



No. 1,631. Vol. XXXVII.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26th, 1942.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 3d.

**GILLETT
&
JOHNSTON L^{td}.
CROYDON**

Founders of the
HEAVIEST BELLS
Cast in England
and Carillons of the
BRITISH EMPIRE

in
**CANADA
S. AFRICA
NEW ZEALAND**



Telephone
Thornton Heath 3221-2-3 and 3120

TWO YEARS OF THE BAN.

On June 14th, 1940, an Order in Council was made prohibiting the ringing or chiming of church bells, except by the military or the police as a notification of the landing of enemy troops by air, and during the two full years since then the bells of our churches throughout the land have been silent.

No such thing had ever happened before. For more than a thousand years, almost from the time when England became a Christian country, the church bells had been one of the most familiar and intimate features in the ordinary life of the common people. They called the faithful to prayer, they knolled the departing souls, they made merry at weddings, they announced victory, they welcomed the great men of the land. In one way or another they voiced the aspirations and ministered to the needs of the community, so that they became almost the most precious of all the parish possessions. It was not for nothing that England got the name of the 'ringing isle.' No doubt in modern times, with the vastly increased interests and changing outlook, the old sentiment has been largely obscured and to some extent lost. Yet it still survives below the surface, for it is in the blood of Englishmen. How otherwise can we account for the large sums of money that were spent annually to restore old bells and supply new ones? And to very many people the silence of the church bells means a real loss.

We, as ringers, have a special deprivation, for we are debarred from that activity we most delight in, and by which (so we are assured by competent authority) we can best serve our Church. But we accept the situation. Not willingly and still less gladly, but without complaining. If this is one of the sacrifices we are called on to make for the sake of England, we are ready to make it, and to count it a small thing. We do not question the right or the competence of the persons who decided that the bells should be used as a warning, though we may doubt whether they would actually be very effective for that purpose.

We must face the fact that not until victory and peace come will there be any likelihood of the ban being lifted. The chances of invasion may be lessened, they may shrink to nothing, but even so the authorities cannot allow the bells to ring again. If they did, some people would begin to think there was less need for war effort and become slack.

The longer the ban remains the greater will be the difficulties in putting change ringing on its feet when the time comes. When that will be no one knows, for
(Continued on page 290.)

WM. POTTS & SONS LTD.

(ESTABLISHED 1833).

CATHEDRAL, CHURCH AND TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS

Makers of many of the largest and most important Clocks
in the World.

CLOCKS REPAIRED AND DIALS RESTORED.

'THE GUILDFORD CLOCK WORKS,'

Bankfield Terrace, Burley, Leeds.

And at 9, Adelphi Chambers, Shakespeare St.,
Newcastle-on-Tyne,

and 96, Carver Street, Moorhead, Sheffield.

THE RINGER'S BADGE,



Exact size

Supplied as Stud for Buttonhole,
Brooch or Pendant

With name of your Association engraved
—as Illustration.

oct. HALL MARKED GOLD .. 45/-
HALL MARKED SILVER .. 7/6
GILT OR WHITE METAL .. 4/-

Names or Presentation Inscriptions can
be engraved on the reverse side at a
small extra charge.

**GEO. STACEY, JEWELLER AND
ENGRAVER,
6, PARK ST., MINEHEAD, SOMERSET**

METHOD SPLICING

*The Newest and Most Interesting
Development of Change Ringing*

Study this latest phase of the Art
and learn how to practise it.

The System is fully explained in
'METHOD SPLICING,' price 1/3 (post free)
from 'The Ringing World' Office,
LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING.

ESTABLISHED 1760

JOHN NICOLL,

*Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer,*

64, LEWISHAM PARK, LONDON, S.W.13

Late of BERMONDSEY and PECKHAM.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Albans, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester, Durban and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

Mufflers, Ringing Mats, Matting, Flag Lines, etc., etc.

the end is not in sight. It may be sooner than we think or even dare hope, but it may be far off. The only thing we are certain of is that, be it soon or be it late, we shall win the victory. And because we have that faith we must be ready so that the Church's bells may sound again and give forth the same message and the same inspiration they have done for a thousand years.

There is not a great deal we can actually do at the present, and there is not a great deal that needs to be done. The one important thing is to maintain our interest, to keep in touch with one another, and never to forget what a fine thing we have in change ringing. The more meetings that are held the better, and all ringers should support the officers of their associations who, in the face of disappointments and difficulties, are doing what they can to provide them. And when, as must often happen, full meetings are not possible, those ringing friends who meet together as often as they can to talk about old times over a glass of beer, are doing more than they think to keep alive the spirit of the Exercise. We got over the difficulties created by the last war. This time it will be a harder task, but it can be done, and it will be done, if we have faith in ourselves, in our fellows and in our art.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BURGESS HILL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 14, 1942, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT RESTORMEL, JAMES LANE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 6040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15.

MRS. E. K. FLETCHER 1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER 5-6
GEORGE W. FLETCHER 3-4	FRANK I. HAIRS 7-8
EDWIN BARNETT 9-10	

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Edwin A. Barnett and Olive D. Hairs, solemnised on the day before at St. John's, Burgess Hill.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, June 15, 1942, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 13 in E.

MRS. R. RICHARDSON 1-2	*ALBERT WALKER 5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON 3-4	F/CAD. A. J. BRIAN WAYMAN 7-8

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.
* First peal of Bob Major 'in hand.' Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. E. A. Barnett and Miss O. D. Hairs.

THE LATE MR. A. GILL.

LIST OF PEALS.

The following is a list of the peals rung by the late Mr. A. Gill, of Wath-on-Dearne, Yorkshire:—

Grandsire Caters 2, Treble Bob Major 22, Spliced Treble Bob Major 3, Double Norwich Court Bob Major 14, Bob Major 11, Little Bob Major 1, College Single Major 1, Stedman Triples 7, Grandsire Triples 7.

Surprise Major in the following methods: Cambridge 2, London 2, Yorkshire 6, Bristol 1, Rutland 1, Superlative 2, Killamarsh 1, Norfolk 1.

Surprise Minor in seven or more methods 20, Treble Bob Minor in seven methods 81, Treble Bob Minor in three and four methods 2, Plain Bob Minor 1.

Spliced Treble Bob Minor in various numbers of methods from fourteen to thirty-five, 9.

On handbells, one of Bob Major.

The peals of Surprise Minor included a 7,200 containing ten extents, and a 10,800 containing 15 extents. The Treble Bob Minor included one non-conducted peal. Of the total of 198 peals, 194 were rung for the Yorkshire Association. One was conducted by Mr. Gill.

NATIONAL POLICE GUILD.

MEETING AT LEICESTER.

On Saturday, June 13th, a meeting of the National Guild of Police Ringers was held at Leicester. Visitors arrived during the morning and assembled at the Hotel Belgrave, Loughborough Road, where handbells were soon set to a useful purpose. The luncheon was at 1 p.m., at which 52 members and friends sat down. The company was honoured by the presence of Mr. O. J. B. Cole, Chief Constable of Leicester; Mr. J. Gabbitas, Deputy Chief Constable; Alderman W. E. Wilford, chairman of the Leicester City Watch Committee, and the Rev. Malcolm Melville, of Lichfield, formerly of the Warwickshire Guild. There were also present Mr. J. W. Jones, secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, Mr. J. F. Milner, Ringing Master of Southwell Minster, and members of the Leicester Cathedral band. Guild members were present from Birmingham City, Cardiff City, Leicestershire County, Surrey, Bolton Borough, Manchester City, Reigate Borough, the Metropolitan and Leicester City Forces.

