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FRIDAY, MAY 3rd, 1940.

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## LADIES IN THE BELFRY.

The question of maintaining ringing during war time is wrapped up more closely with man-power even than with lighting restrictions. The 'black-out' may interfere, and in many places has seriously interfered, with operations in the belfry, but lack of ringers will effectively put an end to all efforts to keep the bells of a church going. Every source of recruitment must be utilised to keep up the strength of the personnel, and it is surprising to learn from our correspondence columns that there was some opposition at the annual meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association to encouraging ladies to take up the art and fill the gaps caused by the absence of men on the stern duties of war. There are very few ringers in these days who, we think, would deny to women the place they have taken in the belfries—a place which they gained during the last war, and which they have held with advantage to the Exercise up to the present time.

There are, of course, some few people who still look upon ringing as a job solely for men; who think that, in any case, the belfry is no place for women, but the vast majority of ringers not only admit the value of women in the belfry but welcome them. It is true, as a lady correspondent points out in a letter elsewhere, that they cannot, as a rule, ring the heavy bells, but they can ring the light ones, and some of the ladies are better ringers than a good many men. The opposition to women in the belfry in these days is, we think, largely due to prejudice, and we can hardly imagine any logical reason why the presence of women in a tower should drive men away. What influence women have had in the belfry has been, we are convinced, to raise the standard of conduct, and if there are some people who think that it has lowered the standard of ringing, the fault lies, in the first place, with the instructors and not with the ladies. There are plenty of poor ringers of the other sex, if truth must be told, and it is due to the same cause.

At a time like the present, bands which are likely to suffer from shortage of ringers cannot afford to set their faces against recruiting ladies. Indeed, they should be only too glad to get their help; it may save many a tower from closing down before the war is over, and they should make the most of the opportunities now. It will only add to the task to wait until the company gets to breaking point before tackling it. While there are hands enough to man the ropes is the time to train the women to take the places of the men who are likely to be called up. A band of eight will make half a dozen ladies better ringers in quicker time than three or four men left to make the

(Continued on page 206.)

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best of the raw material when the rest of the company have gone—and there can be few belfries upon which the country will not make some demands in the near future, even if they are not already feeling the pinch. To act now is the safe course, and any tower which neglects to take steps to this end will only have itself to blame if, later on, it is left with insufficient ringers to carry on. Actually there is no time to be lost, and those who would put obstacles in the way of bringing ladies into the belfry, if not standing in their own light, are doing a disservice to the Exercise, which, ere long, may badly need the help which women can give.

## TEN BELL PEAL.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1940, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 19 cwt. in D.

*JOSEPH L. STANIER ... .. 1	... Treble	ALFRED S. BAYLEY ... .. 6
E. DENNIS POOLE ... .. 2		WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... .. 7
ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... .. 3		G. LEONARD HEWITT ... .. 8
*THOMAS PRICE ... .. 4		WALTER LAGO ... .. 9
WILLIAM J. CHESTER ... .. 5		PHILIP A. CORBY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

\* First peal of Royal. First peal in the method by all the band, in the county and in the Diocese of Hereford.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 25, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

GEORGE B. JACKSON ... .. 1	... Treble	WILLIAM PILKINGTON ... .. 5
SELWYN H. DEARDEN ... .. 2		GEORGE R. NEWTON ... .. 6
*MISS ELIZABETH M. STUART 3		JOSEPH RIDYARD ... .. 7
ERNEST F. BENNETT ... .. 4		*CHARLES GREGORY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

\* First peal in the method.

STEWKLEY, BUCKS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1940, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

DORIS E. LIDBETTER ... .. 1	... Treble	FREDERICK J. PLUMMER ... .. 5
FREDERICK DICKERS ... .. 2		*REGINALD H. HOWSON ... .. 6
HENRY B. WHITNEY ... .. 3		*EDWIN A. BELSON ... .. 7
*VICTOR W. CONQUEST ... .. 4		JOHN H. CONQUEST ... .. Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN A. BELSON.

\* First peal in the method.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1940, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**

Tenor 25 cwt.

WILLIAM CLOVER ... .. 1	... Treble	JOHN A. GODFREY ... .. 5
GEORGE MAYERS ... .. 2		PHILIP W. J. FRYER ... .. 6
ROBERT G. FISHER ... .. 3		WALTER R. FARROW ... .. 7
THOMAS E. SPIGHT ... .. 4		HENRY TOOKE ... .. Tenor

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by HENRY TOOKE.

The composition is now rung for the first time. Arranged and rung in honour of the 25th anniversary of the wedding of the Rev. and Mrs. Jarvis, of Wymondham.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1940, in Three Hours and One Minute,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,  
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;  
Tenor 11 cwt.

FRANK VARTY ... ..	...Treble	GEORGE R. NEWTON ... ..	5
ERNEST L. HUMPHRISS ... ..	2	ARTHUR LINTOTT... ..	6
*THOMAS W. HRSKETH ... ..	3	EDWIN C. BIRKETT ... ..	7
*THOMAS S. HORRIDGE ... ..	4	PERCIVAL W. CAVE ... ..	Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.  
\* First peal in the method.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BRANDON, SUFFOLK.  
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 13, 1940, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,  
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

*WILLIAM WEBB... ..	...Treble	BASIL D. BUTTRESS ... ..	4
REGINALD C. SHARPE ... ..	2	†ALWYNE L. J. BEALE... ..	5
FREDERICK HURRY ... ..	3	SIDNEY BROWN ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by BASIL D. BUTTRESS.

\* First peal of Minor. † First peal.

ASHBRITTFLE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 22, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

STANLEY N. BRISTOW ... ..	...Treble	JOHN H. MANNING ... ..	4
*D. CHARLES ENTICOTT ... ..	2	FREDERICK ALDERMAN ... ..	5
WALTER STEVENS ... ..	3	†SYDNEY ALDERMAN ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by S. ALDERMAN.

\* First peal 'inside.' † First peal and first attempt. Specially arranged for the wedding of Private D. Parsons, R.A.O.C., and Miss K. Alderman, of Ashbrittle. The bridegroom was a member of the local band before joining H.M. Forces.

STANTON HARCOURT, OXFORDSHIRE.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 27, 1940, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising one 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

*THOMAS W. BOND ... ..	...Treble	WILLIAM C. PORTER ... ..	4
JONATHAN HONEY ... ..	2	†CECIL G. CALCUTT ... ..	5
*HARRY P. FLOYD ... ..	3	ALAN R. PINK ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

\* First peal of Minor in more than one method. † First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells.

STANWICK, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 27, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes;

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 240 of Stedman and 20 extents each of Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in B.

DONALD L. COCKINGS ... ..	...Treble	WILLIAM G. CALLIS ... ..	3
A. JAMES STUART... ..	2	EDWARD SMART ... ..	4

\*WILLIAM H. GRIGGS... ..

Conducted by D. L. COCKINGS.

\* First peal 'inside.'

COGENHOE, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 27, 1940, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of New Grandsire, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, April Day and Old Doubles, and 1,440 Grandsire. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*LESLIE BATTISON ... ..	...Treble	*CYRIL BARRICK ... ..	4
*GEORGE CARE ... ..	2	*RONNIE NOON ... ..	5
*CECIL WHITE ... ..	3	PHILIP JONES ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by PHILIP JONES.

