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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1940.

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RESTORATION FUNDS.

The Yorkshire Association's decision to create a fund to assist in bell restorations in the county brings it among the growing group of ringing organisations which have adopted schemes of one kind or another for this purpose. In recent years Yorkshire has more than once felt the absence of such a fund, and has been unable to make special grants to various projects that have formally been brought to notice. Now, however, when the fund has had time to develop, the association will be in a position to make contributions in cases of need.

Ringers still hold divergent views as to whether it should be part of an association's work to help provide new bells and share in the restoration of old ones. There are those who think that it is the duty of the church and the parish to maintain the bells in good order; they hold the bells in trust and should care for them without expecting outside organisations to help them. This, we feel, is rather a narrow view. If it were strictly adhered to there are many restorations that would never be undertaken. It is often the enthusiasm of the ringers that eventually leads to the work being put in hand. A great deal has been done in the last half-century to develop a bond of sympathy between church authorities and ringers, and the help which associations can give, however small, is an earnest of their desire to take their share in forwarding this movement. The reconditioning or augmentation of bells is a matter which more especially appeals to ringers, and is one which they particularly want to encourage. In the absence of any association fund, ringers can only offer a very perfunctory kind of aid, but when a grant can be made from official sources, it is likely not only to be more substantial, but to bring with it the greater weight of recognition. Coming in the name of an association, it is the gift of all the members; whereas a casual collection at a meeting cannot be said to be anything like so representative a gesture.

It is interesting to note that the Yorkshire Association proposes to raise the fund by purely voluntary means—collections taken at meetings. That course is followed by several other ringing organisations and has had good results. The one drawback in principle is that the fund is in that way usually provided only by a limited number of members—the enthusiasts who turn up regularly at the meetings. A fund is more representative when it is assisted by grants from sources within the organisation, such as, for instance, in the Oxford Guild, which devotes to the restoration fund, among other items, twenty-five per cent. of the subscriptions received by the hon. treasurer from honorary members, and the interest on any

(Continued on page 88.)

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Development of Change Ringing*

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investments held by the Guild. The Oxford Guild has probably been able to give away more in grants for bell restorations than any other ringing society—in 1938, for example, it was over £45, quite apart from sums voted for the same purpose for branch funds, which have been proportionately magnanimous. To achieve this result, of course, the Oxford Guild has treated the fund as a really serious part of the organisation, and the members give it their support accordingly. That over a number of years this fund has been so successfully handled goes to prove that really substantial good may be done by it and, managed as the Oxford Guild manages it, it has become a really representative fund maintained chiefly from association incomes without the Guild in any way feeling the 'pinch' of the contributions. It needs, of course, a large organisation to run a fund on these lines. The Kent Association raises money in a very similar way, and it will be interesting, later on, to see how the fund to be established in Yorkshire on a purely voluntary contributory basis will compare with it. One of the risks under which a fund, built up purely by collections at services, labours is that after a time the novelty will wear off and the ringers, who have been regularly contributing, will be inclined to feel it is time someone else bore a share. On the other hand, when the money comes automatically to the restoration fund under the rules there is a fairly regular income, and the objects of the fund can be pursued with steady endeavour.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PETERSFIELD, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 17, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSIAH D. HARRIS Treble	ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	5
CHARLES E. BASSETT	2	WILLIAM T. BEESON	6
CRCIL L. GUY	3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	7
ERNEST J. MUNDAY	4	C. ERNEST SMITH	Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

NORTHCHURCH, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1940, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

WALTER AYRE Treble	FRANCIS KIRK	5
CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY	2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	6
HAROLD V. FROST	3	EDWIN JENNINGS	7
*LEONARD LUCK	4	†JAMES CURL	Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 17, 1940, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in F.

GUARDSMAN F. A. MUNDAY Treble	RONALD F. KINGHAM	5
*DAVID H. ANSTAY	CHARLES W. MUNDAY	6
HARRY E. BALAAM	DONALD W. NASH	7
ERNEST J. GOWER	WILLIAM HIBBERT	Tenor

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS. Conducted by C. W. MUNDAY.

* First peal of Major.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 11, 1940, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6240 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

ERNEST C. S. TURNER... .. 1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT 5-6
CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY 3-4	EDWIN BARNETT 7-8

Arranged and Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

The longest peal in the method on handbells.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 11, 1940, in One Hour and Fifty Minutes,

AT 106, GAY GARDENS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings, 42 six-scores.

J. A. BULLOCK 1-2	J. BULLOCK 3-4
L. W. BULLOCK 5-6	

Conducted by J. A. BULLOCK.

Umpire—T. H. Bullock,

First peal by ringer of 5-6, age 10.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 12, 1940, in Two Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes.

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*EDWIN BARNETT... .. 1-2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 5-6
THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 3-4	HARRY HOVERD 7-8

Composed by J. GEORGE. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

* First peal 'in hand' away from the tenors. Rung as a birthday compliment to Frederick G. Groombridge.

HARROW, MIDDLESEX.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 13, 1940, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,

AT 170, HEADSTONE LANE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 13 in E.

*GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER... .. 5-6
CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY... .. 3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS 7-8

Composed by S. H. WOOD. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

Witness—Cecil C. Mayne.

* First peal in the method on handbells.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1940, in One Hour and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT 106, GAY GARDENS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings, 42 six-scores.

J. A. BULLOCK 1-2	J. BULLOCK 3-4
T. H. BULLOCK 5-6	

Umpire—T. L. Sparrow.

This peal was rung silent and non-conducted. First silent peal by all the band.

THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK

by E. S. and M. POWELL.

Containing full and complete instruction from the first handling of a bell to the ringing and conducting of peals of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob.

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NEW RINGING CENTRE IN U.S.A.

HANDBELL GROUP FORMED IN BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It has been suggested that I should write to you in the hope that your readers might be interested in the activities of a small group here in Bridgewater, U.S.A.

Some two years ago, my father-in-law, Mr. Harrison Smith, of Wickhambreaux, Kent, shipped to me a set of handbells, which he had had in use for over 30 years.

As a ringer formerly in the south-eastern part of England, I did very little handbell ringing, but on receipt of the bells I went to work to interest and teach a group the art of change ringing. None of this group had before even heard of this type of ringing.

