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FRIDAY, MARCH 15th, 1940.

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## NO COUNCIL MEETING THIS YEAR.

A postal vote of the Standing Committee has revealed a majority against holding a meeting of the Central Council this year, and the gathering which it was proposed to hold at Cardiff has, in consequence, been abandoned. This is not surprising. A provincial meeting almost at the extreme edge of the country at a time like this could not have been expected to command a large attendance, even if the facilities were available; but when there was a doubt about arrangements being possible, and the conditions such that the representatives of the local association were of opinion that the meeting should not be held, there was little else the Standing Committee could do but call it off. If in some quarters there may be regrets at the decision, there are other aspects from which many people will think the action a wise one. With the majority of members of the Council fully bent on war work, and with the need for rigid economy in everything, the abandonment of the meeting will result in a saving of time and money, the former to members and the latter to both members and associations. These are among the arguments which, doubtless, have weighed with the committee. Moreover, with the interruption of much of the work done by the Council's committees and an absence of any controversial matters for discussion, there was little possibility of an attractive agenda. The committees continue their work throughout the year, and the Council and the Exercise owe them a debt of gratitude which is seldom acknowledged, but the war has naturally upset the even tenor of their way, and in some cases, we believe, progress has been partially, if not entirely, held up since September.

The decision to abandon the meeting follows the precedent of the last war, when two provincial meetings were omitted. There was a meeting in London, in 1915, in the first year of the war, and the Council did not meet again until, in 1918, it assembled once more in London. That break did the Council no harm, for a new spirit grew up after the resumption and the Council began to take on a fresh lease of life, with new blood, and, if one may say so, a new outlook on its functions. Since then it has accomplished much good work for ringing, and has shown its value to the Exercise in an increasing degree. Its work will not cease with the cessation of the general meetings of the Council; the committees will continue its work, wherever it may be necessary, and, perhaps, when it is once more possible to hold the assembly the Council will return to activity with a new vigour.

(Continued on page 122.)

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There is only one thing connected with the Council which is seriously held up by the war, and that is the publication of the Surprise methods book, which was agreed upon last year. Many of the associations had undertaken to back the venture by guaranteeing a number of copies, but the position, in view of the apparent suspension of the issue, will now have to be reviewed before anything further can be done. The scheme for publication was based on pre-war prices, but the delay, which resulted from the uncertainty created by the outbreak of war, is bound to upset those calculations. It might have been as well to go on with the publication, even if the Council's money had been locked up for a time in the stock of books. These certainly would not have lost in value, for the proposed edition was intended to cover anticipated sales for several years, and the book would have been ready to help give a push to ringing when the effort to replace it on a normal footing comes to be made. But now there is the certainty of increased cost, and the Council will have to reconsider the whole scheme before any further action can be taken.

## TEN BELL PEAL.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 9, 1940, in Three Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, REDCLIFFE,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;**

Tenor 50 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

ALBERT M. TYLER ... .. Treble	DONALD G. CLIFT ... .. 6
ALFRED E. REEVES ... .. 2	STEPHEN H. WOOD ... .. 7
FREDERICK G. LEARER ... .. 3	GILBERT PEARCE... .. 8
RICHARD CLARK ... .. 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. 9
ALFRED PEARCE ... .. 5	EDWARD J. ROWE... .. Tenor

Composed by WM. WILLSON.

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

The tenor-man was elected a member before starting. The peal was rung half-muffled as a token of regard and respect to the late William A. Cave.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 9, 1940, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 16 cwt.

WILFRED GOWING ... .. Treble	CYRIL A. BURGESS ... .. 5
GEORGE H. LIMMER ... .. 2	THOMAS BEVAN ... .. 6
PETER A. BLAMEY ... .. 3	JOHN E. TAYLOR ... .. 7
FREDERICK A. BARKER ... .. 4	GEORGE GILBERT... .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

Arranged and rung on the annual visit of the senior steward (Mr. T. Bevan) in honour of the marriage of his daughter (Miss Hilda Bevan) to Mr. A. G. Ward. Rung after meeting short for Little Bob.

PENWORTHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 9, 1940, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;**

Tenor 9½ cwt.

JOHN H. GARTSIDE ... .. Treble	WILLIAM TAYLOR ... .. 5
E. ROGER MARTIN ... .. 2	FRED RIGBY... .. 6
CYRIL CROSTHWAITE... .. 3	JOHN ROSKELL ... .. 7
THOMAS CALDERBANK... .. 4	JOHN T. MILLER ... .. Tenor

Composed by EDWIN TIMBRELL.

Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

Arranged as an 80th birthday compliment to Mr. J. R. Taylor, of the local company, and to mark Mr. T. Calderbank's 50 years' membership of the Lanes Association.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 9, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM... ..Treble	GWENDOLIN KIPPIN ... .. 5
THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN... .. 2	CYRIL BRETT-SMITH ... .. 6
THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN... .. 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... .. 7
HARRY HOVERD ... .. 4	PHILIP A. CORBY ... ..Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

The conductor's 100th peal on the bells.

SIX BELL PEALS.

APSLEY END, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 26, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

(1) Bourne, (2) Lightfoot, (3) Netherseale, (4) Norwich, (5) York, (6) Cambridge, (7) London. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. FEAREY ... ..Treble	WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT ... .. 4
*FREDERICK JEFFS ... .. 2	FRANCIS J. TOMPKINS ... .. 5
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD ... .. 3	WALTER AYRE ... ..Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

\* First Surprise peal and in seven methods. Rung as a 'good luck' peal to ringers of 1 and 4 before joining H.M. Forces.

FULMER, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 2, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Oxford Bob and two 720's each of Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

*WILFRID S. CHILDS ... ..Treble	EMILY E. CLARKE ... .. 4
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE... .. 2	JESSE HARRISON ... .. 5
WILLIAM L. GUTTERIDGE... .. 3	HARRY C. WINGROVE... ..Tenor

Conducted by HARRY C. WINGROVE.

\* First peal of Minor. Miss Clarke's first attempt for a peal.

GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 7, 1940, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Bob, Double Court, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 15 cwt. in E.

DAISY M. ANDREWS ... ..Treble	VIOLET A. FROST... .. 4
HARRY J. MILLETT ... .. 2	LESLIE WRIGHT ... .. 5
ALAN R. ANDREWS ... .. 3	URBAN W. WILDNEY ... ..Teno

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

WONSTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 9, 1940, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes;

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

RICHARD SMITH ... ..Treble	GEORGE SMITH ... .. 4
*ALAN D. TREMEER ... .. 2	WILLIAM MARKS ... .. 5
WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... .. 3	LESLIE A. TREMEER ... ..Tenor

Conducted by L. A. TREMEER.

\* First peal of Minor. Rung after a confirmation service at which three young members of the band were confirmed. Also a birthday compliment to Mrs. C. H. Kippin.

DEANE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 9, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*JOYCE O. COTTRELL ... ..Treble	CHARLES W. MUNDAY ... .. 2
DONALD W. NASH ... .. 2	F. A. MUNDAY, Gren. Gds. 5
RONALD F. KINGHAM ... .. 3	†ERNEST J. GOVER ... ..Tenor

Conducted by DONALD W. NASH.