Apologies for absence were received from the Very Rev. H. A. Jones, Provost of Leicester; ex-Supt. Deputy Chief Constable A. Wiggins, Berkshire; ex-Supt. W. Green, Oxfordshire; ex-Chief Inspector W. Bottrill, Metropolitan; Inspector J. Partington, Carlisle City; Inspector C. A. Smith, High Wycombe; Sergt. F. Crossley, Bradford; ex-Sergts. G. Schlueter and G. Shipp, Metropolitan; P.C. A. E. Hunt, Northants County; ex-P.C. W. Fear, Bristol City; P.C. H. R. Woods, Grantham Borough; ex-P.C. F. Page, Manchester City; P.C. W. Robinson, Manchester City (absent through sudden bereavement); ex-Sgt. A. Lawrence, St. Albans; P.C.'s R. G. Bentham, J. Daniels, C. Wren and W. Peberdy, Leicester City.

THE CHIEF CONSTABLE'S ENQUIRY.

After luncheon, the president, Supt. C. P. Hilton, welcomed the guests and visitors and reminded them that Leicester was the birthplace of the Guild, it being formed there in 1931 since when Mr. O. J. B. Cole, the Chief Constable, had been an honorary member.

A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells by Jill Poole 1-2, H. J. Poole 3-4, A. Ballard 5-6, and F. E. Wilson 7-8, after which Mr. O. J. B. Cole replied to the president's welcome on behalf of the guests. He said he was pleased to have the opportunity once again of meeting the Guild members. He had noticed that the Cathedral bells were going to be rung during the afternoon and had made enquiries of Inspector Poole as to how this could be done in view of the Control of Noise Order. 'I was promptly informed,' said Mr. Cole, 'that although the bells would be rung, there would be no sound. I had heard of bats in the belfry and I thought they must have come down to the ground floor. However, I do understand that the bells can be rung silently and the ringers do obtain some satisfaction in this.' Mr. Cole also referred to the meeting held in 1938 which he attended when ex-Supt. F. R. Williams was president of the Guild. He wished the Guild success and hoped to have the pleasure of attending future functions in Leicester. The 'Merioptimist' handbell band then rang two tunes on the full set of 37 handbells, much to the enjoyment of those present.

A business meeting followed, Supt. C. P. Hilton taking the chair. A resolution was passed thanking Sergt. Jenney, Leicester City, for deputising as hon. secretary during the illness of Inspector Poole, and ex-Supt. Williams spoke of the satisfaction felt by all members that Inspector Poole had recovered and was able to carry on once again. The secretary reported that there had been little activity in Guild affairs since the meeting in 1939 on account of war conditions, and referred to the difficulty of keeping in touch with the members. Particular difficulty was experienced with regard to Metropolitan members, and he suggested that some further effort should be made in this respect. Later on in the meeting an additional Metropolitan member was elected to the committee in the hope that it might help.

The balance sheet showed a balance in hand at the end of 1941 of £11 8s. 1½d. Thanks were extended to the secretary for the kind thought in sending in each member a Christmas-New Year greeting card, and several members voiced their appreciation.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

Supt. C. P. Hilton was re-elected president, Inspector H. J. Poole re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and Sergt. Jenney auditor. The following committee were re-elected, with the addition of Sgt. C. Wilmington, Metropolitan; Sergt. H. Jenney, ex-Sergt. W. Dowding, ex-Sergt. Lawrence, P.C. Bagworth, P.C. Brown, P.C. Birkett, ex-P.C. Page and ex-P.C. Claydon.

The members stood in silence as a token of respect to the passing of ex-Chief Inspector Meldrum, of Liverpool City, who had recently died, and as a tribute to the memory of P.C. A. Trevor, of Liverpool City, and P.C. E. Trump, Leicester City, both of whom lost their lives by enemy action. Reference was also made to the great loss to the ringing Exercise in general by the death of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith.

The following new members were elected: P.C.'s Daniels, Bentham, Peberdy, Wren, Jelley, Newberry, Bradshaw, Chell, James and War Reserve P.C. Daniels, of Leicester City. The secretary reported that with the exception of the last named all had been taught to ring at Leicester Cathedral on clapperless bells.

(Continued in next column.)

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have rather wondered why no one has replied to the letter from Mr. Thomas H. Reeves in your issue of June 5th. It seems that Holt's Original had been rung on handbells in which the conductor, instead of leaving the two singles to the end of the peal, had called them somewhere in the middle without, of course, affecting the truth of the changes. To this Mr. Reeves objected. He suggested that the composition was wrongly described as Holt's Original and was not an interesting variation. He would call it an innovation, and one which ought not to be allowed in a composition of this sort.

I think I know what is at the back of Mr. Reeves' mind. He feels that this is a case of tampering with a classic, and he resents it much in the same way as we do when people alter Shakespeare's plays or 'improve' great musical works, like Handel's 'Messiah,' or when parsons edit the collects in the Prayer Book and add their own poor stuff. We can sympathise to some extent with Mr. Reeves' views.

All the same, they are wrong. Holt's Original is a work not of art but of mathematics. There is nothing particularly sacrosanct about the exact form Holt gave it. It can be varied in a number of ways and still remain essentially the same thing, and the more it is varied the better. Other people have called it in different ways, such as beginning with the singles instead of leaving them until the end.

Similarly Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples has been much varied and to the good of the Exercise.

'NOVICE.'

NATIONAL POLICE GUILD

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. John W. Jones, secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association, paid a glowing tribute to the hon. secretary and said that during his travels he had heard of nowhere else where persons had been taught the art since the bells were silenced. War Reserve P.C. A. Beamish, Warwickshire Constabulary, stationed at Nuneaton, was also elected a member of the Guild, bringing the present membership of the Guild to 94 members and creating a record.

Ex-Supt. Williams proposed that the first meeting after the war should be held at Leicester and painted a colourful picture of what he thought it should be. It was obvious that one day would not be long enough for this meeting, as suggested—indeed, it would appear doubtful whether a week-end would be sufficient. It was, however, agreed that this suggestion should be borne in mind.

A visit was then made to the Leicester Cathedral, where various efforts were made on the peal of twelve. Some ringers obviously experienced great difficulty in the silent ringing, but there was no complaint of bad striking.

THE BISHOP'S ADDRESS.

Tea had been arranged at the Cathedral Church House, and during tea time the company was honoured with the presence of Dr. Vernon Smith, Bishop of Leicester. He was at the Cathedral in connection with another function and expressed a wish to meet the Police Guild Ringers and say a few words to them. He spoke of the good work done by ringers and police and thought what a happy combination it was for the two to be combined. He referred to his association with the police in his capacity as Bishop of Willesden, and made a comparison between the police of this country, who were, he said, the best in the world, and those he had met when abroad. He wished the Guild every success and hoped that the time would not be long when the bells could be put to their proper use of calling people to worship. He was thanked on behalf of the Guild by the president, who said that this was the first time it had been honoured at its meetings by the presence of such a church dignitary.

Handbell ringing was indulged in after tea, including a touch of Stedman Caters by the Leicester band and Grandsire Triples by the Manchester City members, as well as some tunes 'four-in-hand' by Mr. and Mrs. Beamish, assisted by the Guild secretary. The president expressed the thanks of the Guild and of all those present, to Mrs. H. J. Poole and other helpers who had carried out the arrangements for such an excellent tea.