From ringing on four bells, with one bell each, we now have a group that can ring a course of Triples double-handed, and we are at present working hard on bobs and singles. I have given talks on change ringing, its history and its popularity in England on a number of occasions at church or lodge socials, and at the Bridgewater Teachers' College, and the group have rung a course of Triples as a demonstration. We have had a record made of our ringing, and this record was loaned to the town of Bridgewater during the week before Christmas, and by means of an amplifying system we were able to hear Grandsire Triples floating out over the town. A quarter of a mile away the bells sounded very like the bells of old England, to which some of us have listened by the hour, and rung by the hour.

Bridgewater, Mass., was probably the only town in the U.S. where change ringing was heard over the air from a record made by a local group of ringers.

During the winter months we meet once a week for practice. I never aspired to the rank of conductor during my ringing in England, and if any reader can give us any helpful hints whereby we can ring some methods other than Grandsire, we shall be glad to hear from them.

JAMES F. LAKER.

50, Mount Prospect Street, Bridgewater, Mass.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CARY DEANERY BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Cary Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Ditcheat. The bells were utilised during the afternoon and service took place in the Parish Church, conducted by the Rev. A. H. Burney, who officiated for the Rector and gave an interesting address.

Tea and the business meeting followed, presided over by the Rev. F. H. Lang, president of the branch. Twenty-four members and visitors were present from Castle Cary, North Cadbury, Evercreach, Dinder, Charlton Mackrell, Ditcheat, Stoke Trister, Butleigh, Frome, Bournemouth, Queen Camel, Radstock and Bruton.

The secretary's report was read and adopted and showed that there had been an increase of four ringing and five honorary members during the year. The majority of towers were active in holding weekly practices and regular in service ringing, although most of them were content to ring one method only. Young men were being continually taught change ringing, which perhaps accounted for the lack of methods rung.

On the proposition of Mr. R. Lock, the officers were re-elected en bloc—President, the Rev. F. H. Lang, Rector of North Cadbury; hon. secretary, Mr. W. A. Osborn; Ringing Master, Mr. H. Sanger.

Places of meetings for 1940 were provisionally fixed at Evercreach, Maperton, Templecombe and Queen Camel.

A number of members were already serving in H.M. Forces and it was agreed that their subscriptions should be kept up by their fellow-ringers.

It was suggested by Mr. H. Sanger that old ringers who had left towers for some reason should be approached to fill gaps caused by the service of young men for their country, and that younger men should be encouraged to learn to ring on leaving school. This was supported by Mr. W. A. Osborn.

The Rev. F. H. Lang proposed votes of thanks to the Rev. A. H. Burney for the service and address, to the organist, and to the ladies for providing such a splendid tea.

Mr. E. Elliott referred to the illness of the Rector, the Rev. H. H. Tripp, and all present wished him a speedy recovery.

Further ringing in a variety of methods took place until 8.30 p.m.

DEATH OF A HALESOWEN RINGER.

On Saturday, February 3rd, at 3 o'clock, the funeral took place at Halesowen Church of William Brown, who for 20 years was a ringer and who will be missed for his cheerfulness and for his efficiency in the belfry.

Messrs. W. H. Webb, J. H. Cox, A. H. Harris, T. Greenhall, A. Greenhall and W. M. Lloyd, of the local band, acted as bearers, and Messrs. L. Clissett, N. Saunders, H. Shilcock and E. Woodall were also present.

A plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by J. Lloyd (Brierley Hill) 1-2, J. Bass (Wollaston) 3-4, C. Skidmore (Brierley Hill) 5-6, B. Ashford (Stourbridge) 7-8. After the funeral various touches of Stedman Triples were rung on the muffled tower bells.

On Sunday the local band attempted a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, but failed two sixes from home: A. H. Harris 1, L. Clissett 2, W. H. Webb 3, A. Greenhall 4, E. Forrest 5, J. H. Cox (conductor) 6, N. Saunders 7, T. Greenhall 8.

FALSE COURSE ENDS.

This article, for the benefit of the student, describes how the False Course Ends (with the tenors together) of any symmetrical Treble Bob or Surprise Major Method may be worked out.

In every Surprise or Treble Bob Major method there are sixty course ends, and from each of these course ends the method will produce a round block of 224 changes. These sixty courses, or P blocks as they are called, contain the material from which peals can be composed.

In symmetrical methods on the plain principle the P blocks are mutually exclusive, which means that no two of them can ever include the same row, and so the composer need not bother about any fear of internal falseness; all he has to do is to make sure that he does not use the same leads of the same P block twice, and he can then be certain that his peal will be true.

The same thing happens in a few Surprise Major methods which are said to have a clear proof scale; but in the majority there are rows which turn up in two or more courses produced from different course ends, and before peals can be proved it is necessary to find out which these courses are. The courses which contain rows that are also included in the plain course are said to be false against the plain course, and their course ends are the false course ends of the method.

Several different systems of working out these false course ends have been invented, and some men will prefer one and some another, but the following (which is that recommended in the new book on Major Surprise Methods) is probably the one which is easiest to explain and easiest to understand. There are other systems which in actual working are somewhat quicker, but it is seldom that anyone has any need to work out the false course ends of a method, and there is not much point in spending a long time in learning a system which would save only a few minutes in the actual working.

Ex. 1		Ex. 2		Ex. 3
12345678	+	Lead Heads		Lead Ends
21354687	-	2345678		5372846
12536478	-	5738264		8765432
21356487	+	8674523		4628375
		4263857		3254768
23154678	-	3527486		7583624
32514768	+	7856342		6847253
23157486	+	6482735		2436587
32517846	-			
			Ex. 4	
35271864	+	2345678		5238746
53728146	+	5738264	a	8574632
53271864	-	8674523		4863275
35728146	-	4263857		3427568
		3527486		7356824
53278416	+	7856342		6782453
35724861	+	6482735		2645587
53728416	-			
35274861	-			
32547681				
15372846				
15738264				

1. Write out half a lead of the method, divide it into sections and mark the nature of the rows (odd or even), Ex. 1.

2. Write out a table of the lead heads of the plain course in the order in which they occur, Ex. 2; and another of the lead ends, Ex. 3.

3. Take the method section by section. Compare the first row of the first section with the third row. If they

are of opposite nature (one even and the other odd), transpose the table of lead heads by the first row and the table of lead ends by the third row, and set the results down side by side. Ex. 4.

4. See if 7-8 fall twice into the same relative positions in these tables. If they do not, then the method has (so far) a clear proof scale. If they do, set the two rows down, one above another:—

8674523
8574632

The relationship of these two rows will give the false course end. In the example it is 32465. Notice that in both rows 8, 7 and 4 are in the same positions, but that 5 and 6 and 3 and 2 are transposed.