\* First peal. † First peal of Bob Minor. First peal of Bob Minor as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 6, 1940, in Two Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At the Royal Masonic Junior School,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor size 13.

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

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by E. C. S. TURNER.

Umpire: Edwin Jennings.

\* First peal in the method on handbells. First handbell peal in the method as conductor.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 10, 1940, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes.

At the Royal Masonic Junior School,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor size 13.

*EDWIN BARNETT... .. 1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... .. 5-6
*EDWIN A. BARNETT ... .. 3-4	*EDWIN JENNINGS ... .. 7-8

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

Umpire—Christopher W. Woolley.

\* First handbell peal of Triples.

DEATH OF MR. S. TWYMAN.

RAMSGATE COMPANY LOSES ITS FOUNDER.

It is with sincere regret that we have to record the death of Mr. Stanley Twyman, of St. Lawrence's, Ramsgate, at the age of 61 years. Mr. Twyman was the founder of the present company at St. Lawrence's, which was started in 1911 after the bells had been rehung for the Coronation of King George V.

Mr. Twyman began his ringing career at Birchington when he was 16 years of age. Afterwards he joined the band at St. John's, Margate, where he was appointed conductor. Then when he moved to Ramsgate, the St. Lawrence's company quickly made headway under his guidance.

He was always ready to assist a beginner or a young conductor, and he composed some fine musical touches. Although he only rang a small number of peals, his enthusiasm was great, and his genial manner in the belfry gave pleasure to all who made his acquaintance. Unfortunately Mr. Twyman had to give up serious ringing owing to ill-health, and he passed away at Margate Hospital on February 15th.

The funeral took place at Margate Cemetery on Tuesday, February 20th, when, in addition to the family mourners, there were present ringers from St. Lawrence's and Mr. A. Kay, a very old ringing friend, from Ashford (Kent).

The passing of Mr. Twyman has left a great gap in the ranks of St. Lawrence's, but the good work commenced by him will remain in the history of St. Lawrence's society.

L. A. P.

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## CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

### ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.

Until the beginning of the nineteenth century there was not a ring of twelve bells either at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, or Christ Church, Spitalfields, and consequently, though they were just as ambitious as other societies, there was no belfry where the Cumberlands could regularly practise or ring peals of Cinques or Maximus. Of the four twelve-bell rings which existed in London, St. Bride's and St. Martin's seem to have been closed to them, and at Cornhill the bells were hardly pealable; but St. Saviour's belfry was more or less an open one, and it was there that the society scored, not only its first twelve-bell peal, but every one that it rang until, in 1807, it was able to add the two trebles to the bells at Shoreditch.

On November 10th, 1766, the society rang 5136 changes of Treble Bob Maximus, the second peal accomplished in the method, and, at the time, the longest length. George Partrick conducted from the treble. It was more than five years since he had rung a peal and this was his last. The rest of the band consisted of the best ringers the Cumberlands then possessed. George Gross rang the second, John Reeves the fourth, Charles Purser the fifth, the brothers Wood rang the eighth and ninth, and the elder Samuel Muggeridge had William Lister to help him at the tenor.

It was nearly eight years before another peal was rung at Southwark, and that, too, was by the Cumberlands. The method was Grandsire Cinques, and George Gross conducted. Samuel Muggeridge rang the tenth and his son the eleventh. Again two men were needed for the tenor.

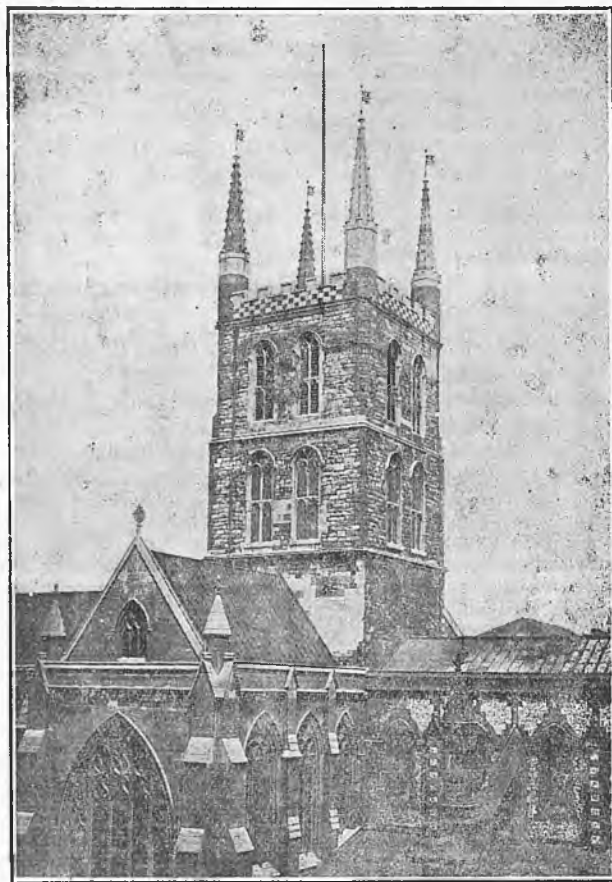
Samuel Muggeridge and his son lived in Southwark and evidently they were persons of some standing and influence. In June, 1793, the Town Hall was being pulled down, and, at a meeting of the ratepayers 'Mr. Muggeridge, in a short speech, sensible and pertinent,' stated to the Court that he had presented a memorial praying that the Committee of City Lands, in their plans for rebuilding, would consider the question of widening the approach to the building.

Double Bob and Double Grandsire were frequently practised by leading bands in the middle years of the eighteenth century and some ringers held that these methods could only be said to be properly double when, not only the dodges, but the bobs also were made when the treble was behind as well as when it was before. George Gross called the first peal of 'real' double Grandsire Caters, 'with the bobs alternately behind as before,' at St. Magnus in 1770, and in 1776 he called at St. Saviour's the first peal of 'real' double Grandsire Cinques. These peals were booked as Cumberland Caters and Cumberland Cinques, and we should not have known, or could only have guessed, what method was rung if the figures of the compositions had not been given in the 'Clavis.'

The next peal, rung eight months after the Cumberlands' performance, was 5236 changes of Grandsire Cinques by the London Youths, who at the time, under the leadership of John Reeves, were one of the best companies in London. Christopher Wells, who made a name for himself by being the first man to discover that Treble Bob Major may be false in the interior of the leads without it showing at the lead ends, rang the eighth.

It was now the time of the great long-peal rivalry between the College Youths and the Cumberlands. On February 18th, 1777, the former society gained the ten-bell record by a 10,000 of Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch. On the following April 17th they added the twelve-bell record by ringing 6000 changes of Treble Bob Maximus at Southwark, but they had two men to the tenor.

The Norwich men, who were all Cumberland Youths, beat this length in the following year with a peal of 6240



ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.