A visit was then made to the Hotel Victory for a social evening. The entertainment included selections on the handbells by the 'Merioptimist' handbell band; Mr. L. Styles, vice-president of the Leicester Magic Circle Conjurers; Sergt. L. Vines, violin solos; War Reserve P.C. Kenney and Mr. J. Clay (Leicester City), songs; and last, but not least, P.C. Wightman and Mr. G. Bromley with their 'funny stuff.' Amongst these was the inimitable 'Professor Moo Cow,' the Chinese illusionist, which concluded with the room in darkness and a shadowgraph operation being performed. Two unsuccessful attempts were made to ring a course of Stedman Cinques on the handbells, which proved once again the necessity for continual practice in this side of the art.

Ex-Supt. Williams, of Manchester City, vice-president, expressed thanks and appreciation to the artistes. The evening closed all too soon with everyone well satisfied with this meeting, which had added one more page to the successful history of the Guild. Those members who were unable to attend the meeting and have not paid their subscriptions should forward them as soon as possible to the secretary.

JOHN HOLT.

(Continued from page 281.)

HOLT AND ANNABLE.

* The composition of the Original was a brilliant achievement, but it was far surpassed by that of the Ten-part. The one could have been got by a long series of patient hit-or-miss experiments; the other must have been planned as a whole from the beginning, even though experimental working entered largely into putting the plan into execution. The very simplicity and obviousness of the peal tend to obscure its excellence, but it is safe to say that, except for one thing, it is the best peal the method is capable of. It is unfortunately the case that the common single, which seems so natural and so right in actual practice, is really foreign to the nature of the method and can only be used in restricted circumstances. To put the matter technically the common single can only be used if the basis of the composition is not the plain course, but the three-lead course produced by calling successive bobs, the course which is termed the B Block.

When the plain course is taken as the basis of composition, as it is in practically every method, in-course singles must be used. In those conditions the Ten-part is the best peal possible, and Holt's distinction is that he obtained the best at the very start. But the Exercise does not like in-course singles and with very good reason. Parker's Twelve-part supplies what is needed for practical purposes, and the Ten-part has fallen into disuse and is rapidly becoming obsolete.

The oldest extant copy of the ten-part is in the College Youths' manuscript in the British Museum. A page or two earlier the peal records are written up to 1745 and no further. That almost looks as if the composition dates from soon after that year, but the book is so mutilated that it is not safe to speculate.

The ten-part is one of the finest peals we possess, and at one time was the most popular of all. It shared the unique position held by Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples and Middleton's peal of Cambridge, but unlike the other two it has had its day.

The peal book of the Society of Cumberland Youths states that on Saturday, October 12th, 1754, at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the society rang Mr. John Holt's celebrated peal of 5,040 Grandsire Triples with a single at the half-way, and 'the peal was composed in five parts by Mr. John Holt and was called by Mr. George Partrick (1st time).'

Although this is generally reckoned as the first performance of the ten-part, I do not think it was. Five months earlier, on May 12th, at Romford, the Eastern Scholars rang 5,040 Grandsire Triples, and on June 9th, at St. George's-in-the-East, another peal in the same method 'with two singles.' William Underwood called both peals and it is difficult to see what they can have been other than the ten-part.

On December 18th, 1757, at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields the Union Scholars 'rang compleatly a true peal of 5,040 Grandsire Trebles with two Singles one at each half and each half divided into five courses as it was composed by John Holt.'

John Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples as a composition is worthy to rank with the Ten-part, but for some reason or other it has never been popular. When it was first rung cannot be said, and there seems to be no trace of it having ever been rung in early days,

though it is possible it may have been the composition called by Underwood, in which case George Partrick's claim would be a valid one.

During the second quarter of the eighteenth century, from the year 1725 until 1756, the most prominent member of the Exercise in England was Benjamin Annable. As ringer, conductor, composer, and leader, he stood high above his fellows, and his pre-eminence was freely acknowledged, not only in London among the College Youths, but also throughout the country. He came to the fore at the crucial period in the history of the art when the Exercise was beginning to take the form it was to bear for nearly a couple of centuries, and when peal ringing was becoming to be looked upon as the standard of a ringer's career. No man did more than he to influence the development of change ringing.

As early as the year 1733 Thomas Hearne, a discerning and critical observer, noted that Annable 'is judged to understand ringing as well as, if not better than, any man in the world,' and now in 1750 he had earned and gained a position of unchallenged superiority as the greatest authority on all matters, practical and theoretical, connected with change ringing. When he died a contemporary newspaper referred to him as 'the best ringer that ever was known in the world.'

But Annable was of a denouncing and masterful disposition. He knew his worth and fully intended to be leader and have his own way with his fellows. To a great degree he succeeded, but in the process he was certain to cause friction and to make enemies, and so throughout his career there are unmistakable signs of opposition to him, varying in intensity from time to time, within the Society of College Youths.

The man who led the opposition was John Cundell. His standing within the society was scarcely less than that of Annable, and he had pretensions to be his equal as a conductor and a ringer of heavy bells. Included in his party were several of the most prominent of the College Youths, such as Robert Cutlin, the bell founder, and John Hardham, the celebrated tobacconist, of Fleet Street. If a hint in the 'Clavis' is worth anything (which is doubtful) Cundell had ambitions to rank as a composer.

The rivalry between the two men was an old standing one, going back to the beginning of both of their careers. At times it seems to have died down; at other times it flared up into what amounted to an open quarrel. The two parties were so evenly balanced that, though both men were such leading members of the Society, neither could secure election to the office of Master until long after he had served the normal number of years. It was not until 1747, long after Annable had proved himself the most accomplished ringer and conductor in the company, that he was made Master; and not until 1753 that John Cundell received the like honour.

We may be sure that Annable looked to his term of office as an opportunity of doing great things. If so he was disappointed. A couple of months before his election he called a peal at Mortlake, and then silence follows. Neither during the year he was Master, nor for two years after, was there a peal rung. We do not know what happened, but it is not difficult to guess. There were quarrels; men went elsewhere, and no new members came to take their places. During the whole of the years 1746, 1747, and 1748, perhaps two, but not more than two, London men were elected.

When Annable's time was up, John Hardham took his place, and evidently he was selected, not only because he belonged to the Cundell party, but because he was loved and trusted by all, and so most likely to make peace and heal the breaches.

In 1750 Annable got together a peal ringing band again, and shortly afterwards his enemies made their last and biggest effort to oust him from the Society. They knew they could not hope finally to supplant him unless they had someone to take his place who was his equal as conductor and leader, and among themselves they had no such a one. Once Cundell had essayed the role, but had failed, and he was now nearly fifty years old. In all England there was but one man who, as ringer, conductor and composer, might hope to rival Annable—the rising genius of the Union Scholars, young John Holt. If he could be induced to join them they would be independent of Annable.

But would Holt join them? It was no doubt a fine thing to be conductor to the premier society of England, but Holt had already behind him a better and more active band of peal ringers than he was likely to find for a long time among the College Youths. In the Society of Union Scholars he was without a rival. The only man who had tried to share the conducting with him, Thomas Ward, was gone; and the visitors who came from other companies, men like Meakins and Prior, though they were skilled and ambitious conductors, were content to leave the bob-calling to him.