5. Transpose the table of lead heads by the third row and the table of lead ends by the first row and compare as above. If the transposition in paragraph 3 showed a clear proof scale, so will this one. If it showed a false course end, this will show a complementary one. The complementary false course end to 32465 is 43265.

6. If the first and third rows are of the same nature, then the table of lead heads must be transposed by both rows, and the results compared as above. And the table of lead ends must similarly be transposed by both rows.

7. If the section is symmetrical then the second and fourth rows need not be tested, but if it is not symmetrical test as above. In the example the first section is not symmetrical but the other three are.

8. Treat the other sections in the same manner.

9. Note which leads are false against each other.

The example method is Kensington and it has three false course ends 32465, 43265, and 24365. The last one (which is complementary to itself and appears in both positions), always occurs when two coursing bells make places together as 6-4 do in the first section and 3-5 do in the third section. The second and fourth sections give no false course ends.

MARRIAGE OF CANTERBURY LADY RINGER.

The marriage took place quietly at St. Stephen's, Canterbury, on Saturday, February 17th, of Mrs. M. C. Spice and Mr. H. S. Saffery.

The bride is a well-known ringer in East Kent and has for a number of years been connected with both Canterbury Cathedral and St. Stephen's bellfries. She is also a member of the choir at the latter church.

A reception was held at the Beverlie Inn, the happy couple later leaving for their future home. The good wishes of all her ringing friends will go with Mrs. Saffery and her husband in their future life.

DEATH OF MR. W. FREEMAN, OF OLNEY.

RINGER FOR OVER 60 YEARS.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. William Freeman, of Olney, Bucks, who passed away after a heart attack on Sunday, January 28th.

The funeral took place at the Parish Church on Wednesday, January 31st, the service being conducted by the Rev. F. J. Britnell, M.A. The following local ringers acted as bearers: Messrs. R. D. Perkins, F. Boswell, C. Boswell, S. Smith and B. Fisher, and Mr. R. Perkins, another ringer, was undertaker.

Among the floral tributes was a wreath from the ringers depicting a bell complete with rope on a cushion. During the evening touches were rung with the bells muffled.

Mr. Freeman leaves six sons and three daughters. Four of his sons and a granddaughter are ringers.

Mr. Freeman was a ringer for upwards of 60 years. He started at the age of 10 at Lavendon, and a few years after moved to Olney, where he was still ringing until a fortnight before his death when the inclement weather stopped him.

He rang over a hundred peals for the Bedfordshire Association, Oxford Diocesan Guild and the old Central Northants Association and was always a regular service ringer. He was also noted for his willingness and ability in teaching both bands and individuals the rudiments of change ringing. He will be sadly missed in the church he had served so long and faithfully.

NEW RING OF EIGHT IN BIRMINGHAM.**ST. CHAD'S BELLS RECAST.**

The ring of eight bells at St. Chad's Cathedral, which have been recast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., were recently blessed by the Bishop according to the traditional rite. This includes the singing of appropriate psalms, sprinkling with holy water, and anointing, each bell being finally struck by the Bishop with a heavy hammer. The ceremony was performed before the bells were hung in the tower and no further dedication is necessary. They will, therefore, be available for ringing on the day of the annual Johnson memorial dinner, March 2nd, from 3 to 4 p.m. Should any band wish to ring them earlier in the day, Mr. Albert Walker will make the necessary arrangements if application is made to him by letter. His address is 81, Baker Street, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

DEATH OF BISHOP'S STORTFORD RINGER.

The death occurred on Monday, February 12th, at the age of 79, of Mr. Philip Springham, who had been verger and steeplekeeper and a member of the St. Michael's band of bellringers at Bishop's Stortford for 34 years.

The funeral was on Friday, February 16th, at St. Michael's. In the evening, as a last tribute, touches of Stedman, Oxford Bob Triples and Grandsire Triples were rung with the bells half-muffled.

On Sunday, February 18th, before morning service, a half-muffled quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples was rung: T. Ward 1, R. Wood 2, F. Springham 3, F. Bird (conductor) 4, H. Bird 5, H. Bull 6, W. T. Prior 7, W. Wilkinson 8.

LONG SERVICE ACKNOWLEDGED.**PRESENTATION TO MR. GEORGE YEO.**

In recognition of the completion of 52 years' service as a bellringer at Long Ashton, near Bristol, Mr. George Yeo has been presented by the parishioners with a suitably inscribed gold watch and a list of the subscribers.

The presentation was made at a large gathering at Long Ashton Church House on February 8th. The Vicar (the Rev. Hugh Knapman) presided over the gathering, and, in the absence of the Hon. Mrs. Esme Smyth, the gift was handed to Mr. Yeo by Mr. C. A. Harrington Fry (vice-chairman of the Parish Council). Mr. Fry said he thought Mr. Yeo's service must constitute a record, for he had been in charge of the ringing at the Parish Church for 52 years and had been absent only twice.

Mr. Yeo suitably acknowledged the gift.

RAWMARSH BELLS' TWO-FOLD MESSAGE.

The February meeting of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Rawmarsh on Saturday week, the following towers being represented: Felkirk, Handsworth, Rotherham Parish, Hoylandswaine, Wath and a good number of the local company. Ringing was somewhat delayed through weddings, but tea was arranged later, thus allowing full advantage to be taken of the time allotted for ringing before the black-out. Only 14 members were present at tea in the Parish Room. The Rector (the Rev. F. G. Scovell) looked in at tea time and gave a hearty welcome to all. He handed the visitors a leaflet describing the bells and the inscriptions thereon. Each bell bore two messages as an inscription, and although he was sorry he had not been able to give the address, which he always looked forward to doing at ringers' gatherings, the bells had nevertheless been sending forth 16 messages in all.

The business meeting followed, with Mr. E. Brookes (president) in the chair. Six new members were elected, viz., Mr. F. C. Wilson, Mr. F. S. Wilson, Mr. F. Pickering, Mr. A. Mitchell, Mr. H. Mortimore and Miss Ena Trezise, all of Rawmarsh.

The Chairman moved a vote of thanks to the Rector and the local company for all the arrangements made.

The methods rung on the tower bells included Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Little Bob and Treble Bob Major, and Major and Minor on the handbells after the business meeting.

The March meeting will be held at Sandal, near Wakefield.

DEATH OF A KILDWICK RINGER.