[Photo by F. E. Dawe.]

changes, but on March 8th, 1784, the College Youths regained the record by ringing 7008 changes of Treble Twelve single-handed at St. Saviour's.

This was a really fine performance. Unlike the earlier long lengths of Twelve Bob Royal and Maximus, where the matter is rather doubtful, we know that the composition was true, for John Povey, who conducted, called Reeves' well known one part peal of Royal.

The younger Samuel Muggeridge rang the tenor, and the banded included Winstanley Richardson, James Darquit, George Scarsbrook, James Worster, William Lyford, Joseph Monk, Joseph Holdsworth, and Edmund Sylvester, all of whom are among the most distinguished men on the roll of the Society of College Youths.

The peal was rung by the successors of the band which George Meakins and his friends had formed in 1757,

(Continued on next page.)

**LOOK AFTER TOWER LIGHTS.**

**A WARNING TO RINGERS.**

Ringers should pay special attention to extinguishing the lights in church towers after ringing.

At Folkestone Police Court the other day Mr. Timothy Anderson, one of the bellringers at Folkestone Parish Church, was fined £1 for a breach of the lighting regulations.

A constable stated in evidence that he was going through the parish churchyard at 12.10 a.m. on a Monday morning when he saw a bright light shining from a window in the tower of the church. He called the caretaker of the church, who accompanied him to the church and extinguished the light. He, however, refused to accept responsibility and said that the bellringers had been ringing the bells on the Sunday afternoon and left the belfry at 3.30 p.m.

Another constable said Mr. Anderson told him that he was responsible for switching off the light, although someone else might have put it on again after he had left.

In calling attention to this case, Mr. C. Turner, of Dover, says a similar occurrence happened in his tower recently, when the police informed him at 9 p.m. that a light was showing down in the street through the louvres.

'I held,' says Mr. Turner, 'that if the main switch in the church had been turned off after the service in the afternoon all lights would have been extinguished. I did not know the light referred to had been used since the war.'

**SOUTHWARK BELLS.**

(Continued from previous page.)

when the College Youths split into two bodies. The other company in 1777 were very active, and were usually called the 'ancient' Society of College Youths. But the board which now records the 7008 of Maximus is headed Ancient Society of College Youths. This was rather a poser, for it seemed to contradict the conclusions I had arrived at regarding the two companies. Eventually I found the solution of the problem. The board as it now stands is not original. It was restored in 1874 when, evidently, the lettering, which had become illegible, was painted out, and the record rewritten from the peal book. The original wording was preserved by Concanen and Morgan and was headed 'Society of College Youths.'

**MINOR FIVES.**

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I see nothing in the letters of Mr. Trollope or 'W. C. B.' which gives answer to my query. They contain too many 'I suppose' and 'I should imagine' for either to be considered satisfactory. In stating the reason why there are so many of these minor fives about, Mr. Trollope claims the answer to be 'because their musical effect is so very fine,' and he goes on to say that, although sufficient evidence is lacking, he is of opinion that when rings of five were first put into parish churches, they were usually tuned to the minor scale. How can Mr. Trollope claim this to be a reply to my question if he is only 'of opinion' and has no definite evidence? As to his other phrase, 'their musical effect is so very fine,' on looking up the dictionary I find it describes anything in a minor key as 'mournful, diminished or imperfect.' What a contrast between this and Mr. Trollope's description! By a simple illustration which they will understand better than all the Norwich Cathedral chimes, I will prove to your readers that the dictionary version and *not* Mr. Trollope's is correct. The difference between a minor five and a major (or back five) is, as most ringers know, that in the latter the third is a semi-tone higher. Thus any minor ring of five by recasting a third a semi-tone higher can be made into a back five—this was done at Little Houghton, near Northampton, three years ago.

I could quote several tunes which can be tapped on five bells (or five corresponding notes on a piano), some in the minor key and some in the major. However, here is one which can be played in both, and those who sing in the choir or who are accustomed to staying behind to the service will recollect it immediately. It is a tune we chant to a psalm—the first half in the minor key and the second half in the major. I advise anyone to try it in the minor first, and then by sounding the third a semi-tone higher, switch over to the major and note the difference and ask themselves if the minor is not exactly as the dictionary terms it—mournful, diminished and imperfect; and whether the description 'the musical effect is so very fine' does not more truthfully belong to the major. 1, 543, 432445.

Despite Mr. Trollope saying it is nonsense to state that there is no proper finishing note, I see your other correspondent W.C.B. says, 'that in the view of ringers, these minor fives are rings of six lacking the usual tenors,' which amounts (does it not?) to almost the same as saying 'they are imperfect or with no proper finishing note.' Relative to his other remark—'that Mr. Amos shows that his ear is musically defective'—is Mr. Trollope intending to convey the same impression of his own musical ear as he often times does his historical writings, 'that he is the sole infallible judge'?

Northampton.

P. AMOS.

**John Taylor & Co.**

**LOUGHBOROUGH.**

.....

**THE**

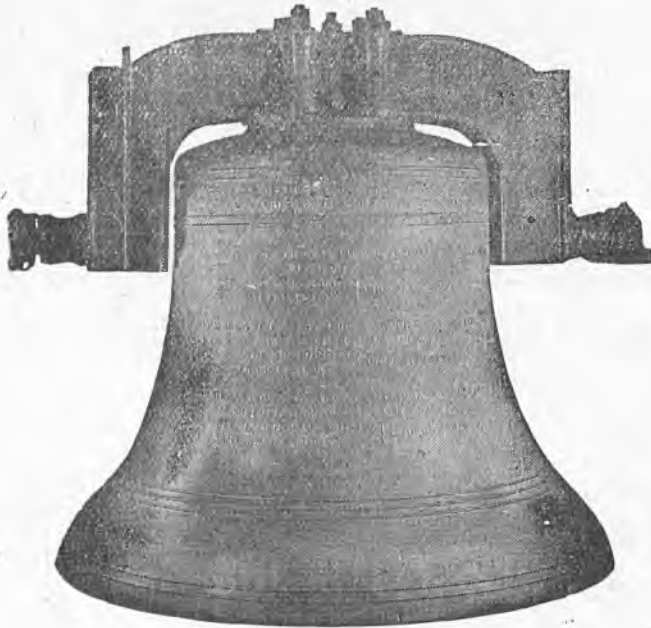
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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

It was appropriate that the memorial peal at Redcliffe should be rung on the bells which the late William Cave loved so well. It was here that he called the first peal of Cambridge Maximus for the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, from the tenor. He had previously rung it to Cambridge Royal.

The conductor would like to pay tribute to the excellent manner in which Saturday's tenor-man rang the bell.

The peal of Cambridge Major at Crayford on Saturday was the one hundredth that Mr. Thomas Groombridge, jun., has rung on the bells. He is the eighth man to accomplish the feat in this belfry and it would be interesting to know if there is another tower where such a thing has happened.

Good wishes and congratulations will be extended to Mr. F. E. Dawe, who to-day celebrates his 78th birthday.

