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, 1915

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

PROMOTING THE NEW SPIRIT.

The last few years have witnessed a great change in the spirit which exists between the various societies whose spheres of operations extend over the London district. There was a time, not so very long ago, when the old ringing societies watched one another with extreme jealousy, and viewed with suspicion the activities of the younger organisations in their midst and on their borders. The feeling between the ancient societies was one which had grown out of long-standing rivalry, and their attitude towards the new associations was that with which stolid old age sometimes looks upon enterprising youth. The result was that individuals, as well as societies, found jarring notes in the harmony of their relations.

The progress of time has, however, brought with it a spirit of conciliation, and wrought a gratifying change. There is to-day fraternisation between the various organisations in their official capacity such as there never was before, and proof of the friendly feeling which is displacing the old bitterness that used to underlie the relationship, is to be found in the holding of meetings by one society at towers which formerly were looked upon as the special preserves of another. Thus we have seen the Middlesex Association meeting at the headquarters of the Royal Cumberlands at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and the London County Association, as last week, going out into Middlesex territory to hold a gathering at Isleworth. These are only two of many instances that might be quoted, and what makes them the more satisfactory is the genuine cordiality which marks this intermingling. The same feeling of good fellowship has grown up in the relationship of the members themselves, indeed, it is out of this changed attitude that the more "official" *rapprochement* has sprung. It is by no means a war-time development, but one which the commonsense of the ringers concerned has gradually brought about. In a fraternity in which all are seeking to advance the same cause, there is no room for petty jealousies, and everything which tends to remove such feelings is all to the good. Meeting at each other's towers is one of the very best means of promoting the new spirit which has sprung up, and the more frequent and wider this intercourse becomes the better for ringing. The spirit of rivalry will remain, but it will be that friendly rivalry which leads to the advancement of the art. College Youths, Cumberlands, London County, Middlesex, Kent, Surrey and Essex Associations all spread their operations over Greater London or a portion of it, and, with a feeling of cordial good will existing and each striving, as they are, with the highest aim, to propagate and foster the art of ringing, the future of the Exercise in and around London will be even brighter than the past has been. Once the war is over, the effects of this new spirit will be more marked than ever, and we hope to see it continue to grow.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.

SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM

BELLS

FOR CHURCHES,

SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and Satisfaction Guaranteed

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON BRACKETS.

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.

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

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

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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 PEAL.

SOUTHAM, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, June 2, 1917, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt., in E.

WILLIAM PRYCE	*Treble*	WILLIAM H. BRUNSDON...	5
OSWALD J. HUNT	2	WILLIAM T. COX	6
WILLIAM J. SMITH	3	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ...	7
HARRY THORPE	4	ALFRED WILSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH H. W. WHITE.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells; also the first peal on eight bells by the ringer of the tenor. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect and esteem for the late Rev. J. Hart Davis, for 22 years rector of the parish.

HANDBELL PEAL.

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

On Tuesday, June 5, 1917, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
IN ST. MARTIN'S BELFRY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor, 15 size in C.

ALBERT WALKER	1—2	JAMES E. GROVES ...	7—8
THOMAS RUSSAM...	3—4	GEORGE F. SWANN	9—10
FRANK PERRENS	5—6	WILLIAM KENT ...	11—12

Composed by the late C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: MR. MORRIS J. MORRIS.
Witness: MR. JAMES GEORGE.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

From Kettering, Northants:—
Pte F. W. Sawfoot, 29th Middlesex, A.S.C.
Gnr. D. J. Nichols, R.F.A., France.

From Rothwell, Northants:—
Pte H. Peet, A.S.C., M.T.

From Easton Neston, Towcester:—
Spr. J. W. Unwin, R.E., Signal Section, Bedford.

From Goole Parish Church:—
Gunner H. Briggs, R.G.A., now at Gattrick.

CLENT'S REMARKABLE LIST.