We regret to report the death of Mr. John Hill, of Kildwick, Yorkshire, which took place on Friday, January 26th. Mr. Hill, who was 64 years of age, was for many years attached to Kildwick company and was also a life member of the Yorkshire Association.

The funeral took place at the Old Lang Kirk on Tuesday, January 30th, and was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. T. C. Walkden). The deceased was borne to his last resting place by his brother ringers from Kildwick and Silsden.

Deceased had been in failing health for many years, which necessitated his giving up ringing as well as preventing him from following his employment. Though not able to take part in ringing he never failed to listen to the bells when they were rung and often commented on the striking, as he loved to hear them rung well. When the new bells were put in in 1914, he took a very great interest in the work and served on the committee, acting as secretary for the Bell Fund. This was no small undertaking for a country village, but over £400 was raised. Mr. Hill will be greatly missed.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

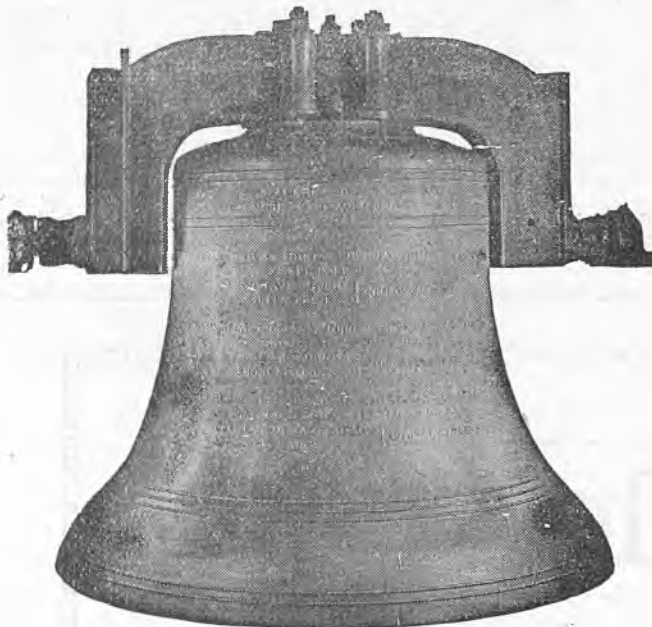
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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. C. H. Roberts informs us that the peal of 5,088 Treble Bob, the figures of which were given in our last issue, was rung at St. Mary's, Willesden, on April 16th, 1929, as the composition of Mr. T. B. Worsley. Mr. Frank Warrington also says that he called it several times as long as ten years ago as Mr. Worsley's peal, and so did Mr. Alan R. Pink at Heston in 1932.

Mr. Harold G. Cashmore's many friends will be sorry to hear that he has had to go into Watford Peace Memorial Hospital for an operation.

The Trinity Youths, a society which was established in the late 18th century at St. Nicholas', Deptford, rang their first peal, one of Grandsire Triples, on February 18th, 1782.

On February 22nd, 1876, Holt's Original was rung at All Saints', West Bromwich. This was John Carter's first peal as conductor.

The Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields on February 23rd, 1783. The composition was false.

CROYDON BROADCAST.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I, through your columns, congratulate the Croydon band on their excellent broadcast of Sunday morning last?

It was a real pleasure to listen to, especially to some of us in this corner of Kent who are, in these difficult times, trying to keep the art of change ringing alive.

ERNEST J. LADD.

St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells.

MINOR RINGS OF FIVE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have sometimes wondered whether the 'minor' rings of five may be a relic of the ancient Ecclesiastical Modes. They are, in the view of ringers, rings of six lacking the usual tenors. Supposing, for the sake of simplicity, that one of these is in the key of C, the notes will be A G F E D: now these are the five lower notes of the scale of the first mode, which is D E F G A B C D. To an ear accustomed to the modern major scale, in which bells are now always cast, this has an unfinished effect; but it is not so to an ear familiar with the ancient modes.

I should like to cry a very hearty 'hear, hear' to Mr. Trollope's commendation of the Norwich chimes. When I first heard them, many years ago, I was much impressed by their beauty, and always remember them with pleasure.

W. C. B.

DEATH OF NORWICH RINGER.

MEMBER OF ST. PETER MANCROFT COMPANY.

A well-known Norwich ringer, Mr. Albert George Warnes, died on February 4th at his home at Eaton, near Norwich, after a short illness. He was 70 years of age.

He became a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association in 1887 as a member of the St. Peter Mancroft Company and had been connected with that church for over 30 years. Mr. Warnes had helped in the teaching of recruits and several well-known ringers owed him no small debt.

Mr. Warnes had taken part in 222 peals—13 of which had been on handbells—on all numbers from Doubles to Maximus. Two peals of exceptional merit were the peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major on the back eight of St. Peter Mancroft in 1889, and an 11,264 of Double Norwich Major at Saxlingham Nethergate, in 1931. He had conducted a large number of his peals and was familiarly referred to by the older generation as 'Foreman.'

The funeral took place at Eaton on Thursday, February 8th, and on Saturday afternoon, February 10th, members of the St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles' and St. Miles' companies, together with association representatives from Reedham and Wymondham, took part in ringing half-muffled touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Bob Royal on the bells of St. Peter Mancroft, as a token of respect to his memory. To the widow deep sympathy is extended in her bereavement.

MUFFLED RINGING AT COLCHESTER.

At St. Peter's Church on Saturday evening, and again on Sunday for morning service, February 11th, the bells of the Parish Church were rung half-muffled as a token of deep respect to the late churchwarden, Mr. A. H. W. Frost, and to the memory of Mr. Charles Howard, for many years Master of the Essex Association.

Touches of Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, Stedman Triples and Superlative Surprise were rung by Messrs. G. Burch, F. L. Bumpstead, R. Cadamy, W. Chalk, E. P. Duffield (conductor), V. Kerridge, H. T. Pye, G. Rashbrook, local members; Miss E. Caton and Messrs. E. E. Johnson, W. Rouse, R. W. Pye, N. Foakes and V. Morley.

The late Mr. Frost was a generous benefactor of the church and a true friend of the ringers.