On March 13th, 1733, the Society of Eastern Scholars rang their first peal. It was 5,040 Grandsire Tribbles and the bobs were called by Philemon Mainwaring. What composition they rang we do not know, but most likely it was the false peal from the 'J.D. and C.M. Campanalogia.'

In the seventies and eighties of the last century there was a first-class band at Kenninghall in Norfolk. They rang little else besides Oxford Treble Bob Major, but they had a very high standard of striking. On March 14th, 1871, they rang William Harrison's peal of 10,176 changes. Jeremiah Mordey was the conductor.

The London Scholars rang 'six thousand Cinques' at St. Martin-in-the-Fields on March 14th, 1728, and on the following day the College Youths beat the peal with one of 6,314 changes. A fine board recording the first performance now hangs in the crypt of the church.

On March 16th, 1778, the Norwich Scholars rang the then longest peal of Treble Bob Maximus, 6,240 changes.

The first peal of Duffield Maximus, the method which Sir Arthur Heywood introduced in the hope that it would be as useful for ten and twelve bells as Stedman had proved to be for nine and eleven, was rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on March 17th, 1891. It was conducted by the composer.

Since the year 1761 when the eight bells were first hung in St. Mary's Church, Debenham, there have been many peals rung in the steeple, some of them of more than ordinary interest. On March 16th, 1767, the local company rang 10,080 Bob Major, and the board which records the performance has just been restored by one of the ringers, who wishes to remain anonymous. The old lettering has been reproduced as nearly as possible.

The same benefactor has made and presented to the tower a board recording a 'William' peal of Superlative Surprise Major rung on December 3rd, 1938. As his own Christian name is not William, his act is all the more praiseworthy.

## TECHNICAL RINGING TERMS.

### BEGINNERS' DIFFICULTIES.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Cannot something be done to standardise the technical terms of the Exercise? It was stated in 'The Ringing World' some time ago that these terms greatly hindered the beginners, but it seems to me that ringers beyond the 'beginning' stage must find it rather difficult to understand it all.

Who was first responsible for turning the good old-fashioned 'Home' into 'Right'? In any case, why mix both terms and use them side by side as is done in the article 'Proof' in this week's 'Ringing World'? In the Central Council book on Triples Methods we find all the course ends of Stedman pricked from rounds, whereas all the touches and peals given are from the six end, and how many times do we hear of a ring of bells called a 'peal'?

These may only seem small points, but they all help to confuse the beginner.

G. A. LEVETT.

P.S.—In a letter published in 'The Ringing World' on ringers as choir-men, the writer said that 'they stood with a full peal.' I have yet to find out exactly what this means.

## EYNESBURY BELLS AND RINGERS.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—The treble bell at Eynesbury, Hunts, bears the following unusual inscription:—

'R. Taylor, St. Neots, Founder, 1810. S. Orris. Ex. Officer. Professor of Campanology.'

The author of 'Church Bells of Huntingdonshire' says he supposes 'Ex. Officer' means Excise Officer, and also remarks that this early use of the word 'campanology' is interesting.

Mr. E. Morris, in his 'History of Change Ringing,' states that three ringers named Orris assisted in ringing a touch on the bells of East Bergholt, Suffolk, in the year 1821. It would be interesting to know whether or not any of these ringers resided here and were responsible for the inscription on the Eynesbury treble. Perhaps Mr. Slater, of Glemsford, may have something among his records.

SIDNEY J. PECK.

Eynesbury.

## THE CHURCH BELLS OF BERKSHIRE

A New Archæological Work by F. M. Sharpe.

The archæology of church bells is a study which has engaged the attention of a select number of enthusiastic men for now practically a full century. The first fruits were a little book entitled 'The Bell,' which was published by Dr. Alfred Gatty in 1847 and which inspired a long and learned article in the 'Quarterly Review' of 1854.

Gatty's book was popular in style and rather slight in texture, but it was followed by a number of works which dealt with the subject in a very thorough and comprehensive manner. C. W. Lukis, in his 'Account of Church Bells' (1857), gave a partial survey of the bells of Wiltshire, and the first complete county bell history was A. D. Tyssen's 'Sussex Church Bells,' published in 1864. Then followed 'Cambridge' by Dr. J. J. Raven (1869), 'Devonshire' by H. T. Ellacombe (1872), and 'Norfolk' by John L'Estrange (1874). Thomas North surveyed most of the counties of the Eastern Midlands, J. H. L. Stahlschmidt dealt with Surrey (1884) and Kent (1887), and gradually the majority of the counties were completed by other men, of whom Mr. H. B. Walters is the most eminent and prolific.

Yet the full task is still unfinished. There remain some counties for which no complete account of the church bells has been published, though a good deal of sectional work has been done, and the results printed in the transactions of archæological societies and such journals as 'The Reliquary.' These necessarily are not very accessible to the general reader.

One of the counties for which no survey exists is Middlesex, which includes London north of the river; and it is perhaps safe to say that no complete survey will ever be made, for the difficulties are very great and altogether out of proportion to the harvest the worker may expect to reap. London bells, which to the ringer have so great an historical interest, are to the archæologist dull and uninteresting to the last degree. The founders of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries were splendid craftsmen, but the inscriptions they put on their bells have about as much interest as those on the sanitary inspection covers in the streets. The inscriptions on the majority of the principal rings in the metropolis were published by the late J. R. Jerram in the former numbers of 'The Ringing World.'

Of the other counties in the South of England, Oxfordshire and Berkshire alone remain to be dealt with, and in both the work has been undertaken and partially completed by Mr. Frederick Sharpe, of Bicester. In 1932 he issued a book on 'The Church Bells of the Deanery of Bicester,' and just recently the first part has appeared of a book on 'The Church Bells of Berkshire.'

The intention of the new book is to deal with the whole of the parishes in the county in alphabetical order, and the present part includes 41 of them, beginning with Abingdon and ending with Buscot. Written for the 'Berkshire Archæological Journal,' the book follows the traditional plan of giving the inscriptions, the founders, and as full an account as possible of the bells. In one respect Mr. Sharpe differs from most of his predecessors. They looked at bells solely with the eyes of antiquarians, and knew little or nothing about change ringing. Mr. Sharpe is himself a ringer, and, though his book is addressed primarily to archæologists, in one instance at least he shows that the change ringing interest of a peal of bells can far exceed its archæological interest.

That instance is Appleton, where there is a ring of bells which has played a part in the history of the Exercise exceeded by very few others indeed. To the account of this famous tower and bells, its ringers and many long peals they rang, Mr. Sharpe devotes no less than twelve pages and it was worth while.

From the early days of the last century the family of White has been closely associated with Appleton bells, and it was entirely due to them that the ring exists at all. Closely associated with them were the Holfields, F. E. Robinson, and the men from Oxford, Charles Hounslow and J. W. Washbrook. Robinson gave the two tenors before he became a parson, and when he was still 'Francis Edward Robinson, Esqre., of the Old Bank, Oxford.'