True, it was nothing much at the time for a man to leave one society and go to another, but in such cases personal pique or thwarted ambition was seldom absent, and neither motive was present with Holt. Osborn,

indeed, suggested that he resented the exclusion of the record of the Original from the peal book, and for that reason resigned from the society. But that cannot be, apart from the doubt as to whether the record actually was excluded. The Union Scholars were sharers in the credit of the performance along with Holt, and in any case he rang five more peals with them after that one.

There is, I think, one thing which, without reflecting any discredit upon Holt, will satisfactorily explain why he left his old friends. He had now composed his Ten-part and his Six-part peals of Grandsire Triples, besides his peals of Union and Plain Bob Triples. He had done what Annable and the older authorities had failed to do, and indeed had thought to be impossible. If only he could get the figures into the hands of ringers, his lasting fame was assured. But how to do that? There were no journals that would print the compositions, nothing of the class of 'The Era' or 'Bell's Life,' and, of course, nothing like our modern ringing newspapers. Of printing and the making of books, he knew nothing, and we may doubt if he were capable of writing a letter. That is where John Cundell came in. He invited Holt to join the College Youths, and, in return, promised to collect subscriptions to have the peals printed and to publish them.

We cannot wonder that Holt consented; we should have been surprised if he had not. No doubt he hoped to take his old friends along with him, but they did not see the matter with his eyes. Samuel Killican alone went with him. The others — Newby, Albion, Titchbourne, Davis, Vickers, and the rest—stayed on to ring some more peals before the Union Scholars finally broke up and disappeared.

(To be continued.)

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED 1570

MEARS & STAINBANK

AT

34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD
LONDON

E.1

Telephone BISHopsgate 2599

Founders of the new ring
of twelve for
Liverpool Cathedral
Tenor 82 cwt.

HANDBELLS, BELL ROPES,
MUFFLES,
Etc.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

It is customary when attending a wedding to alight at the station nearest to the church, but some of the guests, eight in fact, at a ringer's wedding recently, departed from the usual custom and landed five miles beyond their destination in order to enjoy the beautiful Sussex countryside. At any rate, that is what they said when they did eventually arrive. Who was responsible? Nobody; but 'Bill' got most of the blame, because he said he had been there before. Moral: Trust nobody but a railwayman, and then don't be too sure.

The latest of the many recruits who have rung their first peal of Bob Major 'in hand' at Surfleet is Mr. Albert Walker, a very promising youth from Birmingham. Great credit is due to him for the way he handled his bells throughout the peal.

Sixty years ago last Tuesday Holt's Ten-Part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Alkmund's, Derby. It was the first peal by the Midland Counties Association, which had been founded on the previous Easter Monday under the title of the Derby and District Association.

A unique peal was performed by the St. Martin's, Birmingham, ringers on June 24th, 1922, when they rang on handbells 5,055 changes of Stedman Sextuples. Mr. Albert Walker conducted from 3-4. No other peal has ever been rung on more than twelve bells.

Samuel Thomas, for some years a leading man among the Sheffield ringers, died on June 24th, 1924, at the age of 53. Among his performances he called the first peals of Yorkshire Surprise Major and Royal, of Peterborough Surprise Major and Original Major.

The first peal of Wigston Surprise Major was rung by the Midland Counties Association at Wigston Magna on June 24th, 1933. Mr. F. W. Perrens conducted.

On June 25th, 1885, the ring of ten bells at St. Mary's, Taunton, was opened by a mixed band, which included F. E. Robinson, J. W. Washbrook and other Oxford men. A peal of Stedman Caters was attempted and the length rung, but the peal was afterwards withdrawn. An account of the incident was given a few months ago in the pages of 'The Ringing World.'

Fifty years ago yesterday the late William T. Cockerill called Holt's Original at St. Mary's, Mortlake, his first attempt as conductor.

On June 22nd, 1881, in the old Lord Justices' Court at Westminster, an action was begun in which Mr. Robert Stainbank, at the time the proprietor of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, sought damages for libel against Sir Edmund Beckett, afterwards Lord Grimthorpe. It concerned Big Ben, which Beckett had designed and the Whitechapel Foundry cast. The verdict was for the plaintiff, who was awarded £200 damages.

THE FUTURE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—One does not like to contemplate the Exercise being left without a ringing journal, for both historical and current interests will be sadly affected. The debt of gratitude we owe to the late J. S. Goldsmith amounts to the inexpressible, and I feel sure our leaders are already making the utmost efforts to arrange for the continued publication of 'The Ringing World.' Your recent leading article justifiably calls every ringer to realise his personal responsibility in the matter for the sake of the Exercise at large, and one does hope that all will view the question whole and without selfishness.

But it will be found true, I think, that a large majority of the ringers of the country are ignorant of the conditions under which 'The Ringing World' has been published for their benefit all these years. Might it not, therefore, be wise and helpful if the Exercise could be informed of the circumstances; of the proprietary interests attached to the paper; of the present circulation; and, also, if an estimate might be given of the minimum circulation required to enable it to pay its way?

For the sake of future permanence it would seem (1) that the ownership of the paper should be vested in the Exercise generally and in no case be dependent upon private enterprise; (2) that the appointment of the Editor should be in the hands of the Central Council; and (3) that a Finance Committee of the Central Council should be set up to be responsible for the paper's affairs.

Further, the strain of producing a weekly paper in these days of increasing war restrictions must be very great, and I am wondering whether for the duration we might be content with a monthly and, perhaps in that case, a slightly larger publication.

All this may savour of the impracticable, but I offer my remarks in all humility and in my deep concern that everything possible may be done to ensure the Exercise a journal of its own.

The Vicarage, Lyme Regis, Dorset.

C. CAREW COX.

GRAMOPHONE RECORDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Is there any ringer or reader of your paper who can give me any information as to whether there are any more gramophone records of peals of bells which can be obtained? I already have two records, one of a peal of York Minster bells and one of St. Margaret's, Westminster, a peal of Stedman Caters, from His Master's Voice Company. Also are there any records of hymns chimed or played on bells?

FRED FOWLER, Jun.

9, High Street, Stourton, Warminster, Wilts.

WELL-KNOWN RINGERS' WEDDING.

MR. E. A. BARNETT AND MISS O. D. HAIRS

By the wedding on Saturday, June 13th, at St. John's Church, Burgess Hill, Sussex, of Mr. Edwin A. Barnett and Miss Olive D. Hairs, two of the best known ringing families were united. Mr. Barnett is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Barnett, of Crayford, and grandson of the late Mr. Edwin Barnett, sen., and Miss Hairs the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Hairs, of Burgess Hill, and granddaughter of Mr. Frank Bennett, of Brighton.

Mr. Barnett is at present serving in the R.A.F., and among the large company who witnessed the ceremony were Squadron Leader and Mrs. Daly, and Sergt. and Mrs. Bayfield. The ringers present were Mr. G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary of the Central Council) and Mrs. Fletcher, Mr. S. E. Armstrong (hon. secretary of the Sussex County Association) and Mrs. Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Davis, of Balham, Inst.-Lieut. R. G. Cross, Messrs. H. E. Audsley (Crayford), W. H. Hewett (St. Margaret's, Westminster), A. H. Pulling (Guildford), B. Wayment (Kingston) and E. C. S. Turner (Ealing).

**THE BRIDAL PARTY.**

[By kind permission of 'The Sussex Daily News.'