\* First peal and first attempt. It is just a year since the first five ringers began to learn bellringing. They are all Sunday service ringers at Brafeld.

THE LATE C. W. O. JENKYN.

MEMORIAL PILGRIMAGE TO EAST GARSTON.

On Wednesday evening, April 17th, a little party of ringers made their seventh pilgrimage to the beautiful old village of East Garston, Berks, and rang Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles in memory of the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, who was called home on that date in 1933. No 720 of Minor was rung as in past years, but two of Mr. Jenkyn's boyhood friends, in the persons of Messrs. George and John Woodley, natives of the village, took part. The character of the ringing was good. Those taking part were the Misses S. Davis and P. Hart, with S. C. Davis, W. and R. T. Hibbert and Messrs. Woodley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT KEGWORTH.

A meeting of the Loughborough District of the Midland Counties Association was held at Kegworth on Saturday, April 20th, and was well attended by members from Copt Oak, Hugglescote, Ibstock, Kingston-on-Soar, Loughborough, Lockington, Oaks-in-Charnwood, Shepshe, Thrumpton and Woodhouse Eaves, with welcome visitors from Sawley, Sandiacre, Breaston and Wallesey.

Tea was served at the home of Mr. F. J. Sutton, the local captain. The Rector (Canon Devereaux) conducted the association order of service, and referred to the scheme for augmenting the existing peal of six bells to complete the octave, giving an historical survey of the present peal. Mr. C. Hutchinson, of Sawley, presided at the organ.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Shepshe on May 25th, and the members were also in favour of combining with the Burton District for a joint meeting at Cole Orton, the date to be arranged later.

Thanks to the Vicar and Mr. and Mrs. Sutton and also to Mr. Hutchinson were heartily carried, following which the bells were made good use of to a wide variety of methods.

BURTON DISTRICT.

A successful meeting of the Burton District was held at Rolleston-on-Dove in fine weather, and a pleasant time was enjoyed by the thirty or so members and visitors who attended from Burton, Ashby, Measham, Overseale, Netherseale, Duffield, Norton-in-the-Moors, Cheadle, Longton, Kingsley and Tamworth.

At 4.45 the company adjourned to the Church Hall, where they were met by the Rector, the Rev. W. Bagnall, who kindly entertained them to tea.

The Rector welcomed the members to Rolleston and made optimistic reference to the state of the world crisis.

One non-resident life member was elected, Mr. E. Steele, of Longton.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Appleby Magna on May 25th, and it was left to the secretary to try and arrange a joint summer meeting at Cole-Orton.

The meeting closed with the secretary expressing the thanks and appreciation of all present to the Rector for his continued generosity, for the use of the bells and for presiding at the meeting. This was supported by Mr. J. H. Swinfield and carried with applause.

The tower was again visited and the bells kept going in various methods, and some good practice for the assistance of learners was put in.

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## CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. STEPHEN'S, COLEMAN STREET.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

The church of St. Stephen, Coleman Street, was originally a chapel in the parish of St. Lawrence Jewry, and was incorporated a parish church in the reign of King Edward IV.

It then had three or four bells, for in some statutes drawn up in 1467 the duties of the clerks and sexton in ringing them are carefully defined. The clerks' duties include the following:—

Item: thei shal be redy to mynyster Bokys, vestments Chalyses and all other thyngs necessary to the Curate to the morn masse pste (priest), and to alle other pste of the saide church that is to say . . . to ryng iij pelys w' the lest Bell to the morrow masse pste and ask hym if shal ryng alle in. And so to do to the Curate or his Debite on sondays and holidays after the gode custom of london.

Item, they shall open the Churche dores in somer att vij of the belle and orden fressh water, wyne, and bredde. And ryng to morn masse i som at v of the belle in wynter at halfe hower be fore vij, so that the masse be sayd at vij.

Item thei shal help the morn masse pste to saye masse in a surpilis and at hys masse dayly. . . . Thei shall be ready to ryng to all man of diuine suise (divine service) at dewe oure assynged of the Curate or his debite, after the use and custom of london the Citie of. And not to ryng the laste pele until the Curate or his debite be pseat.

In the 'Sexton's deutee' it is ordered: 'And he shal Ryng curfu whan it ys rounge w' one bell and call foo help whan it ys rounge w' moo (more).'

Before the Reformation there stood in Aldgate the wealthy priory of the Holy Trinity. It possessed several bells and, when the church was pulled down, four of the largest went to St. Dunstan's, Stepney (where probably some of the metal still is), and five small ones were sold to St. Stephen's.

The inventory of the goods and ornaments of the church in the sixth year of the reign of Edward VI. (1552) shows that there were then in the steeple 'V bells and a saunce bell.' They were added to in the following years, but all were destroyed when the church was burnt in the great fire of 1666.

The building was restored by Sir Christopher Wren during the years 1674-81, and it was one of the first of the new churches to have a ringing peal of bells. In 1693 James Bartlet of Whitechapel supplied a ring of eight, of which the treble, second, third, fifth and sixth are still in the tower. John Waylett, a little known founder, recast some of the others. The present clock bell was cast by Antony Bartlet in 1672, and probably was the bell that was used temporarily while the church was being rebuilt.

The first peal on the bells of which there is any record was one of Bob Triples rung by the College Youths on August 21st, 1733. William Laughton was steward in that year, and he probably insisted on his right to call it. It was an old custom among the metropolitan societies that the master and stewards should in turn have the ordering of quarterly peals. Annable had conducted every peal he had taken part in after the first one, and relations between him and Laughton were getting strained. So either he refused to ring, or the band was made up without him.

The next peal on the bells was 5040 Bob Major by the Eastern Scholars in 1742, and a rather curious record of the performance was cut by some one on the lead roof of the church: 'Tuesday, . . . 12 1741 was rung in this steeple by the Society of Eastern Scholars a compleat peal of 5040 Bob Major P. Mainwaring 1, R. Butterworth 2, J. Newell 3, W. Goodman 4, T. Bennett 5, W.

Lovell 6, J. Bradshaw 7, W. S . . . . Tenor. Compleated in 3 hours and 10 minutes.'

This account is confirmed by the society's peal book, but close by somebody has scratched: 'This is a lye as sure as ever the performers lived.' Whether it is an echo of some dispute regarding the truth of the peal, or only an idle or spiteful remark by some unknown person, we cannot tell.

In 1747 the Eastern Scholars rang another peal of Bob Major on the bells, and after that there are no recorded peals in the steeple until the early years of the nineteenth century.

It was at St. Stephen's on April 2nd, 1827, that the first peal by the reconstructed St. James' Society was rung. The beginnings of the society went back to the closing years of the eighteenth century. The new church of St. James, Clerkenwell, was consecrated on July 10th, 1792, and in the previous year a ring of eight was erected in the steeple by Thomas Mears, of Whitechapel. The belfry became one of the strongholds of the Cumberland Youths, and among them was a man named John Hints, who lived in the neighbourhood and apparently had charge of the bells.

Neither of the two leading societies would teach beginners, so it was the custom for the steeple keepers at various towers to get together bands of beginners and, for a fee, instruct them in round ringing and the rudiments of change ringing. John Hints had such a band, and, whether he was an exceptionally good teacher, or whether he had more than ordinarily apt pupils, he turned out several good ringers, and formed a band that rang a good many peals in different towers, sometimes with the help of men from other companies.