There can be few towers which can claim such a list of ringers serving with the colours as St. Leonard's, Clent, Worcestershire. No fewer than 17 have done, or are doing "their bit," one of them having made the supreme sacrifice, and another having been wounded and discharged:—

B. Ashford, A.S.C.	H. Popnell, Motor Transport.
F. Boughton, Australians.	G. Popnell, R.F.A.
W. Boughton, R.E.	M. Roberts, R. Fus. (killed).
J. Barber, Royal Irish.	C. Sheriff, Motor Transport.
F. Breakwell, Worcesters (wounded and discharged).	J. Sheriff, 2nd Sussex.
	J. Shilvock, Machine Gun Corps.
A. Davies, R.F.A.	W. H. Short, Australians.
W. Davies, R.F.A.	F. Waldron, Motor Transport.
J. Houghton, 2nd Sussex.	C. Worrall, Worcesters.

Pte William Keeble, No. 24104, A.V.C., is now at No. 7, Veterinary Hospital, France. He sends kind regards to all ringing friends.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Ashford District of the Kent Association was held at Wye recently, when about 25 members attended, and some good ringing was done in all the four standard methods. The Vicar (the Rev. E. Lambert) kindly provided a tea for the visitors, who extended their grateful thanks for the hospitality shown them. The business meeting was held in the belfry, Mr. C. Tribe, the district secretary, being elected to serve on the Association's War Memorial Committee. —A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his permission to hold the meeting, and for his kind hospitality, and also to the Rev. Lawrence E. Browne (Fellow of St. Augustine's College, Canterbury), who presided at the meeting, in the absence of the Vicar, and who also conducted the service in church. The following towers sent representatives: Appledore, Ashford, Brabourne, Headcorn, Mersham, Rolvenden, Stone-in-Oxney, Tenterden, and Willesborough. The visitors included Mr. Spice, of Tunstall, and Mr. D. Hodgkin, of Marden.

PEAL TABLETS AT HIGH WYCOMBE.

DEDICATION BY THE BISHOP OF BUCKINGHAM.

An interesting little ceremony, mingled with feelings of sorrow and sympathy, took place in the tower of the Parish Church, High Wycombe, on Whit-Monday afternoon, when the Bishop of Buckingham dedicated two handsome peal boards, which have been presented to the belfry to perpetuate the memory of those who have valiantly sacrificed their lives in the war. Few belfries in the county possess a larger number of peal tablets, the oldest of which records a peal rung more than a century ago. The two additions have been given by the generosity of the Bishop of Buckingham, and Mr. Chas. E. Skull. One is dedicated to the memory of three of the Bishop's sons, who have fallen in the war, and records two muffled peals of Stedman Caters, rung on December 26th, 1914, and October 18th, 1916; while the other is in faithful memory of Buckinghamshire men who have given their lives in the war. Both boards are suitably designed and inscribed; one being made by Mr. E. Bailey, and the other at the factory of Messrs. W. Skull and Son.

THE BOARDS.

The peal boards are inscribed as follows:—

Bernard H. G. Shaw, Lieut., West Yorkshire Regiment, Dec. 19th, 1914. Arthur C. Shaw, Lieut., Sherwood Foresters, Dec. 24th, 1915. Edward A. Shaw, Capt., Oxford and Bucks L.I., Oct. 7th, 1916. For King and Country. Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers. In honour of the beloved sons of Edward Domett Shaw, Lord Bishop of Buckingham, and Agnes Shaw, who gallantly gave their lives in the European War. Two muffled peals of Stedman Caters, each containing 5,019 changes, were rung on these bells on Saturday, Dec. 24th, 1914, in 3 hours 29 mins.; on Wednesday, Oct. 18th, 1916, in 3 hours 45mins.: Fred Hayes, treble; Edward R. Coles, 2; Ralph Coles, 3; Cecil E. Maynes, 4; Edward Markham, 5; Geo. White, 6; John Evans, 7; Benjamin Page, 8; John Gransbury, 9; Frank W. Boxell, tenor. Fred Hayes, treble; Percy E. Jones, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; John C. Truss, 4; Wm. T. Horne, 5; Wm. Henley, 6; John Evans, 7; Jas. Blackmore, 8; John Gransbury, 9; Ralph Coles, tenor. Composed and conducted by Fred Hayes.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths and O.D.G On Sunday, Dec. 31st, 1916, in 3 hours 48 mins., a peal of Stedman Cinques, containing 5,002 changes, was rung in this tower, with the bells solemnly muffled, in faithful memory of Buckinghamshire men who had fallen in the great war. F. Hayes, treble; E. R. Coles, 2; R. Coles, 3; J. H. Matthews, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; F. Smith, 6; B. Thorpe, 7; G. Twitchen, 8; W. T. Horne, 9; W. Phipps, 10; W. J. Nudds, 11; H. T. Scarlett, tenor. Composed by F. Dench. Conducted by F. Hayes. Wardens—L. W. R. Reynolds, G. Welch, W. H. Rolls, S. Fitch. Presented by C. E. Skull, Esq., J.P.