The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a gown of white satin with net overdress embroidered with sequins. She carried a sheaf of madonna lilies. Her attendants were Miss Enid Richardson, of Surfleet, and Miss Janet Hall, of Hove, who wore dresses of pale green organdie over emerald green satin, with Juliet caps to tone. Master Derek Durnford, of Morden, as page, was in emerald green. The best man was Mr. Philip A. Corby, and the ushers Mr. S. E. Armstrong and Inst.-Lieut. R. G. Cross.

The Vicar, the Rev. E. H. March, officiated at the service, which was fully choral. At the conclusion of the ceremony an excellent course of Grandsire Caters was rung by Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, A. H. Pulling, R. G. Cross, E. C. S. Turner and G. W. Fletcher, who, with the addition of Mr. S. E. Armstrong, formed a guard of honour as the bridal party left the church.

The guests were afterwards entertained by the bride's parents at the Parish Hall, when upwards of 60 were present. The wedding cake, made by Mrs. Hairs and decorated by Mr. Hairs, was a masterpiece of war-time cookery, and was greatly admired.

Owing to unavoidable circumstances the date of the wedding was put forward a fortnight, and in consequence some of the ringers invited were unable to be present, and apologies were received from Mr. and Mrs. R. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Botham, Mrs. R. F. Deal, Mr. R. Overy and Mr. A. E. Bond. In this connection a letter was read from the late Mr. Goldsmith acknowledging the invitation and expressing a hope that he would be able to be present. During the reception a course of Grandsire Caters was rung by the bride and bridegroom, Mr. and Mrs. Hairs and Mr. E. Barnett.

Several of the guests were entertained during the week-end, and on Sunday a peal of Bob Royal was rung in honour of the wedding. A peal of Stedman Caters was also attempted, but unfortunately was lost after ringing nearly half-way.

THE IMPORTANT THING.—The one great aim of every beginner should be to become an accurate striker.—Jasper W. Snowdon.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.

The quarterly meeting of the Elloe Deaneries Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Moulton on Saturday, June 13th. On this occasion thirteen proved to be an unlucky number, for it rained the whole day, but in spite of it all over 30 members turned up representing the towers of Spalding, Pinchbeck, Surfleet, Gosberton, Donington, Deeping St. Nicholas, Whaplode, Moulton, Long Sutton, as well as Mr. F. Pervin, of Coventry, and Mr. A. Walker, of Birmingham.

A service in the church was conducted by the Rev. E. C. Gee, president of the branch, the address being given by the Rev. A. H. Partridge, Vicar of Moulton, who also officiated at the organ owing to the fact that the organist had some business on in Libya.

In the course of his address the Vicar said how much he regretted having missed some excellent opportunities of learning to ring. Many years ago he lived next door to and was a very close friend of Canon Helmore at Canterbury, and the two parishes he had had since were equipped with very good bands of ringers.

After service the company made its way to the Vicarage, where an excellent tea was laid in the very large hall (the size of the hall can be judged by the fact that over thirty sat down at once and they are not all lightweights in the Lincoln Guild). The tea was provided by the Moulton ringers and their wives, and much credit is due to them.

A business meeting followed under the chairmanship of the Rev. E. C. Gee, president, at which the Rev. A. H. Partridge was elected an honorary member. Gosberton was proposed as the place of the next meeting, but if, in the meantime, the memorial to the late Mr. George Ladd is completed it will be held at Pinchbeck and a dedication service will be held on the same day.

Mr. Rupert Richardson spoke of the great loss the Exercise had sustained in the death of Mr. Goldsmith, and told the members how very important it is that 'The Ringing World' should receive every possible ounce of support.

Mr. Pervin gave an account of how the blitz had affected ringing in Coventry. He said it is much the same there as in other parts of the country, people are far too busy to do more than meet occasionally for handbell ringing. Mr. Walker followed with an account of Birmingham and strongly supported Mr. Richardson's remarks about 'The Ringing World.'

Mr. J. G. Ames, the branch Ringing Master, proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Moulton for the reception he had given the ringers, and to the Moulton ringers and their wives for providing such an excellent tea. Mr. T. H. Charlton, secretary of the Moulton ringers, replied. Afterwards most of the ringers went to the tower, where silent touches were 'rung.'

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT PULBOROUGH.

A meeting of the Western Division of the Sussex County Association, held at Pulborough on Sunday, June 14th, attracted ringers from Arundel, Chichester, Lyminster, Storrington, West Grinstead and a large percentage of the local band, together with two visitors from Slough and the West Country serving with the Forces in the district. It resulted in a very pleasant reunion, and a feature was the family atmosphere prevailing, made possible by a fine Sunday afternoon, in which wives and families in some cases took advantage of an afternoon out.

Handbell ringing in the recreation ground adjoining the churchyard commenced activities, followed by silent ringing in the tower on six bells. Methods to Grandsire Caters on handbells and Cambridge Minor on the tower bells were rung.

The Rector received thanks for the use of the bells and belfry, and all present were enthusiastic in voicing their appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Stilwell for their hospitality, which made the meeting so successful.

HANDBELL PEALS IN WALES.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I was most pleased to notice in to-day's paper that a peal was rung at Gilwern, Breconshire, by my old friends, to whom I offer hearty congratulations. They can, so far as I know, claim the peal as the first handbell peal rung in Wales. Monmouthshire, where the peal of Stedman Caters was rung in 1911, as mentioned in Belfry Gossip, is not in Wales. It is in the Oxford Circuit. The following may be of interest:—

Newport, Mon. The Llandaff Diocesan Association. On Monday, September 11th, 1911, in 2 hours and 57 minutes, in the belfry of All Saints' Church, on handbells, a peal of Stedman Caters, 5,079 changes: Bertram Prewett 1-2, William Pye 3-4, Ernest Pye 5-6, Thomas T. Goffton 7-8, James George 9-10. Composed by James George. Conducted by William Pye. Umpire, Isaac G. Shade. First peal on handbells by the association. All those taking part, including the umpire, excepting Mr. James George, have passed away.

J. W. JONES.

9, Altery View, Newport, Mon.

THE LATE MR. JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

(Continued from page 284.)

HIS CAREER AS A PEAL RINGER.

At Woking, where Mr. Goldsmith went in 1903 from Lewes, he was out of touch with any local band as far as service and practice ringing were concerned. At the parish church of Old Woking there was then a ring of six with an indifferent band and little or no change ringing. The church is three miles away from the modern town of Woking. At Horsell, which is somewhat nearer, there is another ring of six, but the conditions were no better, if so good. Goldsmith's ringing therefore had to be confined to occasional visits to his home at Lewes, or to Surrey and Sussex towers in attempts for peals. In 1906 Mr. J. T. Rickman gave two new trebles to St. John's, Southover, and on March 10th, Goldsmith called the first peal on the augmented ring, one of Grandsire Caters. In the previous year, on St. Patrick's Day, he had called the first peal by the Irish Association outside Ireland. It was one of Bob Major and was rung at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, in the City of London, by a band that included John W. Taylor, the bell founder, Isaac G. Shade, W. H. Fussell, John H. B. Hesse, and Ernest Pye.

YEARS WITH FEW PEALS.

The claims of his profession now took up most of Mr. Goldsmith's time and energy, and during the years 1907, 1908 and 1909 he rang only five peals, all of them Stedman Triples, except one of Plain Bob Royal, which he called at Southover on one of his visits to his home town. The year 1910 was rather better and yielded him four peals, but they were all rung in Sussex towers during his summer holiday.