Most of these peals were unrecorded and are forgotten, but as early as February 7th, 1797, the St. James' Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at Edmonton, Hints calling the bobs, and other peals were rung at Clerkenwell, Battersea, Westminster and St. Albans by these people, who at that time called themselves the Westminster Youths.

The company was an informal affair, without regular officers and rules, and after a time it declined, but in 1827 it was revived and, under the title of St. James' Society, took its place as one of the most active companies in London. The meetings were held at Clerkenwell and Coleman Street alternately, and at the latter tower, as I have mentioned, the first peal was rung.

The method was Grandsire Triples and William Atherton called the bobs. Two other men in the band, Joseph Ladley and Thomas Tolladay, were among the most active peal ringers of the day. Ladley had been for long one of the Junior Cumberlands and, when that somewhat disreputable company broke up, he went to the Junior College Youths, with whom at this time and later he rang many peals. He was for some years the leading conductor for those two societies.

Tolladay had also been a Junior College Youth and afterwards a member of the senior society, but when the St. James' Society was founded he threw most of his energies into that company, and it was largely due to him that it became an important body. He called the second peal, which was also Grandsire Triples, at Coleman Street. Grandsire Triples was then the method most rung in London and, out of the first thirty peals by the St. James' Society, all but one were in that method,

(Continued on next page.)

**MENTIONED IN DISPATCHES.**

**PORTSMOUTH RINGER HONOURED.**

In the Naval Honours List of the 'London Gazette' on Wednesday week appears the following notice referring to Mr. C. L. Guy, one of the ringers at St. Mary's, Portsea, Portsmouth. His many friends will be glad to see it.

Mentioned in dispatches.—Mechanician Cecil L. Guy, H.M.S. Nelson, for outstanding initiative and resource in executing repairs in his ship in very trying conditions after an explosion.

**DUBLIN DATE TOUCH.**

A date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1,940 changes) was rung on the bells of St. George's Parish Church, Dublin, in 1 hour 17 minutes, by members of the local band before Confirmation service on Friday, April 26th: W. McGregor 1, D. McGregor 2, G. G. Lindoff 3, W. Hall 4, F. E. Dukes (conductor) 5, A. Worrell 6, D. McGregor 7, M. Doolan 8. Rung on the front five with 7-6-8 covering. The touch comprised three 480's and one 500 of G. Lindoff's compositions.

**CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.**

(Continued from previous page.)

the exception being Grandsire Caters. Twenty-four were conducted by Tolladay.

Very soon the St. James' Society shifted its headquarters, first to Christ Church, Blackfriars Road, and then to St. Clement Danes. In 1829, however, they rang one more peal at St. Stephen's, and on October 29th, 1838, Tolladay called another peal of Grandsire Triples there for the College Youths. After that the belfry drops out of the history of London ringing.

St. Stephen's bells are very seldom heard nowadays, but a few peals have been rung on them in comparatively recent years. The most interesting are the first peal of London Surprise in the City of London, which was rung on January 14th, 1899, by a band of the Sussex County Association from St. Peter's, Brighton; and the only peal by the Irish Association accomplished outside Ireland, a peal of Bob Major rung on St. Patrick's Day (March 17th), 1905.

**A DEVON RESTORATION.**

**CORNWORTHY BELLS REHUNG.**

The bells of Cornworthy Parish Church, Devon, have just been quarter turned and rehung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. The ring of six dates from 1776, and was last overhauled in 1911. The restoration has been made possible largely by the generosity of Mr. Edmund Parnell, who resides in London, but was a native of the village, being the son of a Cornworthy farmer. He gave £100 towards the £280 required. The Totnes Branch of the Devon Guild contributed £5, and the balance, except for £30 which has still to be found, was raised in the village. The chiming apparatus, installed as the Great War memorial of the parish, and the clock face have also been renovated.

The work was dedicated on April 20th by the Rural Dean, the Rev. H. F. Beaumont, Vicar of Stoke Gabriel, and the clergy of adjoining parishes were also present.

In his address the Rural Dean congratulated Cornworthy upon the restoration that had been carried out. They had faced the task of raising a considerable sum of money and that service marked their success. He was sure the example they had given would be something to encourage and cheer other parishes to share in their joy and successful effort.

Speaking of the ringers, the Rural Dean assured them their work was not taken for granted. It was appreciated by the churchpeople generally. He referred to the time and trouble taken, the good fellowship and the comradeship which seemed to mark every ringing festival. Towers in the deaunery had helped, and in this restoration had shown their interest in a practical way.

The Rural Dean added that Cornworthy had done well in restoring the bells, but another thing which now suggested itself was the repair of the tower. Perhaps it was not immediately urgent, but it was likely to involve considerable expense. Such work called for a special effort, but he sincerely urged it for their consideration.

Following the service many ringers from a number of towers tried out the bells. Among them were two lady ringers from St. Andrew's Church, Plymouth. Local towers represented were Dittisham, Dartmouth, Stoke Gabriel and West Alvington. Tea was served in the Schoolroom, and a dance was held there in the evening.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—On April 7th at the Cathedral, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: W. C. Dowding 1, T. H. Reeves 2, G. E. Fearn 3, H. H. Fearn 4, A. Walker (conductor) 5, S. O'C. Holloway 6, F. E. Haynes 7, M. Hibbert 8. Rung to celebrate the birth of a son (Roger Walker) to Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Walker. Mr. F. W. Walker is a member of St. Martin's Guild and son of the conductor.

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**LOUGHBOROUGH.**

.....

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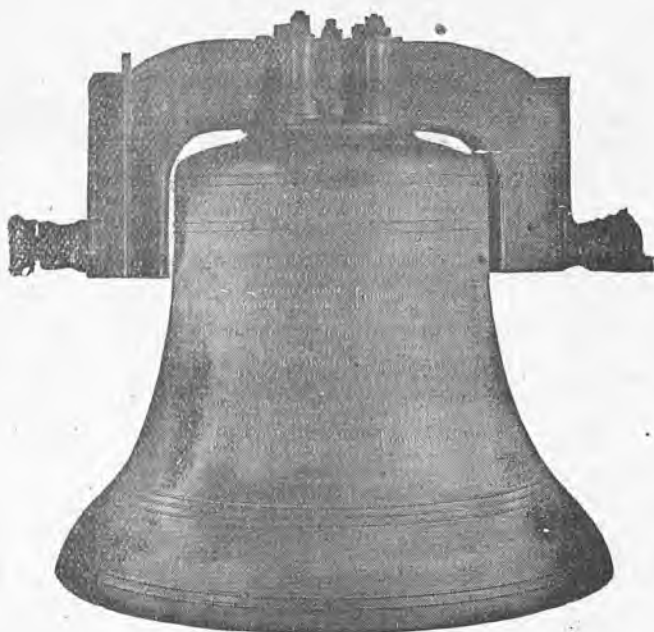
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BELL ROPES MUFFLES: &c.

## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. George Williams' many friends will join with us in heartily congratulating him on his eighty-third birthday, which occurs next Tuesday. He is still hale and hearty and looks forward to attempting a peal in honour of the event.

Another distinguished and popular ringer, Mr. Albert Walker, celebrates his sixty-fourth birthday to-day.

As will be learnt from our notice columns, the College Youths are considering the possibility of holding a lunch in June. The scheme seems worthy of the support of the members, and whether it will be possible depends on the response sent to Mr. A. B. Peck during the coming week.