At the dedicatory ceremony, at half-past two, the Bishop of Buckingham was accompanied by the Vicar (the Rev. C. H. Ridsdale); and among those also present were the Rev. A. L. Whitfeld (Vicar of Hughenden), the Rev. G. Fry, Dr. Lewis W. Reynolds, J.P., Mr. C. E. Skull J.P., Miss M. Skull, Mr. and Mrs. E. Bailey, the Misses Evans, and others. The Wycombe ringers present were: Messrs. Ralph Coles (foreman), Fred Hayes (deputy foreman), Geo. Twitchen (hon. secretary and treasurer), E. Coles, E. Markham, F. K. Biggs W. T. Horne, Wm. Phipps, and Harry Butler; while the members of other towers comprised Messrs. Evans, sen. and jun. (Hughenden), W. H. Fussell, Smith, Hooper (Slough), J. Blackmore (Beaconsfield), B. Foskett, J. B. Williamson (London), Barnes (Great Missenden), Rev. J. F. Amies and Master T. Major (Chalfont St. Peter), W. Henley (Farnham Royal), and Miss E. M. Goodship (Reading).

REMINDERS OF GALLANT MEN.

After the peal boards (covered with the Union Jack) had been respectively unveiled by the Bishop and Miss M. Skull, prayers appropriate to the occasion were said by the Bishop, and the dedication having been finished, a touch of Stedman Cinques was rung on the twelve bells.

The Vicar afterwards said that he should like to acknowledge the gift of the two peal boards, which they took into safe keeping, and would always cherish as reminders of the service of the gallant men who had given their lives to their country, and whose memory was very dear to the hearts and lives of many in that place and the neighbourhood. He should also like to express their gratitude to the Bishop of Buckingham for coming there to dedicate the peal boards, and also to the donors of the peal boards. He should like to add that the Bishop of the Diocese was in Wycombe that morning, and he was very interested to hear about the dedication of the peal boards, and expressed a wish to see them. The Bishop came and tried to get into the belfry, but could not do so, as unfortunately the short time that remained before his train left rendered it impossible.

The Bishop of Buckingham, in briefly replying, remarked that ringing had very much developed in the last twenty years. He thought that when he first came there, there were only two peal boards in the tower, but now there were quite a number. One of the peal boards was put up more than a hundred years ago, to commemorate a peal rung by the College Youths; and another was erected about a hundred years later, in honour of the marriage of the then Vicar's daughter. He did not know how long it would be before they had to record the marriage of another Vicar's daughter (laughter).

During the afternoon a large number of parishioners and visitors ascended the steps to the belfry, and were greatly interested in the tablets displayed there. Many also availed themselves of the opportunity of gaining a bird's-eye view of the town from the summit of the church tower.