Probably more long peals have been rung at Appleton than anywhere else in England, and Mr. Sharpe gives particulars of the most noted. They include 10,080 Grandsire Caters in 1871; 10,080 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 12,041 Stedman Caters, 13,265 Grandsire Caters and 15,041 Stedman Caters in 1888; 10,043 Grandsire Caters in 1921; 21,363 Stedman Caters in 1922; and 16,271 Grandsire Caters in 1932. The names of White and Holfield appear in all these records.

None of the other bells described by Mr. Sharpe approach those at Appleton in interest from the ringers' point of view, but the archæologist will find much to interest him in the smaller rings. We congratulate Mr. Sharpe on the work he has done and look forward to its completion in due course.

### FAREWELL TO YOUNG RINGER.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung for morning service on Sunday, March 3rd, at Marston Magna Parish Church by S. Sharp 1, J. Webber 2, S. Highmore 3, J. Batson 4, P. Rainey (conductor) 5, L. White 6. This was the first quarter-peal by the ringers of 1, 2 and 3, who have learnt ringing in less than six months. The quarter-peal was rung as a farewell to J. Webber, who has since joined the Colours.

## FALSE COURSE ENDS.

CRITICISM OF SURPRISE MAJOR METHODS BOOK.

BY G. L. ('MINORMANIA') JOYCE.

The article 'False Course Ends,' of February 23rd, is described as the system which is recommended in the new book on Major Surprise Methods. Since it would be absurd to offer readers something which differs materially from the original, it may be assumed that the article closely follows the chapter in the book, of which, in August, 1935, Mr. W. G. Wilson wrote so loyally and glowingly, but, as I then remarked, evidently not very knowingly.

He wrote of '... explanation ... in very lucid sentences ...', but I find in the article nothing of explanation to help the 'inexperienced' student, unless bald commands to do this and that may be dubbed 'explanation.' The student must know how to 'nature' the rows (1), and must know what, in a symmetrical method, is a section which is not symmetrical (7). He deduces (4) that the false course end is 32465 because 8.7.4 are in like positions, while 5.6 and 3.2 are transposed. What he would deduce from (say) 4263857-2534867 heaven (and Mr. Trollope) alone know. If he has knowledge of backward transposition he would arrive at 46325 and/or 45263; and, since he is told (4) that the false course end (not plural, observe) is 32465, if he decides on one or other of the two I quote it will be because *he knows*. If he knows so much, he wants the article not at all, unless it tells him that he can produce 56,112, or 224 plain course rows from heads and ends, instead of using the whole lead with heads only. How, from (9), Mr. Inexperience will note which lead is false against which I cannot tell. It is true that example 4(a) shows the third lead false against the second, and I suppose he assumes that it does not particularly matter which of them is the plain and which the false course. Well, *the article* is not my particular pigeon, and so much for the so-called explanation of what is described as '... probably the easiest to explain and understand ...'—goodness knows why it should be.

As to the system itself. In September, 1935, Mr. Trollope wrote that he had been familiar with half-lead proof for more than 20 years, and one wonders why he hoards such knowledge and doles out a miserable half-bake. He asks the student to produce 16 rows per lead, 112 per course, and the poor devil only escapes the other 112 if he knows what symmetrical sections are. No wonder Mr. Wilson did not understand my prayer that the Exercise should not be invited to produce at least 16 rows to prove that Bristol is clean *when not one is required*.

Even in the very elementary form given, the work entailed can be reduced by 50 per cent. Fourteen of the 28 rows called for (3 and 5) can be dispensed with by reversing the natures given in (3) and (6), altering one word and its example in (4) and adding a few lines of explanation, and by deleting (5) which is unnecessary. Further pruning comes from the fact that it is not necessary actually to 'nature' the rows, and the fourth rows need no marking unless required by (7). Further, by adding a short paragraph, the rows of sections two and four need not be produced at all.

Mr. Trollope also wrote '... the book is finished and no material additions or alterations will be made. ...' As an executive body I do not understand the Methods Committee and its findings. Individually, I have admired Mr. Trollope—his writings, his achievements and his work—for more than 25 years, and have said so time and again, but I hate and despise the dictator who is clever enough to leave unanswered criticism which matters, and who is not big enough to admit his mistakes and profit by them. I believe that Mr. Turner knows far more of the matters set out here than I do, and I should hate to find myself in serious argument with this softly spoken young genius, but his loyalty to Mr. Trollope is understandable. I have only read of Mr. Wood, and, apart from the fact that he deliberately misquoted me when making a point in Council, I know little of his views. He may be the minority, or his interests may be directed elsewhere, but I am loath to believe he would be satisfied with anything but the best.

And so the pitiful, dogmatic re-hash of the old, old stuff goes on. The Council and its decisions sometimes are beyond understanding and past redemption, while the rank and file pays its penny and has no choice to 'take!'

### BELLS IN NO MAN'S LAND.

GUARDSMEN RING VILLAGE BELLS.

It has been reported in the Press that on a recent excursion into No Man's Land in France a patrol of Grenadier Guards turned bell-ringers.

The story goes that, tired of vainly seeking the enemy in nightly patrols, the Guards decided, before returning to their lines, to make a final raid on a deserted village which was believed to shelter some Germans. A covering party having taken up positions near the entrance to the village, the patrol went on ahead and disappeared up the village street. The covering party waited. All was silent. The village seemed dead. Then a peal of bells sounded on the still air, gentle to begin with, then clamorous and insistent. For the first time since the war began the bells of the village church were ringing.

There are bell-ringers in the Grenadier Guards, we know, and we wonder whether one of the ringers on this occasion was a member of the Aldershot band! If so, this escapade will be something to Bragg about when he returns home.

## HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

THE PROSPERITY OF ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

(Continued from page 116.)

The Chairman proposed 'Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild' and reminded the company that they were not just hoping for prosperity. In their modest way they had had prosperity and they were going to drink to continued prosperity (applause). He said it was a privileged position in which he stood that night. He did not suppose there was in any ringing association or guild in the country a more enviable position than that of Master of St. Martin's Guild, and, although he was not Master, he was there because their Master, Alderman Pritchett, the Lord Mayor's uncle, was not physically capable of coming out in the evenings in these days. He (Alderman Pritchett) had occupied the chair at that gathering on more occasions than any other man. He was elected as Master of the Guild on October 10th, 1902, and what his name had meant to ringing circles throughout the country and to Birmingham and the Midlands in particular was beyond words to convey. They had been delighted to have him as their Master and they hoped he would continue in that position for many years (applause), although it seemed very unlikely that they would see him in St. Martin's belfry again. He (the chairman) was old enough to remember when Alderman Pritchett and his brothers used often to come to St. Martin's, and there were frequently fireworks not only between the other members of the band, but between the brothers Pritchett as well (laughter). They didn't hesitate to criticise each other if they had any reason to do so, but they were excellent friends all the same. The Chairman went on to invite the Lord Mayor to come to St. Martin's belfry to resume the family tradition.