These lean years were no indication that his interest in change ringing had waned, for it was then that he was planning to start 'The Ringing World,' which first appeared in 1911. In that year he took part in fourteen peals. The first was on May 14th, when he rang 7-8 on handbells to Stedman Caters with the very active and skilful band Mr. Alfred Pulling had then got together at Guildford. Later on in the same year, he rang with the same band four more peals of Stedman Caters and one of Triples.

In July, at St. Nicholas', Chiswick, he scored his first peal of Bristol Surprise Major, and in August a week-end in Sussex yielded four peals, Cambridge Royal at Southover, Bristol Surprise Major at Rotherfield, Stedman Caters at St. Nicholas', Brighton, and London Surprise Major at Burgess Hill. Bertram Prewett called the Cambridge, Mr. George R. Pye the Bristol and the London, and Goldsmith himself the Stedman. Mr. Charles T. Coles was one of the band.

ASSOCIATION WITH WILLIAM PYE.

The Cambridge Royal was Goldsmith's first in the method. His second followed quickly at St. Margaret's, Westminster, for now he was a valued and welcomed visitor whenever he could spare the time to join the very fine band that had been got together under the leadership of William Pye. With them in December he rang the fifth at St. Michael's, Cornhill, to Stedman Cinques.

Nineteen hundred and twelve was also a good year. It added to his list twelve peals. One was Bristol Surprise Major, one Cambridge Royal, and three Stedman Cinques; while on handbells he scored four of Stedman Caters and one of Stedman Triples. Two of the Sted-

man Cinques were rung on the same day, August Bank Holiday, at the same church, Great St. Mary's, Cambridge. In the second one the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey and the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson took part. It was the only occasion on which the vicar of a parish and his curate have rung a peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells of their own tower. John H. Cheeseman called one and William Pye the other. The band included George R. and Ernest Pye, Bertram Prewett, Reuben Sanders, Charles T. Coles, Isaac G. Shade, Keith Hart, and Edwin Barnett, junior.

DOUBLES TO MAXIMUS.

In the early part of the next year Goldsmith rang his first peal of Maximus—Kent Treble Bob at St. Saviour's, Southwark, with the Middlesex County Association and William Pye as conductor. He had now scored a five-thousand on all numbers from six to twelve. He was to add one on five before he died, but that was a long way ahead. When he went North at Whitsuntide for the Central Council, he rang two peals of Stedman, at Whitley Bay and Gateshead, one of which Bert Prewett called and the other Mr. W. H. Barber. During the August Bank Holiday week-end, after a peal of Bristol at Long Stanton on the Saturday, the feat of ringing two twelve-bell peals on the same day was repeated at Cambridge, only this time the first was Cambridge Surprise Maximus.

A peal of Stedman Cinques on Bow bells came in January, 1914, then a couple of peals, Bristol and Superlative at Portsmouth, and soon afterwards the outbreak of the first Great War put a stop to peal ringing for the time. One handbell peal in 1915 and another in 1916 represented his score for war time. Both were Stedman Caters and both conducted by Mr. Pulling.

POST WAR PEALS.

When peace came again ringers everywhere were anxious to get back to the belfries and resume the activities which had been so rudely interrupted, but it took some time before things became normal again. Goldsmith's first peal was in September, 1923, and was one of Stedman Caters at Southover. It was composed by himself and contained the unusual number of changes, 5,729, which he told Mr. Coles to call because it represented some anniversary in his mother's life. She, as we have said, first made a ringer of him and was still living opposite the church. Of the other two peals he rang the same year, that of Stedman Cinques at Winchester Cathedral, on the old ring of bells, recently augmented by two trebles, is the only one of any particular interest.

We need not follow, in any great detail, his peal ringing career in later years, and it will be sufficient to refer to some of the more outstanding performances. In 1924, with the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, of which he had been for long a member, he took part in a peal of Stedman Caters at the Imperial Institute and with the Birmingham men in the first peal of Stedman Cinques at Exeter Cathedral. On June 11th, 1927, at Warnham in Sussex he rang the second to the first performance of Law James' peal of Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative Major. This was a landmark in the history of peal ringing. Dublin Surprise Major, one of the earliest of the new methods to be introduced in recent years, was rung at Crawley on July 16th.

(Continued on next page.)

THE LATE MR. J. S. GOLDSMITH.

(Continued from previous page.)

On Easter Monday, April 1st, 1929, Mr. Goldsmith rang the sixth at Chelmsford to Spliced Cambridge and Superlative Maximus, the first time more than one method had been included in a twelve-bell peal. In the band were many of his close friends—Bob and Bill Pye, Tom and Bert Coles, Jim Davis, Jim Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher and E. T. Duffield. In January, 1930, the same band repeated the performance at St. Saviour's, Southwark.

MANY NEW METHODS.

A peal of Painswick Surprise Major was rung at Old Windsor in 1933, followed by several in new methods—Chiltern in 1934, Ashted and Melbourne in 1935, Pyrford in 1936, Boveney in 1937, Cranbourne and Painswick Surprise Royal and Isleworth Bob Royal in 1938, and Cassiobury and Warfield Surprise Major and Double Coslany Court Bob Major in 1939.

Meanwhile, he had taken part in many peals of Cinques and Maximus in several twelve-bell towers, among them Surfleet, where on August 4th, 1934, he rang the ninth to Stedman. At Surfleet lived two of his closest friends. There he rang his last peal of Maximus—Little Bob, conducted by Mr. Ernest Turner—and there he afterwards spent his last holiday away from home.

AN INTERESTING FIVE BELL PEAL.

John Goldsmith's only peal of Grandsire Cinques was rung at St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, during the Australian tour, about which we shall have something to say presently. He called the peal and was very proud of the performance, as indeed he had a right to be. His last peal of Stedman Cinques was at Cambridge on the August Bank Holiday before the war broke out. That, too, was his last tower bell peal. A fortnight earlier, at the five-bell tower of Ockham, in Surrey, he arranged and rang in a peal which he thought a great deal of. He had been greatly interested in previous years in the controversies which arose about the proper standards for peals on five and six bells, and he held very definite opinions on the matter. Particularly he condemned the licence some conductors took. Partly to challenge his views Mr. Ernest Turner had called on handbells a five-thousand which did not contain a complete six-score. Goldsmith was prepared to accept any development so long as it did not in his opinion 'tamper with the truth.' He thought the proper way was not to break up the six-scores, but to alter the hunts, and he arranged this peal, in which every 120 was to be different and variety was to be attained by making each of the bells act as the treble in turn. He asked Ernest Turner to call it and the performance was a most interesting one.

Mr. Goldsmith's last three peals were on handbells; Holt's Original at Guildford at Christmas, 1939, with his old friend, Alfred Pulling, in the band, Bob Minor at his own home in 1940, and Bob Major in the crypt of St. Martin's-in-the-Field Church with the Cumberlands on September 20th, 1941. The last was rung in honour of the 80th birthday of Mr. W. H. Fussell.

Many ringers have surpassed Mr. Goldsmith in the number of their peals, but few indeed have equalled him in the quality and variety of their performances.

(To be continued.)

APPRECIATIONS.

FROM MR. ALBERT WALKER.

As a friend and admirer of our late Editor, I, as a member of the Literature Committee of the Central Council, wish to associate myself with the excellent tribute to his memory by the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards in your issue of June 12th.

I well remember Mr. Goldsmith's visit to St. Martin's, Birmingham, on August 23rd, 1904, when he rang his first peal of Stedman Cinques, which, incidentally, was my first peal on twelve bells as conductor. So commenced a friendship extending to the end.