During the afternoon and early evening ringing was indulged in. The methods performed (in which the local and visiting ringers took part), comprised Stedman Cinques, Stedman Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob. Later on, several of the ringers visited Beaconsfield tower for the purpose of ringing on the eight bells of the church.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very successful meeting of the Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at St. Peter's, Rock Ferry, on Saturday week. This was the first meeting held there since the bells were rehung and augmented, and about 40 ringers were present to try the new bells, the tone and go of them being all that could be desired, and a credit to Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who carried out the work. Service, held in the church at 5.30, was conducted by the Vicar of Rock Ferry, and the Rev. Dr. Bond (of St. Luke's, Lower Tranmere) gave an appropriate address, which was full of interest, and was appreciated by all who were present.

Tea was provided in St. Peter's Hall, and the meeting was held afterwards in the large hall, the Vicar of St. Peter's (the Rev. A. Ball) being in the chair.—Mr. Ludkin gave a report of the business transacted by the general committee meeting of the Guild, and stated that the annual meeting of the Guild is to be held at Stockport on July 28th next.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Brocklebank was elected to represent the Wirral branch on the Central Council.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and for the service, and also providing tea.

The Rock Ferry ringers were made members of the Guild. The bells were kept going by different bands until 8.30, when they were rung down, and the company dispersed after having spent an enjoyable time. The methods rung were Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob Minor, and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

WHITSUNTIDE MANOEUVRES.

A meeting of this Guild was held at Tenterden on Whit-Monday. By previous arrangements, several members and friends rang at Benenden in the morning, where they had the pleasure of meeting the former Master of the Guild, Mr. G. Billenness, who is now in khaki, and stationed at Lowestoft, but who was home on a short leave (some of the company had also met at Hawkhurst on the Sunday morning to ring a quarter-peal for service, under his conductorship, but it came to grief half-way).—The Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Noble) gave the members a hearty welcome, and invited them to take a stroll in the Vicarage grounds, not much ringing being possible, as the bells are sadly out of order, and require the attention of an experienced bell hanger before they can be made good use of. When the visitors saw the steeplekeeper appear with a carpenter's basket filled with tools, they guessed there was something " in the wind," and soon ropes and wheels were getting a bit mixed up aloft, and so, like certain other individuals, they " withdrew according to plan." Like the policeman, we then " proceeded " to Rolvenden in the afternoon, where they were also welcomed by the new Vicar, who had the pleasure for the first time of hearing his bells rung in changes, and who hoped they would pay him another visit later on and be his guests at tea. Several touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung under the conductorship of Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, who was spending the day with the Guild, and whose company and services were greatly appreciated.

The Cyclist Battalion then advanced on Tenterden, and successfully raided a tea shop in the town, setting a strong guard outside to see that no Food Controller put in an appearance.

Then, like giants refreshed, they mounted the 75 circular steps to the belfry, and were soon sending out Grandsire Triples by wireless to the surrounding country. Mrs. Gatehouse, the lady member, rang some 120's of Grandsire Doubles, and some courses of Grandsire Triples, and Mr. Fairbeard, from Adisham, rang his first touch of Grandsire Triples, a 560 conducted by Mr. C. W. Player. Several other touches were rung, and the bells then lowered in peal.

A short business meeting was held, the principal items being the election of one or two new members, and a proposition that the next meeting be held at High Halden (six bells), on Saturday, June 16th. —This was duly carried, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar (the Rev. J. A. Babington) for permission for use of tower and bells.

The towers represented during the day were: Appledore, Benenden, Biddenden, Hawkhurst, Headcorn, Rolvenden, Rye, Stone-in-Oxney, Tonbridge, and Tenterden.

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.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 30th annual meeting of this Association was held at East Retford, on Saturday week, when members were present from Anston, East and West Retford, Blyth, Worksop, and Laughterton, and the Rev. C. J. Sturton, Vicar of Orston, was also present.

The business meeting was held in the Parish Room, presided over by the Rev. Canon Gray, Rector of West Retford, but there was only a moderate attendance of members, more than half of the belfries being depleted in numbers, through the claims of active service.