Proceeding, the Chairman mentioned that during the year they had lost by death Mr. Harry Hall, of Sutton Coldfield, and they had learned that night with regret of the death of Mr. William Cave, of Bristol, who was also a member of the Guild. They were fortunate, he thought, this year in having so small a list of losses through death. That gathering, he proceeded, was probably the smallest they had had since they began the annual commemoration of Henry Johnson, but in view of the very difficult times in which they were living he thought they were to be congratulated on its success. The younger members of military age had gone and that left the older members to carry on. They would do their best and he took it every man and woman in that room interested in bellringing would regard it almost as a sacred duty to keep the bells ringing on Sundays for the church services.

### RINGERS' MAIN DUTY.

Peal ringing in these days, said the Chairman, was a thing they might well forget. It was possible, of course, to go for an odd peal or two, but there could be no heart in it. He thought that side of ringing could very well stand over until peace and victory came, and then they would ring peals—and then some (hear, hear). Their main duty at the moment was to keep the bells ringing on Sundays, not merely to summon people to church. He knew that was the intention for which church bells were put in the towers, but while they liked the people to answer the summons to worship, the ringers' part was, in his opinion, to perform an act of praise—one of the greatest acts of praise to God that could be performed. It was not confined to the four walls of the church, it went out over the streets and the roof tops calling people, even if they were not churchgoers, to thoughts of something higher than the slums and the factories amid which they lived. The voice of the bells reached thousands of people who never went inside a church. That was an important fact that they should remember. It was a pretty high aim; let them make their Sunday ringing worthy of the occasion. He did not worry very much about the number of people who came to church as a result of their ringing, but he was proud of the fact that ringers were doing their part in a great act of praise.

The Chairman went on to say that at first he had his doubts as to the advisability of holding that gathering this year, but the annual meeting decided to go on with it, and the result had shown that decision was right. In coupling the name of the hon. secretary with the toast, the Chairman spoke in high terms of praise of the way in which Mr. Reeves discharged the duties of his office.

Mr. Reeves, in responding, said he received wonderful support from the officers and members of the Guild. Like the chairman, he was dubious of the advisability of holding that dinner, and he had supported the view that it would be better to confine the function to a lunch, just to retain the continuity. But the members decided otherwise, and it was his duty as secretary to carry on with the arrangements. He did so with a certain amount of trepidation, but that gathering proved that his fears had been groundless. Proceeding, Mr. Reeves said the leading article in that week's issue of 'The Ringing World' was very applicable to the toast of Continued Prosperity to their Guild. The article referred to the recent passing of a number of well-known ringers. In St. Martin's Guild they had had some very famous men who, through their day and generation, left their mark not only on the ringing world, but in the world of their everyday life. There was no better man as a ringer and a man than Henry Johnson, who was always out to do a good turn for anyone. And in the history of St. Martin's Guild the men who had

been masters had never spared themselves in rendering service to their fellow-ringers. They, in this generation, must see to it that they pulled their weight and carried on the traditions of their ancient society (applause). At present they had a goodly company, who were not sparing in self-sacrificing work for their fellow-members, and so long as that continued he did not think there would be any doubt about the continued prosperity of the Guild (applause).

### A FINE NEW PEAL.

Mr. Albert Walker proposed 'The Visitors,' and welcomed the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, the clergy and the representatives of the other associations and guilds who were present. Mr. Walker referred to the opening of the new peals of bells that afternoon at St. Chad's Roman Catholic Cathedral, and congratulated the church in obtaining and Messrs. Taylor and Co. in producing such an excellent peal of bells—a peal worthy of the Cathedral. The visitors had been specially privileged in being able to ring on them during the afternoon.

Mr. J. W. Jones replied for the visitors and mentioned that, although he never met Henry Johnson, he took part in a muffled date touch of Grandsire Triples on the occasion of his death in 1890. Mr. Jones said he hoped that despite the difficult times in which they were living, that commemoration would be continued. At any rate, he hoped it would not be allowed to fall through entirely and that, if a dinner was not possible, they might have a lunch. He congratulated Birmingham on having gained such a beautiful new ring of bells as they now had at St. Chad's.

Mr. Jones having referred to the death of Mr. W. A. Cave, the Chairman asked the company to stand in silence for a few moments as an expression of their regret. One of the last twelve-bell peals which Mr. Cave rang, he said, was for St. Martin's Guild, at Buckfast Abbey.

Mr. F. E. Haynes, in proposing 'The Chairman,' referred to Mr. Smith's long and valued services to St. Martin's Guild, including 20 years as honorary secretary. They all admired him for his many qualities, one of which was his insistence on good striking. Although in years gone by Mr. Smith rang in a great many peals in a variety of methods, it was true that his chief interest in ringing now was

## IMPORTANT.

Owing to Good Friday falling in next week, 'The Ringing World' will be published on Thursday. Notices and all other communications must reach the 'Ringing World' Office by Monday next.

in Stedman Cinques, but it was in good Stedman Cinques (applause). He (Mr. Haynes) confessed that he had been almost convinced by Mr. Smith's ideal, and it was one of which St. Martin's Guild need not be ashamed. If he had given them that ideal and they could always produce a band capable of ringing good Stedman Cinques, then he would have done something worth while (applause).

### NEW BLOOD NEEDED.

The toast was drunk with musical honours, and Mr. Smith, in reply, hoped the members would not think from what Mr. Haynes had said that he was selfish, but he certainly had reached a stage now when he could not put up with bad striking. He had developed a great love of twelve-bell ringing, which appealed to him more than any other type. He thought he must have been weaned on Stedman Cinques and he loved it beyond all other ringing. He never tired of good Stedman Cinques; although he tired of most other things and he got very tired very soon of bad striking (laughter). Mr. Smith said he was afraid when this war was over there would be a difficulty in getting young men into their belfries, and it behoved them all to do their best to keep up the interest of the art and to bring in new blood.

This concluded the toast list, and after the hon. secretary had thanked the artistes, the proceedings concluded with the National Anthem.

Many enjoyable vocal items were contributed by the Cathedral Quartette, and P.C. Cook, of Birmingham Police, gave a number of cornet solos magnificently played. The accompanist was Mr. E. J. Woodhall.

A feature of the evening was a course of Stedman Cinques on a beautiful new peal of handbells size 17, belonging to Mr. George Fearn. It was the first course on the bells, and, the Lord Mayor having asked for more, a course of Grandsire Cinques was also rung, those taking part being Messrs. D. T. Matkin, F. W. Perrens, A. Walker, F. E. Pervin, F. E. Haynes and A. E. Norman.

### BEGINNING YOUNG.

Two fourteen-year-old boys at Rishton, Lancs, rang their first quarter-peal on March 5th, when 1,280 Bob Major was rung by G. Harwood 1, A. Yates 2, R. Atherton 3, T. Hillman 4, J. Appleton 5, R. Balderstone 6, W. Proctor 7, F. Read (conductor) 8. It was the first quarter-peal for the ringers of the treble and the fifth, who thus achieved their first success.



**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.**

A successful meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at St. Lawrence's, Brentford, on Saturday last.