Much has been written already of his great services and qualities as ringer, conductor, founder and Editor of 'The Ringing World,' and many of us who were privileged to know him as a father and husband can appreciate his other many great qualities. For many years he gave devotion and care to his wife, who was stricken in early married life with an illness necessitating constant attention, night and day, year in year out. All through he never faltered, and he was the admiration of all for his undying love. Her death some few years ago must have been a very severe blow, from which he never really recovered.

Now with his passing, also a very severe blow to ringers and the art of ringing, what memorial can we set up to his memory? I would suggest, firstly, by every means in our power secure for all time the continuity and success of his life's work, the regular weekly publication of 'The Ringing World,' to which he devoted over 30 years' service. We owe a very deep debt of gratitude and thankfulness that he overcame the early difficulties and prejudices of those who at the time were not prepared to give it that wholehearted support it deserved.

Secondly, I would suggest that his memory be perpetuated by an annual commemoration service and pilgrimage to his grave at Pyrford on a Saturday in June each year, as near as possible to the date of his passing, and so keep alive the memory of John Sparkes Goldsmith.

ALBERT WALKER.

Birmingham.

FROM THE REV. C. CAREW COX.

I would be very grateful if you would convey to the relatives of John S. Goldsmith the very deep sympathy of the Lyme Regis ringers, as well as that of all members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, and the great sense of loss we all feel by his death. He has carried on a noble work in maintaining a weekly paper for the Exercise unbrokenly for 31 years, and many of us have especially appreciated the leading articles from his pen. These alone must have done much in guiding the progress of ringing, besides his own personal qualities as a ringer and friend.

The best memorial we can build for him will undoubtedly be to take steps to secure the continuance of the paper to which he devoted so much of his life and means.

C. CAREW COX.

Master of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild and Vicar of Lyme Regis.

FROM MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE.

I feel the passing of Mr. John Goldsmith leaves a blank to ringers generally that will not be easy to fill. I have personally known him for over 35 years, and worked with him in close touch since the formation of the Guildford Guild. He was most helpful to me while I had the honour of being Master. At that time he was hon. secretary and in that capacity he put in a lot of very hard work. To me he was always a friend, and some of his ringing talks were a joy to listen to. I am sure there are many who mourn for him as I do, and I deeply regret that it was impossible for me to pay my last respects by being present at his funeral.

I sincerely hope ringers generally will do all they can to keep alive 'The Ringing World,' which would never have existed if it had not been for John Goldsmith, firstly for the memory of the late Editor, who worked at it very hard at a loss to himself for the sake of the Exercise, and, secondly, for the sake of ringing.

The last peal I rang with him was Stedman Caters at his old home tower, Southover, Lewes, called by himself on July 12th, 1939. May he rest in peace.

JOHN H. B. HESSE.

Pierce Hay, Wrington, near Bristol, Somerset.

FROM MR. T. F. EARNSHAW.

We, the York Minster Society of Change Ringers, desire to express our sympathy with the relatives and friends of the late Mr. J. S. Goldsmith in their great loss.

The Ringing Exercise as a whole has also suffered a severe blow by the death of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith as Editor of 'The Ringing World.' During his 31 years of editorship, all the older ringers will know, ringing has taken some big strides forward, and that result is undoubtedly due in a large measure to his leadership and guidance through the columns of his paper.

I think I'm right in saying (with perhaps one exception) he has attended all the Yorkshire Association's commemoration dinners held in York, and his presence always gave tone to the proceedings.

His book on the Australian tour will now have an added value to those ringers who are fortunate enough to possess a copy, as it gives a good insight into his character as a ringer.

T. F. EARNSHAW, President.

59, Nun Mill Street, York.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT HUXTON.

A very enjoyable meeting of the Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Huxton on Saturday, June 13th. Members were present from Halewood, Sefton, Poolstock, Bebington, Walton-on-the-Hill, West Derby, Liverpool (St. Nicholas'), Everton, Prescott and the local company. Notable visitors were Messrs. Edgar Rapley and C. Longhurst, of West Grinstead, and Mr. C. K. Lewis, of Marple, Cheshire.

A service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. H. Lewis, and before the service the bells, which were without clappers, were made good use of. Handbells were rung in church, a course of Grandsire Caters forming a suitable preliminary to the service. The Rev. J. A. Briggs presided at the organ and accompanied the singing.

An excellent tea was provided by the Vicar and Mrs. Lewis, which everyone fully enjoyed.

The meeting was presided over by the Vicar. Mr. T. Eric Gore, of Huxton, was elected a member of the association, and the election of Mr. E. R. Rapley as a non-resident member was ratified. The secretary read the names of those lost by death since the last meeting, and paid tribute to their worth and memory. Their names were James Martin, Claude I. Davies, William Booth, Edward Gittens, Thomas Jennion, James W. Meldrum, all Liverpool Branch members.

The meeting also deplored the sad loss of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' and of Mr. J. H. Ridyard, of Worsley, the Manchester Branch secretary. The members stood in silence for a short space of time, during which the Vicar offered an appropriate short prayer. Reference was made to the loss the Liverpool Guild had sustained by the departure from the city of the Rev. D. Railton, formerly Rector of Liverpool and Warden of the Guild.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Christ Church, Bootle, on Saturday, July 11th, if suitable arrangements can be made. Nominations for association officers were as follows: President, Mr. P. W. Cave; general secretary, Mr. W. H. Shuker. No name was submitted for auditor, as Liverpool is already represented by Mr. E. C. Birkett. Nominations for branch officers were: Bell adviser, Mr. T. S. Horridge; Ringing Master, Mr. L. L. Gray; representative on General Committee, the Rev. J. A. Briggs; branch secretary, Mr. G. R. Newton.

Mr. Cave gave notice that he intended to bring before the next meeting a motion which had reference to the period of time which certain officers of the association should be allowed to remain in office.

The Rev. J. A. Briggs voiced the thanks of all present to the Vicar of Huxton and Mrs. Lewis and also Mr. and Mrs. Burchall for their kindness and assistance in making the meeting so successful and enjoyable.

GLoucester AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, May 30th, in accordance with Emergency Rule 3, the Management Committee of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association met at the Spreadeagle Hotel, Gloucester. Bristol Rural, Tewkesbury, North Forest, Chippenham and Wotton Branches were not represented. It was decided that the general secretary should write to the Bristol City Branch concerning their non-observance of Rule 3 Branch Rules. Of £2 13s. income, £2 10s. 10d expenses had been incurred, leaving a balance of only 2s. 2d. The Rev. E. S. Saleby had resigned his membership, and the secretary was requested to write thanking him for services rendered in the past, especially while he was in office as Master. Owing to decrease in expenditure the funds had increased by £16.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. F. J. Lewis, Mr. F. W. Merrett, Mr. W. Harris, Mr. C. J. Hathway, Mr. Scott, Mr. Pouting and Mr. A. Burcombe. It was agreed that efforts should be made to create interest in Tewkesbury, Stow and North Forest Branches. It was also agreed that the following emergency rule should be applied from now: 'That any member unable to pay his subscription fee shall be allowed to continue his membership (at the discretion of the branch officials) by paying a nominal fee. Such nominal fee must not be less than 6d. per annum.' Careful consideration was given to the question of bells, frames, ropes, etc., during the ban on ringing, and it was decided that instructions should be sent to all incumbents. It was agreed that £5 5s. should be sent to the J. S. Goldsmith fund.