At the commencement, the Hon. Secretary made allusion to the deaths of W. England, of Misson; J. J. Hakes, of Norton Cuckney; and George Turner, of West Retford, all young members of the Association, who had laid down their lives for King and country, and moved a vote of condolence with the bereaved families. This was carried in silence, the members standing up a few moments.

The annual report and balance sheet, which showed a small loss on the year's working of 14s. 7d., was presented, and was considered very satisfactory in view of the number of ringers who are away on active service and not paying any contributions.

The officers were re-elected en bloc, with the addition of Mr. S. C. Walker, of Worksop, acting assistant hon. secretary (pro tem.) until Mr. A. Beck returns from active service.

The new Vicar of East Retford (the Rev. C. Bailey) was elected a vice-president, and Messrs. E. Plowright and S. Eastland were elected performing members of the Worksop tower.

During the afternoon and evening, the bells of East Retford and Ordsall were kept in motion, the methods rung including Kent Treble Bob Minor (two 720's, rung at Ordsall and East Retford on the heavy six), Grandsire and Stedman Triples.

The meeting concluded with the warmest votes of thanks to the incumbents for the use of bells, and to the Rev. Howard Dobson, of Ordsall, for his practical and interesting address at the service.

The Rev. Canon Gray and the Rev. C. Bailey made suitable replies, and both hoping for a speedy termination of the war, when they might hear the bells ring out again a joyful peal.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

PLEASANT MEETING AT ISLEWORTH.

Under glorious weather conditions several members and friends assembled at the ancient Church of All Saints', Isleworth, on Saturday last for the periodical meeting. The methods rung included Stedman Triples, Treble and Plain Bob Major, Double Norwich, and Cambridge Surprise Major. Tea was partaken of at the "London Apprentice," overlooking the river, at 6 p.m., when a company of 21 sat down. Mrs. Wills, wife of an esteemed member, Mr. H. E. Wills, of Croydon, kindly undertook the duties of ministering to the wants of the visitors, and grateful thanks are due to this lady for the able manner in which she kept time with the many requirements of the inner man.

A business meeting followed, presided over by the Master, when Miss C. M. Orlebar, of King's Cliffe Rectory, Peterborough, now staying in London, was elected a member. A course of Grandsire Triples was accomplished by this lady, who rang the treble, being her first attempt on eight bells.

The next meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday, 14th July. The arrangements as to tower, etc., were left in the hands of the hon. secretary, and due notice will appear in the "Ringing World."

At the conclusion of tower bell ringing a pleasant half-hour was spent at the "London Apprentice," when good practice was obtained in handbell ringing.

A hearty vote of thanks was moved by Mr. G. Fardon, and seconded by Mr. R. Bevan, for the admirable arrangements made by Mr. Tom Beadle for the comfort of everyone.—Mr. Beadle, in responding, said it was a great pleasure to welcome the members of the London County Association; in fact, he made a point of doing his best for all who applied for the tower which he represented, and would continue to do so as long as he was able.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society held its June meeting at Bolsover, on Saturday week, when the attendance totalled rather less than a score, six towers being represented, viz.: Bolsover, Chesterfield, Mansfield, North Wingfield, Sheffield Cathedral, and Staveley—quite sufficient to keep up a "nodding acquaintance" with change ringing, "lest we forget." Double Norwich, Stedman and Superlative went fairly well, but Cambridge was found rather rusty, from some cause or other—probably lack of practice might have had something to do with it, one never knows: or, perhaps, the bells had forgotten the tune, because, at one time, it was only a matter of standing under them about three hours, and they would ring a peal in a great variety of methods. But times have changed. However, those present at the meeting had a crowded three hours of touches, and if only the ensuing meetings are as successful a few more very pleasant Saturday afternoons may be confidently counted on.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' SECRETARY.

SILVER WEDDING CELEBRATION AT COTGRAVE.

White—Rhodes.—On June 6th, 1892, at All Saints', Cotgrave, by the Rev. Alfred Hensley, William Edward White to Adelaide Marson Rhodes.