When the bells were recast in 1913 he bore the cost of recasting the 5th, which now bears his name, and in 1938 he raised a sum of £275 for the renovation of the bells.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.**ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.**

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

The story of St. Saviour's, Southwark, goes back for more than a thousand years, into the region of legend. 'The Church, or some other in place thereof, was of old time, long before the Conquest, a house of sisters founded by a maiden named Mary, unto which house and sisters she left, as was left to her by her parents, the oversight and profits of a cross ferry over the Thames there kept, before that any bridge was built.' So writes Stow, but reliable history does not begin until 1106, when Bishop Gifford built a priory church for Augustinian Canons, the foundation of two knights, William Pont de la Arche and William Dauncy.

to time until 1614, when the parishioners purchased the church and rectory outright for the sum of £800.

There were six churchwardens, who were granted a charter of incorporation, and who took over all the rights and duties of the rectory. They appointed two chaplains to conduct the services. The nave became ruined, and was rebuilt several times, the present structure, which is a careful copy of the mediæval building, being erected in 1890-7, when the whole church was restored and fitted up to be the cathedral of the new diocese of Southwark.

St. Saviour's has always been famous for its bells, and one of the six wardens was the 'warden of the bells,' whose duties were to look after them and their uses.

In the early days of the fifteenth century there were seven bells in the tower, which are said to have been re-



THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK, IN THE 18th CENTURY.

The low building on the right of the picture was the former Parish Church of St. Mary Magdalen It disappeared in the reconstruction of St. Saviour's Church in the early part of the nineteenth century.

This church was destroyed by fire and replaced by another built in 1207-13, of which the choir and Lady Chapel still remain. In succeeding years many alterations and additions were made. The lower part of the tower dates from 1310, and the upper part from the early days of the fifteenth century. The two transepts were built in 1400.

The priory was dissolved in 1649, and through the influence of Stephen Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester, in whose diocese Southwark then was, the parishioners of the two parishes of St. Margaret's and St. Mary Magdalen were enabled to lease from the Crown the church at a rental of £50 a year, and to turn it into a church for the united parishes under the name of St. Saviour's. Previously it had been called St. Mary, Overy, a name which was used alternatively down to recent years.

The lease, first granted in 1540, was renewed from time

cast with additional metal and made into a heavy ring of eight. Henry Werkeworth was then prior, and one of the bells with his name on it was still in the steeple in the early days of the eighteenth century. This would be the first octave ever hung in a London church, and probably the first in all England.

An 'old leiger book,' which existed in the eighteenth century, gave the weights of the first ring and of Prior Werkeworth's ring, and they were copied by Concanen and Morgan in their history of the church, which was published in 1895. They certainly do seem to indicate a ringing peal of eight, but when the inventory of the goods and ornaments of the church was made in the reign of Edward VI. there were then 'vj belles hanging in the steeple with a litell bell'; and a later inventory gives, 'Item, vj bells of accorde and one small bell, which belles

(Continued on next page.)

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. SAVIOUR'S BELLS IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

(Continued from previous page.)

the parrysse bought of the late kinge of ffamouse memory King Henry the eight at the purchesinge of the hole churche.'

From this it would seem that only six of Prior Werke-worth's bells were in a ring. The other two were saunce bells, of which the parish bought only one.

During the seventeenth century the octave was completed, and at various times most of the bells were recast. John Aubrey, who began his History of Surrey in the year 1673, writes that in his time there were 'in the tower eight tunable bells, on them several modern inscriptions of the times of their being new cast; but on the fifth is this old one put on a bell placed here by Prior Wentworth. Consonat ecce pia campana vacata Maria Quam Prior Henricus Wentworth libri fecit amicam. About the fourth is Anno Domini MCCCCXCIV.' The tenor of this ring weighed 48 cwt.

In the year 1735 one of the churchwardens was a man named Thomas Gardner, who one would like to think was the same as Thomas Gardiner who joined the Society of College Youths in 1713. Thomas Gardner and his family evidently were interested in the bells and, whether started by him or not, a scheme was set on foot to re-cast them and hang a heavy ring of twelve in the tower. The work was entrusted to Samuel Knight, who set up his foundry in Winchester Yard, hard by the church. The parish itself bought the new metal required, probably because Knight had not the necessary capital. Here is the balance sheet for the total cost:—

	£	s.	d.
To cash collected of subscribers	496	13	6
To 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs. new metal sold to Messrs. Knight and Co. at £5 per cwt.	43	9	8
To 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 26 lbs. of copper to John King at 11d. lb.	8	17	10
Balance due to the Wardens	80	0	7
	£629	1	7
	£	s.	d.
By William Skelton for charge of a faculty	8	17	0
Sundry charges at taking security at contracting	5	9	10
By Thomas Briggs for copper to make new metal	125	12	0
By Mr. William Clarke for 8 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb. fine tin at £4 per cwt.	33	8	0
By cartage to weighing	4	6	
Labour, etc.	5	0	
For one chauldron coals to heat the new metal	1	11	0
By Copper Company for 4 cwt. of metal low	16	1	7
By ditto fine new metal	202	12	8
By Knight and Co. for contract for casting and hanging the bells	235	0	0
	£629	1	7

Thomas Gardner's name is cast on the ninth and James and Elizabeth Gardner's on the eighth. William Skelton, who was paid a fee for the faculty, was registrar to the Bishop of London. He was a ringer and a member of the Society of College Youths. He lived at Fulham and gave two of the bells in that tower.

Knight's bells, though excellent in tone, are said to be very rough castings. It is likely he was not very successful with his larger bells, for although he cast several heavy rings, in all cases the tenors have been replaced. St. Saviour's was the last that survived. It was recast in the early days of the present century by Mears and Stainbank, and is now a fine bell. The tenth and eleventh are also from Whitechapel.

THE LATE MR. CHARLES H. HOWARD.

MANY RINGERS ATTEND FUNERAL.

The funeral of the late Mr. C. H. Howard took place on Thursday, February 8th, at Braintree, service at the Parish Church conducted by the Rev. H. S. Brook (Vicar) preceding the interment at the cemetery. The large congregation included ringers from many of the Essex parishes. Mr. H. Lines was at the organ, and the hymns were 'Jesus lives' and 'How bright those glorious spirits shine.' Psalm xxiii. was chanted, and at the close the Nunc Dimittis.

The Vicar, in a short address, said: As Christians we say farewell to a brother in Christ, and a co-worker in this church. His unfailing kindness and brotherliness was noted at all times, and he was always the courteous Christian gentleman.

Half-muffled touches of Double Norwich and a course of Superlative Surprise Major were rung after the service.