The Rev. Malcolm Melville, who was recently ordained, is attached to a church which has no tower bells, so he is doing the next best thing and interesting some of the young people in handbell ringing. He has four interested so far, and some of the time is spent with tune ringing.

Last Sunday was the fiftieth anniversary of the first peal by the Cambridge University Guild. It was one of Bob Triples on handbells, conducted by H. Law James, who rang 5-6. The other ringers were the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, E. B. James and C. F. Wedmeyer.

Exactly two and a quarter centuries ago yesterday the Norwich Scholars rang the first true peal of any sort ever accomplished. It, too, was Plain Bob Triples and was composed and conducted by John Garthon.

The Painswick band rang 12,312 changes of Grandsire Caters on May 5th, 1817. They probably thought it was the longest length in the method, but it was not.

The ages of the five ringers who rang the working bells to the peal of Doubles at Cogenhoe on Saturday are 16, 12, 14, 14 and 15 years. The performance was a very meritorious one, as it was only about a twelve-month ago that they began change ringing.

The ringer of the third in the peal at Poolstock, reported in our issue of April 19th, was Alan Carpenter, not Carpentry as printed.

A very hearty welcome has been extended to Mr. F. S. Wilson (late of West Lavington, Midhurst) by the captain and ringers of St. Peter's Church, Bournemouth. When Mr. Wilson retired from the bank four years ago he went to reside at Midhurst and he soon found a church, St. Mary's, Easebourne, that needed help, for the ringers who for many years rang 'stony.' He set to work to instruct the ringers in change ringing, and when he left Grandsire Doubles was regularly rung for services. His work was greatly appreciated and it is satisfactory to know that his efforts were not in vain.

We regret to record that Mr. W. W. Worthington, of Maple Hayes, Lichfield, has sustained a great bereavement by the death on April 25th of his wife, Lady Muriel Worthington. The memorial service was held at Burnt Wood Church, Lichfield, on Monday.

## LADIES IN THE BELFRY

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was very interested to read Mr. Challice's letter in the last issue of 'The Ringing World.' I was present at the annual meeting at Taunton on Easter Monday and heard the appeal made for more ringers.

I do not quite see why lady ringers should cause a falling off in men ringers. Naturally, we cannot ring such heavy bells as men, but we can at least ring the lighter ones and keep the bells ringing until the men come home once more.

I hope the remark Mr. Challice makes, 'apparently the remainder of the meeting agreed with these remarks,' is not true, although I was surprised to find no one took up the challenge.

I may add I have been most cordially received in the many belfries I have entered and have never once noticed anyone give up membership. I quite agree that some lady ringers can handle a bell as well as any man.

Bravo, Mr. Challice, for sticking up for lady ringers in the belfry. Bath, Somerset. (Mrs.) A. EVANS.

## NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT EAST DEREHAM.

A meeting of the North Norfolk Branch was held at East Dereham on Saturday, April 20th, when 19 members attended from Attleborough, Buxton, Fornsett, Fakenham, Gressenhall, Norwich, King's Lynn, Paston and Wymondham. The bells were available from 2.30, and various methods were rung from Plain Bob to Cambridge Surprise Major, including Kidlington College Court.

The Vicar conducted the service and the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow read the lesson.

Tea was served in the Church House, and at the business meeting which followed, in the absence of the branch chairman Mr. Thurlow occupied the chair, supported by the Vicar (the Rev. L. E. Baumen), Mr. F. Nolan Golden (general secretary), Mr. H. Tooke (branch secretary) and Messrs. W. C. Duffield and G. Mayers.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Paston on Saturday, July 27th.

A collection was made on behalf of the widow of the late Mr. A. G. Warnes, a well-known ringer in Norfolk, and 10s. was raised.

Mr. Golden proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for granting the use of the bells, for conducting the service and for his excellent address; to the organist, and to the ladies for their assistance at the tea.

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. THE BISHOP OF LONDON BECOMES PATRON Belfries' War-time Needs.

There was a gratifying attendance at the annual meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild held at Acton on Saturday. Some 80 or 90 members attended, and visitors from Birmingham and Coventry, as well as from neighbouring areas, were present. Acton always gives the association a warm welcome, and this occasion was no exception. The usual service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. P. Gough), the lesson being read by the South and West District vice-president (Mr. J. A. Trollope).

In his address, the Rector gave a cordial welcome to the association, whose members, he said, did their best to carry on a great and honourable service to the Church. The clergy were most grateful for this and any other evidence of voluntary service to the Church. Ringers were in the striking position of giving not only unpaid service, but technical knowledge—it was one of the rare cases of voluntary service being combined with professional knowledge given to God's House. It was a very happy combination indeed. Ringers, he added, enjoyed a great privilege in maintaining their hold on the Christian verities by sending forth in days like these the reminder of God's call to the world, and he hoped they would keep in their hearts the fervent prayer and wish that the peace of God might come again soon among the sons of men.

Tea in the Church Hall was served by ladies of the parish, and afterwards the Rector was thanked for the kindness he had shown in connection with arrangements for the meeting, while the ladies were also thanked for their services.

The business meeting was presided over by the Rev. Preb. W. P. Cole Sheane (president), who was supported by the vice-presidents (Messrs. G. W. Fletcher and J. A. Trollope), the assistant hon. secretary (Mr. E. C. S. Turner), the Master (Mr. H. Kilby), the hon. treasurer (Mr. W. H. Oram) and the district officers.

On the motion of Mr. W. G. Wilson, the Rector of Acton was elected a life hon. member in gratitude and recognition of his many kindnesses to the association.

The hon. secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) sent an apology for absence from the meeting. His assistant said Mr. Coles had been present in the tower in the afternoon, but had had to leave early to meet his son, who was serving in the Gloucestershire Regt., and was arriving home on short leave.

Reference was made to the recent death of Mr. C. H. Howard (Braintree), Mr. W. A. Cave (Bristol) and Mr. W. D. Smith (Eastbourne), all old members of the association, and the members stood for a few moments in silence.

### INTEREST OF BISHOP OF LONDON.

The assistant secretary read a letter from the new Bishop of London, who wrote: 'I very gladly accept your invitation that I should become patron of your association. There was a Diocesan Bellringers' Guild in Cheshire with which I was similarly connected, and I am glad to know that your association is also a diocesan guild.'

A letter was also received from the late Bishop, in reply to the association's good wishes on his retirement. He said he had always taken the greatest interest in the society.

In the annual report, which was adopted, reference was made to the war and its effects upon ringing. It pointed out that although the calling up of men was slower than it was during the early days of the Great War, yet it was none the less sure, and it must be realised that, as time went on, the belfries would become more and more depleted. To those who remained would fall the task of filling vacancies. Where the new ringers came from would mainly be governed by local circumstances, but there must be recruitment. An appeal was made to the clergy to assist their ringers in this matter. 'Bells,' said the report, 'will be needed to celebrate the victories to which we all look forward, and to ring for the establishment of peace. Shall we be found wanting?'

During the year 26 ringing members were elected, but against this there had been a considerable loss through deaths, resignations, etc. Thirteen members died during 1939. The membership at the end of the year was 847, a reduction of nine as compared with the previous year.