As the above notice taken from the "Nottingham Post" testifies, Wednesday, June 6th, was the 25th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. W. E. White, who, since the year 1899, has been the energetic and much respected secretary of the Midland Counties Association of change ringers. The auspicious occasion was not allowed to pass by without due and proper celebration. In the evening six of Mr. White's friends from Cotgrave and neighbouring belfries visited the tower and rang a date touch of 1917 changes, which had been specially arranged for the occasion by Mr. Walter White, the secretary's brother. The touch consisted of 477 Plain Bob and 360 each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Single Court and Oxford Bob. It was rung in 1hr. 13 mins., by: William Hickling (Cotgrave) 1, Walter White (Cotgrave), conductor, 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton (Orston) 3, Thomas Kirkby (Nottingham) 4, Alfred Barratt (Daybrook) 5, Thomas Squires (Cotgrave) 6.

At the conclusion of the touch, on the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. White, the ringers adjourned to Mr. White's residence, where, after extending their congratulations to the happy pair and their three

MR. W. E. WHITE.

daughters, and inspecting the beautiful array of silver presents, were most hospitably entertained to a bountiful supper, which, needless to say, was greatly appreciated.

After supper a pleasant hour was spent with tobacco and talk, many interesting reminiscences of the early days of ringing in Cotgrave and district being brought to light. It is interesting to note that two of the ladies who so kindly waited on their guests, Miss Dorothy White, and her friend, Miss Thompson, are regular church bell ringers, and can take the trebles on handbells through a course of Grandsire Triples. It was also a coincidence that the occasion was the anniversary of the wedding of Mr. Barratt, who rang in the above touch.

May Mr. and Mrs. White long be spared to enjoy climbing the hill of life together is the hearty wish of all their friends and neighbours, campanological and otherwise.

Mr. White, who is a native of Bingham, Notts, served several years of his early life on a sailing ship, but subsequently he settled down in the lace trade in Nottingham. Always fond of the sound of bells he took up ringing in 1886, when a band was formed at Cotgrave, where he was then living. Not one in all the band could ring a bell when the company was got together, and, as they had no instructor, the early difficulties can well be imagined. But by great perseverance the initial obstacles were overcome, and by 1890 they were able to ring practically any method on the five bells then in the tower. Mr. White was elected captain of the band in 1887, and in the same year joined the Midland Counties Association. In 1889—the year in which he rang his first peal—he was elected a member of the committee, and became local hon. secretary for the Nottingham district in 1893. On the retirement of Mr. J. O. Lancashire from the secretaryship of the Association in 1899, Mr. White was unanimously elected to fill the office which he has continued to hold with such success, and to the complete satisfaction of the members up to the present time. Mr. White has also served the Association on the Central Council at various times. A staunch Churchman, Mr. White has been a member of the Ruri-Decanal Conference for the Bingham Deanery, and he holds strong views upon the desirability of ringers being sound Churchmen.

KILLED IN ACTION.

BLACKBURN RINGER FALLEN AT SALONICA.

Pte F. C. Billows, of the 10th Devons (Signalling Section), was, we regret to say, killed in action on the Salonica front on April 24th. He joined the forces in October, 1914, and saw service in France, and was afterwards transferred to the East.

He was a member of the Parish Church belfry, Blackburn, and also of the Men's Bible Class. A native of Skipton, Yorks, he was connected with the choir and belfry of the Parish Church of that town prior to going to Blackburn.

The bells of the Blackburn Parish Church were rung deeply muffled on Thursday, June 7th, as a last token of respect to his memory, and the Vicar (the Rev. T. R. Sale, M.A.) showed his sympathy by his presence in the belfry during the ringing.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

All Hallows' Society, Tottenham, has lost a highly esteemed member by the death, from wounds received in France, on May 26th, of Walter Harding Lewis, B.A. The deceased, who was 25 years of age was the second son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Lewis, of 26, Vicarage Road, Tottenham, and early in the war relinquished a promising career to join the Honourable Artillery Company. He had previously been severely wounded, and only returned to the front on Christmas Eve, 1916.