The ringers at the funeral included the following officers of the Essex Association: Mr. L. J. Clark, general secretary and treasurer; Mr. H. W. Smith, Master, Northern District; Miss H. G. Snowden, secretary, Northern District, and Mr. L. W. Wiffen, peal secretary, as well as Mr. F. Ridgwell (Earls Colne), Mr. R. Suckling (Bocking), Mr. B. W. Pettitt and Miss E. Pettitt (Sible Hedingham), Messrs. E. E. Hammond, H. W. Hammond, B. Redgwell, S. Warne, A. Wiffen and others (Braintree).

The floral tributes included wreaths from the Essex Association of Change Ringers; St. Michael's ringers, Braintree; St. Mary's ringers, Bocking; St. Peter's ringers, Sible Hedingham; and from the Great Bardfield and Dunmow ringers.

Mr. Howard leaves a wife, two sons and a daughter in bereavement.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the I.W. District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild took place at Carisbrooke on February 3rd and attracted ringers from Portsmouth, Ryde, Newport, Godshill, Ventnor and the local tower. The bells of the Parish Church were placed at their disposal by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Ewbank), and were muffled as a token of respect for the late Master of the district, Mr. Harry Barton, of Ventnor. The ringing closed with 'whole pull and stand' rung 21 times.

The business meeting followed tea at the Castle Hatch, and Dr. J. B. Williamson (president), who was in the chair, opened with a feeling tribute to Mr. Barton, and members showed their sympathy in silent remembrance.

The report of the auditor (Mr. H. Phillips) gave the receipts as £11 13s. 7d., including £5 10s. 7d. from the previous year, an expenditure of £4 12s., and £2 9s. 2d. remitted to the general treasurer, which left a balance of £4 12s. 4d.

The district secretary (Mr. H. P. James) reported an uneventful year, a fair financial position, and an average membership. The practices had been well attended, and the annual tour was very successful. Most of the West Wight churches were visited, and the eight-bell towers at Ryde and Brading were included. A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Carisbrooke during May, and the band included Miss May Moody, aged 14, who rang her first peal. The report made fitting reference to Mr. Barton's passing, and there were many expressions of thanks for help received, including that from the president.

Mr. W. Upton, of Newport, was appointed the new District Master, and all the retiring officers were re-elected and thanked.

Subject to permission, Newport was chosen as the venue for the next annual meeting, Godshill was selected for a quarterly meeting in May, and Whitwell and Niton for a by-practice in March.

The general secretary was thanked for his work, the visiting ringers for their attendance, and the Vicar for the use of the bells.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT MEETINGS.

A meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association was held at Ospringe on Saturday, February 17th, when in spite of very wintry weather and consequent bad travelling, some 20 members attended from Teynham, Throwley, Canterbury, Boughton, Queenborough, East Malling, Rainham, Sittingbourne, Dover and the local band of ringers. Ringing was somewhat delayed at the start owing first to a wedding and then to a funeral which followed. Half an hour's ringing was, however, obtained before service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. F. Hodges), an honorary member of the association, the organ being played by another member, Mr. S. P. Masters.

Tea followed at the Ship Inn, and at the subsequent business meeting Canterbury was chosen as the place of the next meeting, it being thought that it was ideally central to the district and would attract more members.

The Vicar was thanked for the use of the bells, and the district secretary (Mr. B. J. Luck) was asked to convey to Mrs. Spice the congratulations of the meeting on the occasion of her marriage, which took place at St. Stephen's, Canterbury, that same afternoon.

A return was made to the tower and further ringing took place until 8 o'clock, when members departed after another enjoyable, if small, meeting.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**FARNHAM DISTRICT'S SUCCESSFUL MEETING.****Ladies Invited to Take Up Ringing.**

Despite the inclemency of the weather, difficulties in travelling and the black-out perplexities, the annual meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, held at Farnham on Saturday week, was well attended and proved very successful. Over fifty ringers from various parts of the Guild and from neighbouring associations were present, among the latter being Mr. F. W. Rogers (Portsmouth), general secretary, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, and Mr. F. Mundy (Petersfield).

Other towers represented included St. Michael's, Aldershot; S. Nicolas, Guildford; Bagshot; Seale; Bentley; Farnham; Yorktown; Frensham; Clendon and Haslemere.

A short service at half-past two was preceded by a touch of Grand-sire Triples on the bells. Canon Girling conducted the service, and, in his address, said it was difficult always to find a subject on which to speak to bellringers. However, he had found one that day, and it was to be on bells in war time. Fortunately, the bells had not been stopped since the war began, and he was glad the bells were rung for the meeting that afternoon. They—the bells—rang out, as it were, a message of encouragement in difficult times. He thought the bells of more importance in war time than in peace. It was, of course, extremely difficult to keep the ringers together, especially now that some were serving the Colours and others were doing air raid warden and similar work. But by adapting themselves to the circumstances it would be possible to overcome those difficulties. He (the Rector) suggested that more ladies should be invited to become ringers. There were, he knew, many lady ringers already, and he understood that they had proved almost as efficient as the male ringers. He hoped they would be able to keep the bells going, and he looked forward to a peal after the war was over to celebrate peace.

REASONS FOR KEEPING BELLS RINGING.

The Rector went on to give three reasons why the bells should be kept ringing. Firstly, it was a challenge to the forces of anti-Christ in existence to-day. In the old days goblins and fiends were supposed to vanish and evil things depart when they heard the bells ringing. In history we read of a holy alliance—to-day an unholy alliance exists—Nazi and Communist in Germany and Russia. We Christians in England issued a challenge against these two evils. Secondly, continued Canon Girling, the bells should be kept going as an earnest invitation to all people to come and pray for our country and for all who were serving it and to pray for ourselves also. It was so easy to forget—to get into bad habits—the habits of not attending the services. Thirdly, the bells should be kept going as an expression of our war aims. It showed a struggle for the suppression of evil and of trying to make a better and more peaceful world. This must be kept in the forefront and the bells helped to keep these objects in the forefront, and we would look forward after the war to a reign of truth and justice.

An excellent tea was served in Messrs. Darracott's Restaurant, West Street, a company of forty sitting down. This was followed by the business meeting, over which the Rector presided. Canon Girling is an honorary member of the Guild, and other honorary members who attended were Lt.-Col. F. G. Poole, D.S.O., and Mr. A. J. Stedman (churchwarden of Farnham), Mr. A. E. Smith (who is also a capable ringer), Mrs. D. Meadows and Mrs. C. Edwards (Farnham).

