went to South Africa to the work of the Railway Mission. Returning to England the following year he became Curate at Hitchin, and in 1912 Curate at Sandy. In 1915 he was given the Vicarage of Thundridge, a church where there are four bells, which it is his great desire to see augmented. Last year the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, who in 1915 married Miss D. Doncaster, at Ewell, Surrey, took up a Chaplaincy with the Forces, and was stationed first at Clipstone and then at Newark.

His peals number 63, and include the first clerical peal of Double Norwich, at Drayton on September 1st, 1909. They are made up as follows:—

	Tower Bell.	Handbells.
Bob Maximus	—	1
Bob Royal	1	2
Kent Treble Bob Royal	—	2
Stedman Caters	1	—
Grandsire Caters	—	2
Bob Major	5	8
Kent Treble Bob Major	4	4
Little Bob Major	—	1
Cambridge Surprise Major	1	—
Double Norwich Major	4	—
Oxford Treble Bob Major	1	—
Stedman Triples	15	1
Grandsire Triples	1	—
Minor	9	—
	42	21

These peals have been rung for the Cambridge University Guild (32); Hertford County Association (7); Bedford County Association (6); Ely Diocesan Association (7); Yorkshire Association (4); Lancashire Association (4); College Youths (2); Midland Counties Association (1).

THE ABANDONED CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING.

FRESH ELECTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR.

A circular issued by the Hon. Sec. (the Rev. C. D. P. Davies) gives the following analysis of voting on the question of holding or abandoning the meeting of the Central Council for this year: For abandonment 83, for holding 15—majority for abandonment 68. Card duly signed but no vote recorded 1, reply disqualified 1, no reply received 11. The hon. secretary did not vote, and thus the whole of the 113 members on the Council list are accounted for. After the analysis was published one reply came in for abandonment, bringing the number against holding the meeting to 84, and the majority to 69. It is pointed out that of those who had not replied most were absent on active service.

As the meeting due next year will be the first of the tenth Council, it will be held, in accordance with custom, in the Small Hall of the Church House, Westminster, and affiliated associations will have to make their triennial appointment of representatives before that meeting.

ILLUSTRATED LECTURES ON BELLS.

GRAMOPHONE RECORDS.

Dear Sir,—The replies of Messrs. Shires and Ridgway to my letter are welcomed, and I feel sure the information they give will be made use of by others than myself.

Now cannot someone go a step further and tell us if there are any gramophone records illustrating change ringing? I only know of one which consists of an incomplete course of "Grandsire Caters," tapped by Mr. H. Withers on the carillon at Bourneville, but, of course, there may be others.

If there are no others in existence, then I am sure there are most capable bands amongst the College Youths, the Cumberlands, the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, or the Middlesex Association, who could ring, double-handed, short touches in various methods—Double and Minor, Triples and Major, Caters and Royal, Cinques and Maximus—to illustrate the meanings of these terms and what change ringing is really like.

Nor need they be put to any expense, for there are two or three noted firms, specialising in gramophone records, who would be only too pleased to have the opportunity of recording, with a view to reproduction, such a novelty; for any record reproducing the sounds of bells finds a ready sale amongst the public.—Yours truly,

Bradpole. T. HERVEY BEAMS.

NOTICES.

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

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—A Meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 31st, 1917, for handbell practice, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, May 26th. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Flixton on Whit-Saturday. Bells available during the afternoon and evening. Meeting at 6 o'clock.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The May meeting will be held at Bennington to-morrow, Saturday, May 26th, when the bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be held in the Parochial Hall at 6d. each. I should be glad if all those who can will notify me by the morning of the 26th. All ringers welcome, members or non-members.—W. H. Lawrence, District Secretary, Little Munden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Romford on Whit-Monday. Divine service at 4 p.m. Address by Rev. G. M. Bell, Vicar of Romford. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by the annual meeting. Towers open for ringing: Romford, Hornchurch, Dagenham, Shenfield, Little Heath (Brentwood for 20 minutes' touches, 1½ hours in all). Members intending to take tea must send me notice not later than previous Tuesday on account of the difficulties of catering.—H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Sec., Great Totham Vicarage.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Rothwell on Whit-Monday, May 28th. Bells available at 10 o'clock. Service at 12 noon. Meeting to follow. Committee meeting at 10.30.—Fred Wilford, Gen. Sec., 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Ashleworth on Whit-Monday. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Short business meeting to follow. All outstanding subscriptions should be now paid.—Jos. Williams, Hon. Sec.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A meeting of the above will beheld at Tenterden on Whit-Monday. Bells available from 6 till 9. Several members and friends will also ring at Benenden in the morning from 10 till 12, and at Rolvenden in the afternoon from 2 till 4. All ringing friends will be heartily welcomed at all the towers.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available from 3.30. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Shenley on Saturday, June 2nd. Service, 3 p.m.; meeting to follow. Owing to difficulty in getting provisions no tea will be provided. Bells (6) available 2 p.m.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at East Retford on Saturday, June 2nd. The bells of East Retford (10), West Retford and Ordsall (6) will be at the disposal of ringers from 2 p.m. until 9. Business meeting in Parish Room 3.30. Divine Service 4.20 p.m. in Parish Church. Owing to food restrictions there will be no public tea catered for this year. Every ringer must make his own arrangements. A good attendance is desired.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above Society will be held at Tong on Saturday, June 2nd, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Bolsover on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Abbeydale Road, Sheffield.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION—It has been decided to abandon the Whit-Monday meeting which was to have been held at Bishop Auckland, owing to the excessive railway fares and the food restrictions. The annual meeting, however, will (D.V.) be held as appointed at Sunderland on Saturday, October 27th.—G. T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—It has been decided by the Committee that in view of present difficulties the Annual Meeting be postponed indefinitely, but that the Master and Secretary be empowered to convene such a meeting at their discretion: all officers to retain their posts until such meeting be held.—F. Ll. Edwards, Secretary.