Had he been spared he would no doubt have become a first-class ringer, for he loved the art. He took his degree at King's College, London, and obtained a position as master in a school in Co. Galway, where he made himself very popular, and was a great help in the church choir. Afterwards he secured another appointment at Windermere, and it was this post that he gave up to take his part in the war. Whenever he was home on holiday from his scholastic duties he could always be depended on to be present for morning and evening service ringing, and the members of the All Hallows' Society feel his loss very keenly. The deceased has two brothers (one older and one younger) also serving in the H.A.C. The sympathy of the Middlesex Association, of which the deceased was a member, has been sent to the parents by the President.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH RINGER MISSING.

Official news has been received by Mrs. Ward, of Finedon Road, Irthlingborough, Northants, that her son, Pte James Thomas Ward, of the Suffolk Regiment, has been missing since April 28th last. He enlisted in February, 1916, and has been in France about nine months. He is 28 years of age and exceptionally well known and respected in the district. An enthusiastic ringer, he was a capital striker, and an able exponent of the art. He had taken part in about 30 peals, the methods including Superlative, Cambridge, London and Bristol Surprise. In addition to his interest in ringing, he was a member of the Church Lads' Brigade, and an ardent football and cricket enthusiast, being a regular playing member of the Town Football and Cricket Clubs. Much sympathy has been extended to Mrs. Ward in her anxiety, she having already lost one son in the war.

FAREWELL TO CHAPLAIN.

Captain the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, Chaplain of the Forces, and President of the Hertford County Association, is proceeding to France for duty with troops on the 19th inst., and on Sunday evening, at Newark Parish Church, Notts, where there is a ring of ten bells (tenor 33 cwts.), a farewell quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the back eight in 53 mins., by: C. Woodhouse 1, Captain B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake 2, C. Chapman 3, G. L. English 4, Corpl. C. H. Watts, R.E., 5, Spr. F. W. Naunton, R.E., 6, L. Bullock (conductor) 7, Sergt. C. C. Oxland, R.E., 8.

RINGING INVITATION TO SOLDIERS.

Soldiers stationed at any of the camps in the Dorchester or Weymouth District will be heartily welcomed at the following towers (which ring for Sunday services), Dorchester (8), Wyke Regis (8), Fordington (6). If members of the ringing fraternity who are in any of the hospitals in the above district will kindly communicate with the hon. secretary of the Dorchester Branch (Mr. C. H. Jennings, Sunnyside, Wyke Regis, Weymouth), arrangements will be made for the ringers of the above towers to visit them.