The peal list showed that 33 peals were rung on tower bells, and 15 on handbells. Twenty-two towers were visited for the successful peals. Four members rang their first peals. The number of members taking part in the peals was 124, four of whom rang their first twelve-bell peals, two their first Surprise peals, and three their first peals of Spiced Surprise, whilst no less than 73 members rang a peal in a new method or on a different number of bells. There were 17 conductors. Mrs. G. W. Fletcher added another to her many brilliant performances by ringing a pair of bells to a handbell peal of London Surprise Major, together with her husband, becoming the first married couple to ring a handbell peal in this intricate method.

The only item of bell restoration work reported was the rehung of the bells at St. Margaret's, Westminster, which had been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The first four bells, together with the sixth and tenor, had been recast, and the whole peal tuned and rehung with modern fittings throughout, including ball bearings and metal headstocks. The greater part of the belfry windows had been boarded up. This work was brought to completion early in 1940.

The retirement of the Bishop of London in September marked the end of a long period of hard work for the Church. It was in 1903 that the Bishop gave his episcopal approval of the association's work by permitting the addition to the then title that of the 'London Diocesan Guild,' and they had never had any cause to regret the step then taken. If they were unable to pay their respects to him in the manner usually adopted by ringers, it was due to forces beyond their control, but they all wished his lordship many years of happy retirement. The new Bishop, Dr. G. F. Fisher, had very kindly consented to become patron of the association.

The report concluded by urging all members to be loyal to their church, their association and their ringing in the difficult days that lay ahead. It would require all their energies if ringing was to survive the terrible ordeal that had come upon the country.

### THE FINANCIAL POSITION.

The balance sheet, presented by the hon. treasurer, contained the first year's results of the financial rearrangement of the association's affairs, by which the entire district balances are carried to the central fund. The North and East District contributed £19 4s. 7d. and the South and West District £6 0s. 4d., and £4 12s. 10d. was also received in interest, making a total of £29 17s. 9d. for the year. The expenditure was £29 5s. 1d., leaving 12s. 8d. to be carried to the general fund, which now amounts to £160 8s. 6d.—The accounts were adopted.

All the officers were re-elected, viz.: President, the Rev. Preb. W. P. Cole Sheane; active vice-presidents, Messrs. G. W. Fletcher and J. Armiger Trollope; Master, Mr. H. Kilby; hon. treasurer, Mr. W. H. Oram; hon. secretary, Mr. C. T. Coles; assistant hon. secretary, Mr. E. C. S. Turner; trustees, Messrs. W. H. Oram, C. T. Coles and E. C. S. Turner; auditor, Mr. G. W. Fletcher.

The following new members were elected: Miss S. Varnes, Miss P. Wiggins and D. Lothian (Twickenham), W. Wenban and R. Wenban (Stammore), C. Casemore (Ruislip), R. D. Sinclair (Clapton).

Mr. G. W. Fletcher proposed a resolution that certain portions of the rules relating to the payment of subscriptions should not be insisted upon in the case of members serving in H.M. Forces. Under the rules he said, members who failed to pay their subscriptions had their names deleted from the association's records. He was quite sure members of the Middlesex Association did not wish any member serving with the Forces to have his name deleted if, through that service, he was unable or forgot to pay his subscription. The committee thought it better to bring the matter forward in this way rather than to propose the suspension of the rule.

Mr. J. Herbert asked what had become of the recommendation passed at the annual meeting of the South and West District.

Mr. W. G. Wilson (district assistant secretary) said he brought it before the Central Committee.

Mr. Herbert said it was strongly felt by many people that association funds would be badly depleted if all the members serving in the forces failed to pay their subscriptions, and the recommendation passed at the South and West District meeting was that members in the Forces be 'adopted' by individuals or towers, who would be responsible for the subscriptions. The association funds would thus be kept at their normal level.

Mr. Fletcher said it was a common practice in the North and East District for the subscriptions of all the members of a tower to be paid out of the tower funds, so that the subscriptions of serving members, in those towers, would be paid automatically.

Mr. Herbert said he did not think that was the practice in the South and West District.

Mr. J. A. Trollope pointed out that they could not compel the payment of members subscriptions by other people by passing a resolution.

The motion proposed by Mr. Fletcher was adopted, as was another admitting to membership, for the duration of the war, any ringer serving in the Forces whose permanent address is outside the area of the association, on payment of one annual subscription of 1s. 6d.

It was decided to leave to the Central Committee the question of printing future annual reports during the war, and also to leave to the hon. secretary, in consultation with the committee, the fixing of the place for the next annual meeting.

Mr. G. B. Lucas, of Walthamstow, sent his good wishes to the meeting which, on account of illness, was the first annual meeting of the association since its formation that he had missed.—The meeting reciprocated by sending greetings and good wishes to Mr. Lucas.

A vote of thanks was passed to the incumbents and steeplekeepers of the towers visited during the day, and to the organist of Acton Parish Church for his kindly services.

Mr. G. W. Fletcher also proposed a vote of thanks to the Editor of 'The Ringing World' for his presence. He said there were difficult times ahead for 'The Ringing World' in view of the acute paper shortage, but he felt sure the members of the Middlesex Association would continue to support the paper whatever steps the Editor found it necessary to take.—Mr. J. S. Goldsmith acknowledged Mr. Fletcher's remarks, and referred to the difficulties which the war in Norway had added to the paper trade. It was impossible to say what would happen in the future, but he said he felt he could rely on the continued support of the friends of ringing everywhere.

After the meeting there was handbell ringing by several enthusiasts present on the fine handbells brought by Mr. C. W. Taylor. Ringing took place at Acton and St. Stephen's and Christ Church, Ealing.

## YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Howden on Saturday, when there was an attendance of about 25 ringers from Eastington, Goole, Hemingbrough, Hatfield, Hessele, Hull, Kirk Ella, Market Weighton, Numburnholme, Pontefract, Selby, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Sheffield and the local company.

A short service was conducted by the Vicar, the preacher being the Rev. S. Pirby, Vicar of Eastington, who has recently commenced learning to ring. Tea, in the Manor House Cafe, was followed by the business meeting, over which the Vicar of Howden, the Rev. A. Wing, presided.

The meeting stood in silence for a few moments in memory of four old members of the association who have recently died, viz., Messrs. A. Walker, of Pontefract, G. C. Terry, of Hemingbrough, and J. Sherburn and R. Smith, of Howden.

Mr. E. Bradley, of Sherburn-in-Elmet, was elected Ringing Master, and Messrs. R. B. Smith, H. C. Walters, A. B. Cook, W. Pearson and F. Terry were elected to the District Committee. Messrs. R. B. Smith and H. C. Walters were also elected to the General Committee.

All Saints' Church, Pontefract, was selected as the place for the next meeting in June



HOWDEN PARISH CHURCH.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, etc., to the Vicar of Eastington for his address, to the local company for the arrangements made and to the ladies serving at the tea tables. —In reply, the Vicar gave a cordial welcome to the association to Howden and said he hoped they would come again soon.

Mr. Coggrave, replying for the local ringers, said they were always pleased to see the members of the association at Howden.

A collection taken for the Bell Repairs Fund realised the sum of 14s. 3d.

Further ringing took place in the evening.

Howden Parish Church suffered a disaster in October, 1929, when fire gutted the tower and destroyed all but three of the bells. The church ranks among the finest in Yorkshire, and the tower, which rises to a height of 135ft., dominates the town and countryside. The bells were originally cast by Pack and Chapman at Whitechapel in 1775. At various dates most of them were recast, and the present fine peal came from the Loughborough Foundry.