Others present included Mr. G. L. Grover (Guild general secretary), Mr. J. Corbett, Bagshot (Guild treasurer), Mr. R. Hasted (Farnham District Ringing Master), Mr. C. W. Denyer (Farnham district hon. secretary and treasurer), Mr. W. F. J. Cope (Guildford district hon. secretary), and Mr. W. G. Gillians (churchwarden and ringer at Seale).

Mr. Upshall (Farnham), who has been in hospital since before Christmas, and Mr. Nye (Bagshot), who is a district executive committee representative, sent their best wishes to the meeting, and it was resolved to reciprocate the compliment, expressing the wish for their speedy recovery to health.

DISTRICT OFFICERS ELECTED.

The district officers nominated previous to the annual meeting were declared elected by the chairman, viz.: Mr. R. Hasted, Ringing Master; Mr. C. W. Denyer, hon. secretary and treasurer; Mr. P. Eldridge, hon. auditor; Mr. W. Gillians, executive committee representative for three years. It was announced that Mr. Nye was due to retire, but Mr. Gillians having been nominated in place of Mr. T. Upshall, it was felt that Mr. Nye be asked to carry on for another year.

The balance sheet showed receipts amounting to £29 1s. 8d., including balance brought forward £13 7s. 8d., and members' subscriptions £15 14s. The payments amounted to £15 15s. 2d., and included £3 16s. 6d. expenses of meetings, £2 10s. 11d. for printing and postages, etc., £1 1s. donation to Cathedral Bells Fund, and £8 2s. 3d. handed over to Guild treasurer. The credit balance in hand was £13 6s. 6d. The accounts were adopted, and the district secretary presented his report, the following being extracts:—

A quiet year of steady work without any special event in the district. Six meetings were held, with an average attendance of 34. It would not be at all easy to convene meetings during the year, but with the help and support which all members could give, there was every reason to hope for a successful season. The membership had de-

creased from 159 to 146. They now had 116 ringing and 30 honorary members, as compared with 127 ringing and 32 honorary members in 1938. Honorary membership must be maintained, for without this assistance it would be difficult to keep their finances flourishing. They had several honorary members who took no part in their affairs apart from payment of the annual 2s. 6d., and while they appreciated these contributions, they would assure all honorary members of a very warm welcome to their gatherings. Congratulations were extended to Mr. Ted Clapshaw, of Farnham, on attaining his 95th birthday, and the wish was expressed that he would now carry on and complete his century.

Many ringers had joined H.M. Forces—several from their own district—and they sent them their best wishes and prayed for their safety, with the hope that all may be reunited under peaceful conditions before the next annual meeting. When hostilities began, in September, ringing in several towers was suspended—fortunately not for long. There was no reason whatever now why regular service and practice ringing could not be restarted. Blacking out arrangements could and should be made to allow evening practices to be held, but should this be impossible, a Saturday afternoon practice would solve the problem.

GET RECRUITS NOW.

With regard to ringers, they must not wait for members to be called to the Colours from the belfries before thinking about recruiting others. Get them now! Ladies helped with ringing in the Great War—why not in this one? It was known that some members objected to ladies in the tower. Were their bells to be silent because of these objections? It had been proved many times that ladies helped to keep a company together and also to preserve by their presence a certain reverence and discipline among the male ringers.

The report continued that the peal list was not a long one. Only three attempts were made, but all were successful. Badges awarded for first quarter-peals were presented to Mrs. Viggers (Aldershot), Miss K. Gillians (Seale), Mr. J. Denyer (Aldershot) and Miss B. Scrace (Frensham).

The report continued: 'In past years our district has held a reputation for good membership, well-attended meetings, and progressive ringing ability. All our keen ringers want this to be upheld. Perhaps the past year has not been our best. We can and must do better, particularly in our attendance and striking. We can all help the other ringer more than we are doing at present. Captains and secretaries alike can show a little more enthusiasm and interest in their respective towers and district affairs. But chiefly must we all—captains, secretaries and ringers alike—give loyal devotion to our sacred art for God and His Church. Let us do our small job of work by ringing our bells willingly, joyously and reverently, and then—as we so often have been instructed at Guild services—let us ourselves go into Church and join in worship with those we have called. Finally, thanks are due to all our honorary members, guild officers, clergy, tower captains and secretaries for the parts they have played to help forward the Guildford Guild and its work, and in this respect I would like especially to mention the captain of Seale tower, Mr. E. Gardner, who has many times placed his services and his car at our disposal. We are not despondent, but look forward with hope and courage to greater happenings in the future, and particularly to many successful and happy gatherings in 1940.'

Canon Girling referred to the note of healthy constructive criticism running through the report. It is in the right spirit, he said, and ought to make the Guild go well. He expressed grateful thanks to Mr. Denyer for his work on behalf of the Guild.

The report was approved.

For meetings to be held in 1940, it was agreed to visit Hawley (8 bells), Aldershot (8), Bagshot (8), Farnborough (6) and Croudall (6). The annual general meeting is to be held at Farnham early in 1941.

The Guild officers were renominated to serve for 1940. Two new ringing members were elected, viz., Miss P. M. Joscelyne, of Aldershot, and Miss B. Scrace, of Frensham.

MEMBERS SERVING IN H.M. FORCES.

It was unanimously agreed to support a motion, put forward by the Guildford District to the Guild annual meeting, that members serving in H.M. Forces be relieved of the obligation of paying subscriptions until after hostilities have ceased.

The district secretary recalled that on the occasion of the last annual district meeting the address was given by the Rev. Philip Wheeldon, who was also a Guild honorary member. Mr. Wheeldon was now serving as a chaplain to the Forces, and was 'somewhere in France,' and Mr. Denyer suggested that the best wishes of that gathering be sent to him, with the hope that he would be able to be present at the annual meeting in 1941.

Canon Girling said that he would be writing to Mr. Wheeldon and would convey the message to him.

Votes of thanks were accorded Canon Girling for permitting the meeting, for conducting the service and for presiding over the business; to Mr. Macklin for his kindness in attending the service and presiding at the organ; the verger (Mr. A. E. Smith) for blacking out the ringing chamber, as Mr. S. Meadows (steeplekeeper) was indisposed; and to Mr. Hasted and the local ringers for their welcome.