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).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on June 19th, and on the 28th for handbell practice—all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917, at St. Nicholas, Rodmersham, near Sittingbourne.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Shipley on Saturday, June 23rd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the Schools at 6 p.m.—All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Barkway, eight bells, recently rehung and two trebles added by Bowell, on June 23rd. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided; members 6d., others 9d. All will be heartily welcomed. Nearest station, Royston, 3 miles, G.N.R.; Buntingford, 5, G.E.R.—W. H. Lawrence, District Sec., Little Munden.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, June 23rd. Ringing 3.15 to 8.30 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. for those who notify me not later than the 18th. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Assistant Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Whitchurch, near Cardiff, on Saturday, June 23rd, at 4 o'clock. Bells (6) available. Tea will be provided. St. John's bells (10), Cardiff, will be available from 7 to 8 p.m., if required.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport. Mon., Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917. Bells ready at 2.30. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton, Branch Sec.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—The church bells will be at the disposal of visiting ringers on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917, from 12.30 p.m. till 9 p.m.—A. Symonds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rosendeane Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Ranesborough, on Saturday, June 23rd. Bells ready at 3. Meeting, 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is earnestly requested. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ranesborough.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY. — Established 1623.—The 294th anniversary of the above society will be held on Wednesday, June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors are welcome. — R. A. Strong, Hon. Secretary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Beeston on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3 until 8 o'clock (excepting during tea and meeting). Committee meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5, followed by general meeting, all in the church schoolroom. Tea (1/- each) will only be provided for those who notify Mr. Wm. Clifford, 29, Enfield Street, Bellevue Park, Beeston, by the previous Wednesday, of their intention to be present.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Castle Hedingham on June 30th. Bells, 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. Short service, with address by the Rev. E. N. Powell, Vicar, at 4.30. Tea, followed by meeting, at the Bell Inn (Castle Hedingham), 1/3 per head. The bells of Sible Hedingham will also be open for ringing. All those who intend to be present must notify me not later than Tuesday, June 26th, first post. I shall be pleased to receive subscriptions for the current year.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Selly Oak on Saturday, June 30th. Service in the church at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided on the vicarage lawn if fine—in the schools if wet—at 5.45. Business meeting to follow. On account of the food restrictions, it is most important that all those intending to be present should let me know by Tuesday, June 26th. Bells available from 2 p.m to 9 p.m.—E. J. Dowler, 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Wolverhampton on Saturday, June 30th. Bells (12) available at 3. Short service in St. Peter's Church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. Preb. Penny, M.A. (Rector). Meat tea at the Seven Stars Hotel, John Street, at 5.30 (1/- to fully-paid members; to others, 1/6), followed by the general meeting. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Monday, 25th inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (North and East District).—A meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Short service and address by the Vicar (Rev. O. R. Dawson) at 6 p.m., to be followed by the business meeting. Any ringers and friends welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *(pro tem.)*, 25, Crown St., Harrow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch 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.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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

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.

Subscriptions promised and duly received:—Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., £1 1s. od.; The Dudley Company, £1; Mr. J. W. Jones, Newport (Mon.), 2s.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week the Manchester Branch met at the beautiful village of Flixton, and, despite the unsettled state of the elements, a goodly muster of ringers turned up from the four corners of the district. The bells were set merrily ringing early in the afternoon to the tune of Grandsire, and various other methods were also rung during the day.

Mr. W. E. Ryder who, on the previous Thursday had celebrated his 71st birthday, took part in a 629 Grandsire Triples, and presided at the business meeting. He welcomed the visitors on behalf of the Flixton ringers, and hoped they would have an enjoyable time.

Mr. John Rolls, of Ashton-under-Lyne, was elected a member of the Association.

St. James's, Birch, was chosen as the next meeting place, on June 30th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector and ringers for their kindness in making arrangements.

KING'S BIRTHDAY TOUCHES.

CHIPSTABLE, SOMERSET.—On Sunday afternoon, June 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in honour of the King's birthday, by: G. Jones (Chipstable), first-quarter, 1, G. Hancock (Halse) 2, W. Clapp (Halse) 3, W. Crews (Halse) 4, A. Tout (Milverton), conductor, 5, A. G. Smith (Chipstable) 6.

NEWCASTLE.—At the Cathedral, on the King's birthday, June 4th, two touches of Stedman Cinques, 500 and 600, were rung, in which Warrant Officer W. A. Cooke, R.N., of Gillingham, Kent, scored his first touches on twelve bells. During the day there were rung touches of Stedman Caters (651), three courses of Erin Cinques (the first in the method by the above visitors), and short touches of Caters and Triples in the same method, Forward Royal and Major, and Double Norwich Major. The following members of the Guild took part in the ringing: W. H. Barber, A. Dalton, B. C. Dixon, E. E. Ferry, A. E. Hillier, A. Holmes, B. Horton, J. E. Keen, R. Richards, C. L. Routledge, W. Story, and W. Sinclair. The conducting was divided between Messrs. Barber and Routledge. — On Sunday evening, May 27th, 859 Stedman Caters was rung for service by members of the Cathedral Guild, assisted by Warrant Officer W. A. Cooke, R.N., and Mr. W. J. Hazell, late of London.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.—Recently, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Wm. White 1, T. H. Kirkby 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton 3, W. J. Sevier 4, T. Squires 5, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 6.

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