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.

MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

At the annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild, held on Saturday, March 10th, 1917, it was unanimously decided to erect in the Parish Church, Dudley (the Vicar and wardens having consented to the same), a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters rung on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, who had been its ringing master ever since the Guild was formed, and had held other important offices at the Parish Church for upwards of 70 years. It was further decided to appeal to the members of the Guild for subscriptions, and it was thought that many of the late Mr. Spittle's ringing friends and acquaintances would like the opportunity of contributing something towards perpetuating the memory of so devoted and honoured a ringer and church worker. The work has already been put in hand, and subscriptions should be forwarded without delay to the Ringing Master, Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, Staffs, or to the Hon.

Secretary, Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley, who will in due course acknowledge the same in "The Ringing World."

Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar and President.
Harry Mason, Ringing Master.
Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

WOOD MACHINIST and WOOD WORKERS wanted for Government work; also men for riveting fittings on poles.—Apply, H. E. Wills, Wilton Carriage Co., 107, Waddon New Road, Croydon.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED.—HANDBELLS (secondhand), any notes. Send full particulars to Rev. G. Elwell, The Vicarage, St. George, Bristol.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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

PRACTICE MEETING AT CROYDON.

On Saturday last, a practice meeting was held at Croydon, and, as is usual at St. Peter's, a good gathering was the result. The ten bells were available during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going to a variety of methods the ringers including the renowned Mr. William Pye to "Tommy Major," who took part in both tower and handbell ringing. Tea, thoughtfully provided by Mr. H. Wills, was partaken of by nearly 40, at Thornbury's Tea Rooms, and was much appreciated.—Mr. W. A. Alps (the man of few words), on behalf of the visitors, thanked Mr. Wills for his kindness.—This was seconded by Mr. A. J. Perkins, and, needless to say, carried unanimously.—Votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. Dean for making all the arrangements, and to the Vicar for the use of the bells. The tower was then again visited until 8 p.m., the ringers afterwards adjoining to Thornbury's, where a social hour or two with the handbells were pleasantly passed.

RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

On Wednesday, May 16th, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Naunton, of Wrentham, Suffolk, celebrated their golden wedding. Mr. Naunton is, and has been for many years, secretary of the Southwold district of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and he has been Ringing Master at Wrentham Parish Church for upwards of 40 years. It was arranged, in celebration of his golden wedding, to attempt a peal in which he was to have taken part, but owing to the war it had to be postponed, as there are only two other ringers left beside himself at Wrentham to chime the bells for Sunday services. The remainder of the band are serving with the colours, but it is still hoped that the peal will be rung at the first opportunity, and recorded on a board in the belfry. Both Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Naunton are 73 years of age, and the congratulations and good wishes of the Exercise will go out to them.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

HAMMERSMITH.—At St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, April 22nd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: W. H. Stevens 1, A. Diserens 2, Pte S. Meadows, A.S.C., 3, A. W. Davis 4, H. Cook 5, C. Hunt 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, P. C. Brooks 8.

SELBY, YORKSHIRE.—At Selby Abbey, on Sunday, April 22nd, for evening service, 882 Grandsire Triples: J. W. Hall (longest touch) 1, J. Jackson 2, E. Storr 3 W. A. Hall 4, F. Cryer 5, W. Hinton 6, H. Fairlam (conductor) 7, G. Rippon 8. First touch of this length on the bells since nine members joined the forces.

OLDHAM.—On Sunday, April 22nd, at the Parish Church, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, on the occasion of unveiling of a memorial tablet to the late Mrs. A. Broadbent, wife of one of the churchwardens: H. Wright 1, S. Elson 2, S. Stott (conductor) 3, A. Waites 4, M. Newton 5, C. Marsland 6, W. Hodgson 7, J. Garlick 8.

STREATHAM.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Sunday, April 22nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: Lieut. F. J. L. Mitchell 1, J. C. Mitchell 2, E. Horrex 3, Pte I. J. Attwater 4, G. N. Price 5, P. H. Smith 6, L. Attwater (conductor) 7, H. Smith 8. Arranged for Lieut. Mitchell, who was shortly proceeding to France.

NUTFIELD, SURREY.—On Sunday, April 22nd, for evening service, at the Parish Church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins.: A. Wood 1, F. W. Rice 2, Rifleman J. T. Hogg, of North Shields, 3, W. Claydon 4, G. Bourne 5, F. Hawkins (conductor) 6. Also 120 Kent Treble Bob by the same band.

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