### SOUTHERN DISTRICT AT RAWMARSH.

A meeting of the Southern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Rawmarsh on Saturday, April 20th, when about forty members attended from Sheffield Cathedral, St. Marie's (R.C.), Handsworth, Rammoor, Felkirk, Doncaster, Eastwood, Wath-on-Deerne, Rotherham, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Eckington and the local company. Some good striking was heard in various standard and Surprise methods, the bells being in continuous use from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., when a short service was held in the fine old church, conducted by the Rector (Canon F. G. Scovell).

(Continued in next column.)

## OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Oxford University Society was held in New College, Oxford, on Wednesday, April 23rd.

Reviewing the society's activities during the previous twelve months, the Master (Mr. P. J. W. Bryan, St. Peter's Hall) said that in spite of the fact that several members had been called up for military service, the society had managed to keep going, and that there were now many useful ringers. Every Wednesday evening there were practices on silenced bells, followed by handbell ringing.

On Saturday afternoons meetings were held in various towers round Oxford, where, in addition to Grandsire and Plain Bob, the help of one or two local ringers, touches of Stedman and Kent were rung. Due to the large number of towers in Oxford itself, valuable experience was obtained on Sundays, when, after ringing together at St. Mary Magdalene, members dispersed to the other churches to ring with the city ringers.

The Master was agreeably surprised at the high standard of ringing at the first meeting of the Trinity term, which obviously showed that a large amount of practice had been put in by members in their home towers during the vacation. The prospects for the term were, therefore, good, and it was hoped that at least one peal would be rung.

Officials for the coming year were then elected as follows: Master, Mr. J. E. Spice (New College); secretary, Mr. W. L. B. Leese (St. John's College); treasurer, Mr. P. D. Oldham (St. John's College).

Amongst the questions raised at the meeting was whether it would be possible to organise a ringing tour during the summer vacation, but little support was given to this suggestion owing to the many practical difficulties.

### JUBILEES.

Fifty years ago on April 14th, Mr. W. Chalk, of Colchester, rang his first 720 of Minor. In celebration of the jubilee, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) was rung at St. Peter's Church on Sunday, April 14th, for morning service: G. Buroh 1, H. T. Pye 2, W. Rouse (Kirby) 3, F. L. Bumpstead 4, G. M. Rashbrook 5, E. P. Duffield 6, W. Chalk (conductor) 7, V. Kerridge 8.

In the evening Mr. Chalk conducted a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes) at All Saints' Church, Maldon, to further celebrate the jubilee: E. Richardson 1, S. Sinnett 2, W. H. Chalk 3, F. Lewis 4, E. Johnson 5, A. South 6, W. Chalk 7, F. Chalk 8.

For evening service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common, Kent, on Sunday, April 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the completion of the church and as a compliment to Dr. J. H. Yolland, churchwarden at St. Luke's, on the occasion of his golden wedding. The ringers were P. Whitehead 1, Miss H. Oakshett 2, M. F. Oakshett 3, C. Cullen 4, A. Purdom 5, W. Grace 6, J. Lyddiard (conductor) 7, W. Lyddiard 8. All are members of the local band with the exception of the ringer of the 6th, who is a ringer at Bromley Parish Church.

### WEDDING BELLS.

At Hornchurch on Sunday, April 21st, at the Parish Church, the marriage was celebrated of John Edwin Blay and Miss Audrey Evelyn Loughurst Cole. The bridegroom is a very loyal member of the local band and grandson of Mr. John Dale, steeplekeeper and ringer at the above church for 55 years. Touches of Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire and Bob Major were rung by the following: John Dale 1, T. Sparrow 2, G. L. Joyce 3, A. Rolph 4, J. G. Macdougall 5, J. T. Groves 6, J. Cornford 7, F. Freestone 8.

## YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous column.)

Tea was very kindly provided by the local company in the School-room, and the ladies responsible were congratulated upon their efforts in producing such a generous supply of food in these difficult times.

The business meeting was presided over by the Rector, supported by Mr. George Lewis (vice-president) and Mr. S. F. Palmer (acting hon. district secretary).

In order that members should be given full opportunity for more tower ringing, the agenda was a very short one, nothing of importance beyond the usual votes of thanks being brought forward to cause undue prolongation.

Special mention, however, should be made of the hearty welcome given by the Rector, who expressed his pleasure to the members present for their loyalty in trying to keep the association going. He assured them they could rely on Rawmarsh to provide a meeting place whenever they had difficulties elsewhere.

Mr. Lewis warmly thanked the Rector for all he had done for them that day. He also expressed appreciation to the ladies for their kindness in providing the tea, and to the local company for their usual kind assistance towards the comfort of the visitors.—Mr. Charles Haynes supported the motion.

At the invitation of Mr. A. Gill, it was decided to hold the next meeting at Wath-on-Deerne on Saturday, June 15th.

Further ringing was afterwards indulged in until darkness brought a very enjoyable and successful day to a close.



## TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD'S PEALS. A USEFUL RECORD.

BY THE REV. A. S. ROBERTS.

Until some three or four years ago there was no record of the peals rung for the Truro Diocesan Guild and there was no certainty even about the total, although it was known that not many could have been rung before the beginning of this century, for the Guild was not founded until 1899. When, in 1935, Mr. C. E. Lanxon was elected peals secretary, a new office created by the Guild, he was asked if he would attempt to compile the desired record. With the help of a few others he has gathered together, as far as is known, details of all the peals rung since the Guild's formation. These have been written up by Mr. Lanxon and the Guild must be proud of a valuable possession, for so much progress and activity can be gleaned from this peal book.

The total number of peals rung to the end of 1939 was 132. This number comprises 10 ten-bell peals, 90 on eight bells and 32 on six bells (including one on handbells). These have been rung in 52 towers, and, seeing there are approximately 142 towers in the diocese with five or more bells, there is plenty of scope left yet. All have been rung in Cornwall except three, and it was the enthusiasm of the life members of the Guild in Plymouth that they should ring the first peal for the Guild, which prompted them to bring round a peal of Grandsire Triples at Emmanuel Church on August 21st, 1907, conducted by Mr. G. H. Myers. Eight years had gone by since the founding of the Guild. They were only just in time, for in the October of that year the late Rev. F. E. Robinson went on tour in Cornwall and rang six peals, each one easily a 'first' of some kind. The party included several still very active ringers, viz., Canon G. F. Coleridge, Messrs. A. H. Pulling, G. Williams and C. R. Lilley. In 1927 a peal of Doubles was rung on handbells at Plymstock, and in 1934 one of Cambridge Royal at Yeovil by a band setting out to tour Cornwall.

Tours and individual visiting ringers have done a great deal for ringing in Cornwall, but much local effort has been noticeable also. In 1904 a new ring of eight was installed at Kea and in 1905 Kenwyn bells were recast. Both bands took up change ringing and nine peals of Grandsire were rung at these two towers between 1909 and 1913. During these years the Plymouth men credited the Guild with three peals, one being the first at Truro Cathedral (Grandsire Caters, conducted by Mr. E. W. Marsh) on the new ring and two at St. Germans. The latter of the two at St. Germans was Bob Major in September, 1913, conducted by a young man—William D. James, who, alas, was killed in action in September, 1915. This ended peal ringing for the Guild for no less than 13 years. The Great War seemed a tremendous setback. It needed another tour to awaken enthusiasm and to let Cornish ringers see what they should try to emulate.