Twenty-four members and friends were present from Brentford, Bushey, Ealing (Christ Church, St. Mary's and St. Stephen's), Feltham, Fulham, Kensington, Kingsbury, Ruislip and Willesden.

The ancient peal of six were raised about 3 p.m. and some very good ringing was accomplished until 5 p.m. under the supervision of Mr. G. M. Kilby, Ringing Master, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Double Court and Double Oxford Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and Cambridge and London Surprise Minor being brought round.

During the ringing the Vicar, the Rev. W. Paton, and Mrs. Paton visited the belfry and showed much interest in the proceedings.

A short service was held at 5 p.m., conducted by the Vicar, with Mrs. Paton at the organ. The Vicar, in an eloquent little address, extended a warm welcome to those present, saying how pleased he was to have his bells rung again after a long silence and regretting the absence of a band of his own. The Vicar extended a cordial welcome to any ringers who could make up a band for any occasional Sunday ringing, and stated how glad he was to note that ringing generally was still being carried on in spite of the present situation, expressing his conviction that in God's good time the bells would ring out their message of peace, with God in His Heaven and all well with the world.

A substantial tea was provided at Druce and Smith's nearby, presided over by the Vicar, supported by Mrs. Paton. There was no formal business, but a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and Mrs. Paton, on the proposition of Mr. Trollope, and the Vicar, in reply, again expressed his pleasure at meeting the association again, and of his hope that they would give him some assistance in occasional ringing at Brentford. Members were reminded of the annual general meeting at Acton on April 27th, and it was stated that it was hoped to arrange the next district meeting at Ruislip and Pinner at the end of May.

After tea, a move was made to Christ Church, Ealing, for an hour's ringing, where touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major and Cambridge Surprise were brought round.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.****SOUTH NORFOLK BRANCH AT PULHAM MARKET.**

The annual meeting of the South Norfolk Branch was held on Saturday, March 2nd, at Pulham Market. The bells of St. Mary Magdalene Church were rung during the afternoon and evening until 9 p.m., the methods including Spiced Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major.

The Rector of Pulham Market (the Rev. R. H. Stacey) conducted the association's special service in the afternoon and gave an excellent address. The lesson was read by the Rev. A. St. J. Heard.

After service, the members adjourned to the Rectory, where the Rector and Mrs. Stacey kindly provided tea.

Before the business meeting began, Mr. W. L. Duffield asked the members to stand in silence in memory of the late Mr. Ernest F. Poppy and the late Mr. Stacey (son of the Rector and Mrs. Stacey).

Mr. W. L. Duffield presided at the meeting, supported by the Rev. R. H. Stacey (hon. member), the Rev. A. St. J. Heard (hon. member), the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow (Precentor of Norwich Cathedral), Mr. F. Nolan Golden (general secretary), Mr. A. G. Harrison, Diss (branch secretary), Messrs. E. Whiting, C. Roome and C. E. G. Banham, members of the committee, and ringers from Attleborough, Bergh Apton, Diss, Fressingfield, Pulham Market, Redenhall, Shelfanger, Saxlingham, Norwich, Winfarthing and Yaxley.

All the officers were re-elected for 1940. The suggestion was made that during the lighter evenings practice meetings should be held at various churches on Saturdays.

At the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. and Mrs. Stacey for their kind hospitality, also to the Rector for the use of the bells and for his address, and to the organist and choirboys.

The Rector thanked the members for visiting Pulham and gave them a hearty welcome to come for a practice meeting sometimes.

The next meeting of the branch is to be held at Diss in May.

**VISITING H.M.F. RINGERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Our Branches have discussed the question of what should be done in regard to subscriptions charged to ringers in H.M. Forces coming into the county and, while here, ringing peals. The matter has now been brought forward to the committee. Should these visitors be excused paying non-resident members' fees? One suggestion was that they should pay 1s. entrance fee as an ordinary member, and another was that they should pay a small booking fee for a peal or peals rung.

My committee would like to know what other societies are doing in this matter. Perhaps other secretaries will reply through 'The Ringing World' and give us reasons for or against the above proposals.

106, Bank Street, Manchester 11. W. H. SHUKER, Hon. Sec.

**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.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.—In accordance with the decision of the Standing Committee, I give notice that no meeting of the Council will be held on Whitsun Tuesday this year.—George W. Fletcher, Hon. Sec.

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.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Doncaster on Saturday, March 16th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tower blacked out.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Meeting at Witley, on Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Croydon on Saturday, March 16th. Bells of St. John's available from 3 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock. Tea at the Parish Hall, Silverdale Road, Croydon, 5.45. Meeting 6.30. Further ringing after the meeting.—E. G. Talbot, Hon. Sec., 53, Birchwood Avenue, Wallington, Surrey.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Luton District) AND HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION (St. Albans District).—A joint meeting will be held at Luton Parish Church on Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers cordially invited.—H. Frost and E. Belson, Dis. Secs.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Upham on Saturday, March 16th. Bells 2.30-7.30.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wrington on Saturday, March 16th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock at the Golden Lion, followed by business meeting.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Tendring on Saturday, March 16th. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. till 9 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5.15 p.m. at the Vicarage. A good bus service from Colchester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16th, at Tonbridge. Tower open 2.15. Service at 4.30, conducted by the Rev. Canon Frank Child. Tea and business meeting to follow. Election of officers, and plans for the future.—Alec E. Richardson, 24, Norton Road, Southborough.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, on Saturday, March 16th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting 6.30 p.m. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand. All ringers welcome.—Ivan Kay, Branch Secretary.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Eccles, on Saturday afternoon, March 16th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Subscriptions due.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—The combined practice, arranged for Cranleigh on March 16th, is cancelled.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Syston (8 bells) on March 16th. Ringing, 3 p.m. till 7 p.m.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—The next meeting is arranged to take place at Stoke-in-Coventry on Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) available during afternoon and evening. Tea at 5 p.m. in St. Andrew's Hall, Binley Road, at a moderate charge.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—First war-time meeting of Maidstone District will be held at Linton (near Maidstone) on Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Association form of service at 5, followed by tea and business meeting in the Institute Room. M. and D. buses 5, 6, 59, and E2 are handy. Subscriptions for 1940 may be paid at this meeting except from members serving in H.M. Forces.—R. G. Rayfield, Dis. Hon. Sec., 86, Hedge Place Road, Hornsross, Greenhithe, Kent.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Church Lawton (8 bells) on March 16th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m.—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—Next meeting at Thurlaston on Saturday, March 16th. Ringing from 3 to 7.30. Service at 5. Refreshments being arranged.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern District.—There will be a practice at Little Waltham on Saturday, March 16th, at 3 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Ewell on Easter Monday, March 25th. Bells available: Christ Church, Epsom, 11 a.m. to 12.30; St. Martin's, Epsom, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; St. Mary's, Ewell, 3.30 to 5.30, and again in the evening until 8.30 p.m. Tea, with business meeting following, in Ewell Church Hall at 5.30. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. C. E. Read, 58, High Street, Ewell, by Wednesday, March 20th.—G. W. Massey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 173, Coverts Road, Claygate, Surrey.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting at Cambridge, on Easter Monday, March 25th. Service in the Church of St. Mary-the-Great, 3.30 p.m., followed by business meeting in Consistory Court. Tea at Lion Hotel, 5 o'clock. Ringing: St. Mary's, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2.30 to 3.30, and 6 to 8 p.m.; St. Benet's, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 3.15 p.m., and in the evening. Please note change of plan due to war-time conditions.—Kitty Willers, Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Easter Monday, March 25th. Committee meet at 3.30 in vestry of St. Mary-le-Tower and service 4 o'clock. At 4.30 the general meeting, in the Oak Room, Oak Lane, followed by tea at Lyons Restaurant. The bells at various towers will be available all day for ringing: St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret's (8), St. Clement's (6), St. Matthew's (6), Sproughton (6), Rushmere (6), and St. Lawrence's (5).—Harold G. Herbert, Hon. Sec.

**LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at All Saints', Newport, on Easter Monday, March 25th. Service at 4. Tea and business meeting to follow in All Saints' Mission House, Lyne Road. Bells of both All Saints' and St. Woolos' available.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, 94, Altery View, Newport, Mon.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The 60th annual general meeting will be held (D.V.) at Maidstone on Easter Monday, March 25th. Committee meeting in the College Room at 11.15. Association service in the Church of All Saints, at noon, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. O. Standen. General meeting in the College Room at 2.15 p.m. Owing to local conditions and the uncertainty of catering and the numbers attending it has been deemed advisable to dispense with the lunch. All practising members attending will be allowed 2s. 6d. each. The bells of All Saints' (10) will be available from 10 a.m. till noon and after the meeting until 6 p.m. It is hoped other towers will be available; if so, will be announced later.—Fred M. Mitchell, Gen. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, March 25th. Subject to the approval of the Dean and Chapter, general business meeting in the Chapter House at 3 p.m. prompt. Chairman, the Very Rev. Arthur Davies, D.Litt., Dean of Worcester. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m., with address by the Dean. Tea (non-members, 1s. each) has been arranged, but it is essential that all those requiring same should notify me before Tuesday, March 19th. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 1-2 p.m., All Saints' (10), St. John-in-Bedwardine (8). The usual six-bell towers will probably be available. Information at St. Alban's from 11 a.m. Central Committee meeting in St. Alban's Room at 11.30 a.m. Subscriptions should be paid, and reports obtained in St. Alban's Room, Fish Street, between 12 noon and 1 p.m.—Joseph D. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., Aubyns, Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

**DEVON GUILD.**—East Devon Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Ottery St. Mary on Easter Monday, March 25th. Bells (8) available 2 p.m. until 9.30. Service 4.30. Tea meeting at the Church Institute 5.15. All ringers welcome.—John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., 9, Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting.—The annual meeting will be held as usual at Bedford on Easter Monday, March 25th. The bells of St. Paul's and St. Peter's will be available from 2.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Tea at 1s. 3d. per head, followed by the business meeting, will be held at the Lion Hotel, High Street, at 4.30 p.m. Postcards will be very welcome.—F. J. Plummer, Hon. Sec., Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard, Beds.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, when the Cathedral (12 bells), St. Peter's (10), St. Michael's (6), and St. Stephen's (6) will be open for members from 2 p.m. Service in Cathedral 4.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. A. M. Fergusson, M.A., followed by tea and business meeting in the Waterend Barn, St. Peter's Street (close to Westminster Bank). You can depend upon a sumptuous meat tea in this original 16th century barn. Please let me know if you are coming, so as to make adequate arrangements.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, Russell Avenue, St. Albans.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The 50th annual meeting will be held at Taunton on Easter Monday. Committee meeting at St. James' Schools 11.20 a.m. Service at St. James' 12.30. Luncheon (2s.) at the Black Horse Hotel 1.15. Business meeting on the same premises 2.15. Bells available: St. James' (8), 11-12.30; St. George's, Wilton (8), 11-12.15; St. James' after the meeting until 4 p.m.; St. Mary's (12), 4-7. The rings of six at Trull and Staplegrave are also available if required. Do please let Mr. Hunt or me know if you require luncheon.—J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton, Bath.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, at Derby. Bells of St. Andrew's (10), St. Peter's (8) available all day, subject to weddings, etc. Cathedral (10) open for two hours before black-out time. St. Alkmund's (8) possibly available; notice will be given. Committee meet at St. Peter's Schools 3.30. Tea (2s. head) 5 p.m., at Babington Café, Babington Lane, followed by general meeting. Tickets for tea obtainable from Mr. W. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby, not later than Thursday, March 21st. No ticket—no tea! — Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Staverton (6) on Easter Monday, March 25th. Kindly notify me for tea by Wednesday, March 20th. Make this an enjoyable holiday meeting.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

**EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Sutton-in-Ashfield on Easter Monday, March 25th. Bells available at 2 o'clock. Service at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, Rector of Ordsall. Tea at 5 o'clock, free of charge to those who notify Mr. F. Bradley, 34, Mansfield Road, Skegby, Notts, by Tuesday, March 19th. Will visitors please provide their own sugar? Annual meeting immediately after tea.—J. W. England, Hon. Sec.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The 63rd annual meeting will be held on Easter Monday at Norwich. Bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles' and St. Miles available from 10 a.m.; All Saints' from 11.30. Service at St. Peter Mancroft at noon; preacher, Rev.

A. G. G. Thurlow. Luncheon at 1, at Samson and Hercules House, Tombland, 2s. 6d. per head. Subscriptions due.—F. Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 26th, at Headquarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., at 7 p.m. — A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—A practice meeting will be held on Saturday, March 30th. Bells available at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, 2 to 4 p.m. and St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, from 4 p.m. until dark.—G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

**LADIES' GUILD** (Northern) and **LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—A joint meeting of these societies will be held at Armley Christ Church on Saturday, March 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. until dark. Arrangements for tea will be made for those who send in their names to me by Wednesday, March 27th. — H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley, Leeds 12.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, March 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Ringing after. Everybody welcome. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

**WITHINGTON, Nr. Hereford.**—The postponed rededication of the restored ring of six will take place at 6 p.m. on Sunday, March 31st, by the Lord Bishop of Hereford. The two trebles recast and the peal rehung with modern fittings in new iron frame by Gillett and Johnston.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.** — The address of Ernest W. Pye is now 18, Albany Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.** — The future address of Mr. F. S. Wilson, of West Lavington, Midhurst, will, after March 19th, be Vanessa, Dean Swift Crescent, Lilliput, Parkstone, Dorset.

**KILBURN.** — On Sunday, March 10th, for evensong at St. Augustine's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 43 minutes: Miss V. Jaquest 1, E. M. Atkins 2, E. B. Hartley 3, C. D. Nichols (conductor) 4, A. Tozer 5, G. A. Parsons 6, H. Kilby 7, W. H. Scabrook 8. First quarter-peal by Miss V. Jaquest.

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