The ringing during the afternoon and evening was under the leadership of the District Ringing Master (Mr. Hasted), and consisted of courses and touches of Grand-sire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, February 24th. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting at the Duke's Head.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting will be held at Countesthorpe (6 bells) on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing from 3—8 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (1/3) 5 p.m., opposite the Church. Please notify me.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Ticknall on Saturday, February 24th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Special invitation to Derby District members.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting will be held at St. Edmund's Church, Northampton, on February 24th.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—A meeting is arranged for Whitwick on Saturday, Feb. 24th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.45 followed by tea (1s. each) and meeting. Arrangements are being made to black out the belfry to enable ringing after the meeting. Please come if possible.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing from 2.30. Service 4.15, followed by tea in the Refectory.—J. W. Clarke, Mollington, Chester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastwood, Rotherham, on Saturday, February 24th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. to black-out time. Business meeting will be held in the Schoolroom (adjoining the church) at 5.30 p.m. for the issuing of new reports, etc. Owing to catering difficulties, the local company regret that tea cannot be provided, but accommodation can be found at the town cafes. Full moon will be on. All ringers and friends cordially invited.—Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Quarry Road, Totley, New Sheffield.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Woodbridge District.—A practice meeting will be held at St. Marv's, Woodbridge, on Saturday, February 24th. Bells available from 2.15 p.m. till dusk.—Charles E. Fisher, Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Owing to the annual meeting being abandoned on January 27th, on account of weather conditions, a meeting will be held at Market Deeping on Saturday, February 24th. Bells (6) available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by business meeting and tea at Imperial Cafe.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A practice meeting will be held at Hornchurch, on Saturday, Feb. 24th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Sawley (8 bells) on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing from 2.30 until 7.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., Trowell, Notts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, February 24th. Service at 4.15 p.m. at St. Laurence's Church. Tea at 5 p.m. (1/- per head) at Palm Lodge, West Street, followed by meeting. Ringing at St. Mary's and St. Laurence's during afternoon. A collection will be taken during the service for the Branch Bell Restoration Fund.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Secretary, 401, London Road, Reading.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Stoke Poges on Saturday, February 24th, at 3 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held at headquarters on Tuesday, February 27th, at 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A special meeting will be held at Guilsborough (6 bells) on Saturday, March 2nd. Names for tea by February 27th, please.—H. H. Shives, Hon. Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

ST. CLEMENT, TRURO.—The bells will be rededicated by the Lord Bishop of Truro on Saturday, March 2nd, at 3 p.m. A ring of four rehung and the tenor recast by John Taylor and Co.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Pulham Market on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at the Rectory. Meeting to follow. The Rector (Rev. R. H. Stacey) is kindly giving the tea, so do please let me know by the 27th if you are coming. All ringers welcome.—Albert G. Harrison, Branch Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss, Norfolk.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting will be held at Church Kirk on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. until black-out. Meeting to be held after. Everybody welcome. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

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ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 52nd annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 5 p.m. prompt; Vice-president Councillor A. Paddon Smith in the chair. Tickets will be issued to fully paid up ringing members at 2/- each; to other members and friends at 6/6 each. Early application is requested, but latest date is 28th inst. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Martin's, Bull Ring (12), 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.; Aston Parish Church (12) 3 to 4.15 p.m.; St. Philip's Cathedral (10) 4 to 4.45 p.m.; St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral, 3 to 4.30 p.m.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, March 2nd. Tower open 2.30. Tea and meeting at 4.45. Service at 6. Will all members intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday before the meeting.—A. C. Pankhurst, Div. Hon. Secretary, 11, Salehurst Road, Eastbourne.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Aberavon on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Service at 5.30 p.m., with meeting to follow. Make own arrangements for tea. Bells not available after meeting. All ringers welcome.—E. Stinch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, E.4. (nearest station Stepney Green), on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow, names for which I must have by the previous Wednesday. Handbells, etc., in the evening.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Weston Underwood on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea will be provided if possible. A good attendance desired.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—There will be a practice at Springfield on Saturday, March 2nd, and at Great Baddow on March 9th at 3 p.m. All ringers are invited.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. A committee meeting will be held on the same day.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Practice at St. Clement Danes, Strand, London, W.C.1, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 3.30 p.m. Ringing also at the above church on Sunday, March 3rd, at 10 a.m.—O. L. Ashbrook, Hon. Assist. Sec., 17, Harvard Road, Isleworth.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Western Division will be held at Steyning on Saturday, March 2nd. Ringing 2 p.m. until 5.30 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m. at Green's Bakery, 1s. per head. Notifications for tea must be received by me by Wednesday before meeting.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Longton on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Good bus and train service. All ringers welcome. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. E. Steele, Hawthorne, Caverswall Wood, Meir, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than Wednesday?

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Earls Colne on Saturday, March 9th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting at the Vicarage 5.30 p.m. It is hoped the members will make a special effort to attend this meeting.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LEICESTER & DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETIES.—The annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel (near Clock Tower) at 6.30 p.m. prompt, on March 9th. There will be ringing during the afternoon. Further particulars next week. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, must be obtained on or before March 6th.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—Next meeting March 9th at Brentford (St. Lawrence). Bells available from 2.30. Service at 5, followed by tea at Druce and Smith's. Christ Church, Ealing, bells available in the evening.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, W.13.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wraxall on Saturday, March 9th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at Battle Axes Hotel. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me by March 6th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

ST. BOTOLPH'S, BISHOPSGATE, E.C.—On account of other meetings in London, the Saturday practices are suspended until March 9th.—James E. Davis, Towerkeeper, 118, Sarsfeld Road, Balham, S.W.12.

DONCASTER PARISH CHURCH.—The ring of eight bells, which has been recast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated on March 10th at 3 p.m. by Archdeacon T. Sandford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general committee meeting will be held at Oxford on Saturday, March 16th, at 3.15 p.m. in the Chapter House, Christ Church.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Chippenham on Easter Monday, March 25th. Full details later. Alteration to rules or even temporary suspension, if part thereof, must be notified on or before Feb. 26th.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankards Close, Bristol, 2.

DEATH.

BECKWITH.—On February 13th, at Coggeshall, Essex, Caroline, beloved wife of Ernest W. Beckwith. Passed peacefully away.

COMPLIMENT TO LOCAL LEADER.

At Aughton, Lincs, on Sunday, February 11th, for evensong at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 46 minutes: J. N. Brown 1, J. Lunham 2, J. Taylor 3, J. C. Wilson 4, T. S. Horridge 5, W. H. Deacon 6, S. H. Dearden (first as conductor) 7, W. H. Gibbons 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman for the ringers of the fifth and sixth. Rung as a compliment to Mr. J. Marsh, leader of the local company.

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