The old chapter ended at St. Germans and the new one began there, very ambitiously, with a peal of London Surprise Major in 1926 when Mr. W. H. Fussell took a band to Devon and Cornwall. The visitors rang six peals in Cornwall in five days, and scoring the first peal of Royal (Kent Treble Bob) at Truro Cathedral. The next year resident ringers began in earnest and no less than 13 peals were rung, many with the help of members of the Devon Guild. These successes continued, without a year being missed, up till 1939, when the total reached 132 from 26 at the end of 1926.

Let us now review more closely the towers at which these peals have been rung and also the methods. There are first of all the 10 ten-bell peals. Truro Cathedral can tell the almost complete story of these, for nine of the ten have been rung there, and which comprise the following: Grandsire Caters 5, Stedman Caters 2, Kent Treble Bob Royal 1, Cambridge Royal 1. But further than this the Cathedral Church of the Diocese can boast, very appropriately, of the highest total of peals rung for the Diocesan Guild, as three peals of Grandsire Triples and one of Bob Major can also be added, making a total of 13.

What of the eight-bell peals? These number 90. They comprise the following methods: Grandsire Triples 45, Stedman Triples 7, Bob Major 5, Kent Treble Bob 3, Double Norwich 4, Cambridge 6, Superlative 9, London 5, Bristol 5, and Yorkshire 2. These have been rung at the following towers: Emmanuel, Plymouth 1, and the remaining 89 in Cornwall at Kea 10, Kenwyn 9, Gulval 5, Phillack 5, Truro Cathedral 4, St. Germans 4, St. Enoder 4, Lanivet 4, Helston, Roche, Penzance, Redruth and St. Stephen-in-Brannel 3 each, Camborne, Egloshayle, Ladock, St. Austell, Bodmin, Lanlivery, St. Columb Major, Altarnon, St. Anthony, Lanhydrock, two each; St. Keverne, Fowey, Cardynham, St. Stephen-by-Launceston, Mawgan-in-Pydar, Stokeclimsland, Tuckingmill, St. Dennis and Probus, one each.

The six-bell peals number 32, 27 of Doubles (all Grandsire except one in three methods on handbells) and five of Minor, being four of Plain Bob and one of special interest in seven methods conducted by Mr. A. R. Pink with a band of visitors at St. Mewan in August, 1939. These have been rung in 18 towers as follows: Perranarworthal 8, Perranzabuloe 4, St. Erme, Tuckingmill and Redruth two each, Gwennap, Mabe, Landulph, Manaccan, Kenwyn, Towednack, Probus, Zennor, St. Martin-by-Looe, Gorran, Mullion, Wendron and St. Mewan one each.

It will be seen that it was the tour of 1926 that really seemed to awaken interest and which really made resident Cornish ringers

(Continued in next column.)

## LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

### DEDICATION OF GOLDEN JUBILEE PEAL BOARD.

At the annual general meeting of the Leeds and District Society, held at St. Matthias' Church, Burley, on Saturday last, the golden jubilee peal board was unveiled and dedicated by Canon W. M. Askwith, Vicar of Leeds.

Mr. Lofthouse, in introducing Canon Askwith, reminded the ringers that it was the second time he had been with them in connection with their jubilee, and said they were very grateful to him for his continued services. After the dedication the bells were rung by a representative company, which included six of the jubilee peal band.

At 5 o'clock a splendid tea was enjoyed by 22 ringers in the Church Hall.

The business meeting followed, at which Mr. W. H. Senior presided, and members were present from Armley, Batley, Bramley, Bradford, Drighlington, East Ardsley, Guiseley, Headingley (St. Chad's), Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Rothwell, Sherburn and the local company, as well as Pte. E. Speake, R.A.M.C., of Wolverhampton, now stationed at Leeds.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells was proposed by Mr. W. Barton and seconded by Mr. S. Barron, and, in replying, the Rev. — Busfield regretted that the Vicar had not been able to stay longer, but he was instructed to say that at Burley there would always be a Yorkshire welcome for the society whenever they cared to visit the church, for he knew the ringers were giving service, not 'silent' service, but unobserved service to their churches.

Mr. Senior proposed a vote of thanks to the local company for making the arrangements, and, in seconding it, Canon C. C. Marshall complimented them on the splendid tea they had provided in spite of rationing difficulties and the very poor response from visiting ringers when asked to send in their names.—Mr. Drake, in reply, said he was pleased to see so many turn up, as although 21 letters had been sent by the secretary to the towers, only five answers had been received. He appealed to ringers to consider themselves in duty bound to send in their names for tea.

The secretary's report and balance sheet were read and during the discussion a tribute was paid to the secretary for the able manner in which he had continued to carry out his duties. The report and balance sheet were adopted on the proposition of Mr. W. H. Senior, seconded by Mr. J. Stitson.

The officers for the ensuing year, nominated at the Armley meeting, were elected as follows: President, Mr. J. F. Harvey; vice-presidents, Messrs. T. W. Strangeway, W. H. Senior and L. Barron; Ringing Master, Mr. L. Drake; secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. Lofthouse.

The new president then took over control of the meeting, and thanked the members for their confidence in electing him.

The next meeting is due to be held at Guiseley on May 25th, and members are asked to watch the notice columns of 'The Ringing World.'

## TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Continued from previous column.)

ambitious to record peals themselves, but several subsequent visitors and tourists have greatly encouraged and helped to sustain local interest. Truro, and the two neighbouring towers of Kea and Kenwyn with a total of 33 peals, may have been a centre of activity and interest, but by no means the only one. Local ringers from Landulph, on the banks of the Tamar, in the extreme east of the county, to Gulval, in the extreme west, have often had a large share in the successes. Indeed, the latter tower was often the scene of a quarter-peal by the local band. This consistency always had a good effect upon the Guild in general. A peal of Doubles by the local band at Manaccan in 1935 shows what a remote tower can do. A visit by members of the Central Council, who were attending the Plymouth meeting in 1932, and further tours by select bands in 1934, 1936 and 1938 have all kept Cornwall in close touch with the greater world of ringing and have given the keener residents opportunities which they would not have otherwise had. But between times it was necessary for a nucleus to keep activities well in hand and so sustain the effort. The necessary records having now been brought up to date, it is hoped that the future will add to them much of real interest and progress.

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## 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.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division. — A meeting will be held at Witham on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Maulden on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All will be welcome. Please come. — C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods, Chorley, on Saturday, May 4th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m.—W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—London District.—A meeting will be held at St. George's, Southwark, on Saturday, May 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea at Lyons, London Bridge, 5 p.m., followed by business meeting in church vestry. Please turn up in full force, as we wish to discuss future activities of the district.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The Guild festival will be held at Salisbury on Saturday, May 4th. Annual meeting in the Church House at 2.30 p.m. Guild service in St. Thomas' Church at 4.15 p.m. Preacher, the Rev. P. J. Hayes, Vicar. Tea in the Church House at 5.15 p.m., 1s. each member. Towers available—St. Thomas', St. Martin's (8 bells); St. Paul's, Britford, Coombe Bissett, Wilton, Amesbury (6 bells).—F. L. Edwards, Hon. Sec., Kington Magna Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods, near Chorley, on Saturday, May 4th. Tower open for ringing at 2.30 p.m.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Newington on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Ringers' service at 4.30, followed by tea in Schoolroom at 1s. per head. A good meeting is expected.—G. H. Spice, 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Reading Branch. — The spring meeting will be held at Tilehurst on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea, 1s. per head, at 4.45 p.m. in room opposite church. Service 6 p.m.—E. G. Foster, 401, London Road, Reading.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Desford on Saturday, May 4th. Usual times. All welcome.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec., Fosseway, Croft, near Leicester.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—West Norfolk Branch.—A meeting will be held at Fakenham on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.—Wm. J. Eldred, Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Woughton (bells 6) on Saturday, May 4th, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., when it is hoped that as many members as possible will attend. Visitors will be welcomed.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—A meeting will be held at Chiddingstone on May 4th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting.—Alec. E. Richardson, 24, Norton Road, Southborough.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—Bi-quarterly meeting for practice, Halesowen (D.V.), Saturday, May 4th. Ringing 3 p.m. to dusk. Tea, Central Café, 5.30 p.m., 1s. per head. All ringers welcome and all tastes catered for from Rounds to Surprise.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., 9, Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Woburn on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. All ringers cordially invited.—Edwin A. Belson, Dis. Sec., 7, Queen Street, Leighton Buzzard.

**PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The first meeting of the year will be held at Ashover on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. We shall be glad to see all old friends and any new ones who will help to make the meeting a success.—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Business meeting at headquarters on Tuesday, May 7th, at 8 p.m. A suggestion has been made that the society hold a social lunch on Saturday, June 1st, if numbers are sufficient. (Ladies invited.) Please advise Hon. Sec. by Saturday, May 11th, latest. Tickets 3s. 6d.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Banbury and District Branch.—A meeting will be held at Swalcliffe on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting. Will those who intend to be present and require tea please notify L. J. Malings, Deddington, Oxon, before Tuesday, May 7th?

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Cary Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Templecombe on Saturday, May 11th. Usual arrangements. Horsington and North Cheriton bells available. Please advise for tea, or bring your own nosebag.—W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil. Phone North Cadbury 230.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Andover District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Laverstoke on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea please notify me by May 8th.—F. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—A joint meeting of the Wigan and Liverpool Branches will be held at Christ Church, Southport, on Saturday, May 11th. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, for which a small charge may be made, at 5 p.m. Please notify Mr. J. Ridyard, 16, Vaughan Road, Birkdale, Southport. After tea, the meeting will be at Emmanuel Church.—S. Forshaw and G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

**BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Sandal, near Wakefield, on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Those requiring tea must notify Mr. W. Robinson, 49, Bowman Street, Agbrigg, Wakefield, by Wednesday, May 8th. Ringing after business meeting until 8.30 p.m. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Sfafton, near Barnsley.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Peterborough Branch.—A meeting will be held at Maxey and Deeping St. James on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available at Maxey in the afternoon and Deeping St. James in the evening. Tea at the Imperial Cafe, Market Deeping.—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at Chicheley on Saturday, May 11th. Service 3.30. Learners and beginners invited.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Derby and Burton Districts.—A joint meeting will be held at Melbourne on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea arranged for all who notify Mr. Charles Davies, Castle Street, Melbourne, not later than Thursday, May 9th. A hearty invitation extended to Loughborough district and to all ringers who care to attend.—Wm. Lancaster and J. W. Cotton, Hon. Secs.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at the Church of St. Michael, Hawkshead, on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec., Brewery Mount, Ulverston.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—There will be ringing for evensong at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on Whit Sunday, May 12th, at 5.30 p.m. Visitors will be welcome.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The 61st annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, May 13th. Service in Cathedral at 11.30 a.m., with address by the Rev. H. L. Pike, Rector of Widford, followed by the meeting in the Chapter House. Copies of the proposed revised rules have been sent to all towers for distribution to members. Towers open for ringing: Cathedral (12), Great Baddow (8), Boreham (8), Galleywood (8), Great Waltham (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Broomfield (6), Danbury (6), Springfield (6) and Little Waltham (6). Lunch at the Golden Fleece after meeting. Members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d. All requiring same must notify me not later than Thursday, May 9th.—L. J. Clark, Hon. Gen. Sec., 36, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.**—The 66th annual general meeting will be held in Exeter on Whit-Monday, May 13th. Service at St. Sidwell's, at 12.15 p.m. Preacher, the Rev. H. Lanyon-Owen (Rector). Dinner at Deller's Café, Bedford Street, at 1 p.m. Admission by ticket only. Members' tickets price 1s., non-members 2s. 6d., must be applied for, with remittance, by May 7th. Business meeting to follow. Towers open for ringing from 11 a.m. to 12 noon and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., are St. Sidwell's (10), St. Thomas' (8), St. David's (8) and Heavitree (8). Visitors are cordially invited. Tickets may be obtained from Fredk. C. Smale (acting hon. sec.), Oakfield, Station Road, Okehampton, Devon.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual meeting will be held at Northampton on Whit Monday, May 13th. Central Committee meet 2.45 p.m. in St. Peter's Parish Room. Service, St. Peter's Church, 3.30. Address by Rev. E. V. Fenn. Tea at Angel Hotel 4.15, followed by the business meeting. Tea will be provided only for those who send names to general secretary by Monday, May 6th. Honorary and subscribing mem-

bers free, others 1s. 6d. each. Bells available: St. Giles' (10), St. Edmunds' (8) 11 to 1, All Saints' (8), Holy Sepulchre (8) 1 to 3, St. Peter's 1 to 3.30; after the meeting until 7.30, St. Giles', St. Peter's, All Saints', Holy Sepulchre and Kingsthorpe (6).—Robt. G. Black, Gen. Hon. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

**LADIES' GUILD** (Southern District) and **GUILD-FORD DIOCESAN GUILD** (Guildford District).—A joint meeting will be held at West Clandon on Saturday, May 18th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. It is essential that numbers for tea be sent to Mr. G. L. Grover, East Clandon, near Guildford, not later than Wednesday, May 15th. Owing to catering difficulties, please bring your own sugar if you require it.—Miss H. F. Mills and W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Secs.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Berks Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Abingdon on Saturday, May 18th. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Important.—Ringers intending to be present please notify by Wednesday, 15th, latest.—Albert E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—A general meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Huddersfield on Saturday, May 18th. The bells of the Parish Church (10) will be available from 1.30 p.m. to 4.15 p.m., Lindley (8), and Almondbury (8), also available from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. All three rings available again after the meeting until 9 p.m. General Committee meet at 3 p.m. in the schools. Service in the Parish Church at 4.15 p.m., followed by tea (1s. 6d. per head) at the Princess Cafe at 5 p.m. All requiring same must notify Mr. W. B. Frith, 5, Sufton Street, Birkby, Huddersfield, not later than the first post on Thursday, May 16th. The general meeting will take place in the schools immediately afterwards.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—A meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Canterbury, on Saturday, May 18th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea (1s. 3d. per head) and business meeting following service. It is essential that those who require tea should notify me not later than Thursday, May 16th, otherwise no guarantee of tea can be given. Please help by sending your name in early. St. Dunstan's bells (6) also available 2.30 to 4.15, and after meeting.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Deane, Bolton, on Saturday, May 18th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Business 4 p.m., to make arrangements for the annual meeting.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

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