Since the last meeting the deaths of the following members had been announced: Mrs. Hope, associate member; C. H. Gordon, auditor; ex-Sergt. J. Williams, performing member; Sir Audrey Neald, hon. member.

The meeting lasted 2 hours and 45 minutes, and 19 members attended.

CANON COLERIDGE'S REMINISCENCES.

WASHBROOK'S GREAT QUALITIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have read with great interest the letter written by Canon Coleridge in your issue of 19th inst., in which he gives us such interesting reminiscences concerning the past, and the thought springs to my mind how interesting it would be if he let himself go in your columns and told us more of those interesting times, giving us more details of the doings and achievements of Washbrook.

This has already been suggested by my old friend, Mr. George Williams, and I am sure it would be welcomed by the Exercise at large. The Canon could also tell us much about Squire Proctor's famous Bennington band, and the high standard that they set in striking and ringing, which would be eagerly read. I personally much appreciated his reference to the Rev. W. S. Willett, whom I had the privilege of meeting and knowing on West of England ringing tours, for he always struck me as a typical English gentleman, whom one could never think of as being guilty of a mean act.

Coming back to the man Washbrook, how delightfully simple and concise his explanation is of the composition of Stedman Triples as given in the same issue of your paper. Mr. W. W. Gifford used to remark on this faculty of Washbrook's, and he was unquestionably a very clever man. As to his qualities as a ringer, it will, I think, be agreed that these are demonstrated in those that we know who were his contemporaries. Such ringers as Tom Hibbert, Arthur Peglar, and may I add Canon Coleridge himself, for none of us have met better ringers, and may they long be spared to us. G. N. PRICE.

45, Thurby Road, West Norwood.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

J. W. WASHBROOK'S PEAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—This peal was rung at Abingdon on Saturday, February 1st, 1890. The only survivor is the 7th man, who asked the conductor (J. W. Washbrook) for the figures. He replied that it was the same he conducted at Braughing on November 22nd, 1889, and the figures were to be found in Volume 8 of 'The Bell News,' page 425. He furthermore stated that he considered a similar peal composed by J. J. Parker, and published in the same volume on page 468, was a better composition. J. H. SHEPHERD.

10, Gloucester Street, Swindon, Wilts.

THE CHIMES OF WINDSOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The letters about the chimes of Windsor remind me that I often wondered why someone has not written an account of the different clock chimes to be heard in different parts of the country. It ought to be a good subject for a man who knows something about music.

The most familiar by far are, of course, the Westminster chimes, which I believe were copied from St. Mary's, Cambridge. They are very good, but have been done to death, and they want ten bells really. When they are put to a set of eight bells the chimes are in one key and the hour bell in another, which is musically bad.

The chimes at St. Paul's Cathedral are only a 'ting-tang,' but to my mind they are most impressive. I once heard a set of chimes at one of the churches at Guildford which struck me as very fine, and those at Norwich Cathedral are well spoken of.

A leading musician, Dr. Stanford, was employed to write a set for Bow Bells, but I could not make head or tail of them.

Perhaps some of your readers will tell us where there are good chimes. F. M. TAYLOR.

DEATH OF MR. A. O. WRINTMORE.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Albert Owen Wrintmore, which took place at the Royal Hospital, Bath, following an accident.

The funeral was at Calne on June 16th and was of a military character, Mr. Wrintmore having been a sergeant in the Home Guard, large numbers of whom attended as well as of the Air Force. The little church was filled to its capacity with friends and neighbours. The Calne Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Association was represented by the hon. secretary, Mr. Louis A. Wilson, and the local ringers by Messrs. Bury and Sage.

Ringers of the district will miss him very much, as he was a good churchman and a keen ringer and conductor. As he was only 34 years of age he would have been a pillar of strength in building up the ringing in the district when peace comes.

His former friends and colleagues extend their sympathy to his wife and small daughter in their loss.

G. & F. COPE & CO.
NOTTINGHAM
Tower Clock Manufacturers

Estimates submitted for New
Clocks, Chime Additions, Re-
pairs, or Repainting of Dials

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 4d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 2/-.

For Notices other than of Meetings 6d. per line (minimum 2/6).

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. 3d. per quarter.

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

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Hagley on Saturday, June 27th, by the kind invitation of the Worcestershire and Districts Association. Bells (8) available for silent practice from 3 p.m. Tea in Hagley Park at 5 p.m., followed by short business meeting. Handbell ringing afterwards.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 27th, at 3.30 p.m., at the Studio, Falconer Road, Bushey, by kind invitation of the Hertford County Association.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — A meeting will be held at Writtle on Saturday, June 27th. Service at 4.30, tea and business meeting to follow.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Penn on Saturday, June 27th. Bells (silent) from 3 o'clock. Service, with an address by Preb. Hartill, Vicar, at 4.45. Cups of tea will be provided at the Rose and Crown at 5.30, followed by general meeting. Good bus service from Railway Street, Wolverhampton.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —The annual meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at Barton-on-Humber on Saturday, June 27th. St. Peter's. eight will be available for silent ringing during afternoon and evening. Service will be held about 4.15 (exact time not yet fixed). The business meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Election of officers, etc. Will members please make own arrangements for tea. Please try to attend.—H. T. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting will be held at Sileby on June 27th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Tea and meeting in Pochin Hall, near church, at 5.15 p.m.—H. W. Perkins, Dis. Hon. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Stone on Saturday, July

4th, at 3 p.m. Tea will be provided for all who notify T. W. A. Rowley, 120a, Church Street, Stone, Staffs, not later than June 30th. All ringers and ladies welcome.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec., 63, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn District.—A meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, July 4th. Tower bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Handbells provided. Bring food. Cups of tea served in school.—R. Leigh, R. Blakey, C. Sharples.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Shiplake on Saturday, July 4th. Handbells from 3 p.m. Tea at Plowden Arms at 4.30 at 1s. per head. Service in Parish Church at 6 p.m. Please let me know how many for tea by July 1st.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division. —A meeting will be held at Woodford on Saturday, July 11th. Handbells from 3 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Those requiring tea kindly let me know by July 8th. All are welcome.—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Sec., 14, Wellesley Road, Wanstead, E.11.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division. —The summer meeting will be held at Queensbury on Saturday, July 11th. An attractive ramble will start from the schools at 3 o'clock. Tea (1s. 6d.) in Schools at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. Names for tea to Mr. C. Ellison, 9, Hazeldene, Queensbury, by Tuesday, July 7th. All welcome.—Frank Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual business meeting will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 18th, at 3.15 p.m., in the Rectory Room, Pembroke Street, St. Aldate's. Tea will be provided at 1s. 6d. each for all members who apply for ticket, accompanied by remittance, by Saturday, July 11th. This is essential, owing to difficulties in catering. A collection will be taken at tea for Guild Restoration Fund. Service in St. Aldate's Church at 5 p.m. A good attendance is earnestly requested. — R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Tonbridge on Saturday, July 11th. Committee meeting in the Parish Room at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. F. Childs. Tea at Carlton Cafe at 5, followed by business meeting in the Parish Room. Those requiring tea must notify me on or before Tuesday, July 7th. — Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

WEDDING BELLS.—There is a fairly general belief in Hertfordshire that it is unwise to have the bells rung at a wedding, for should a rope break there would be no luck afterwards for the married pair. Misfortune would dog them all the rest of their married days.—A writer in 'Notes and Queries,' A.D. 1909.

Send for
Booklet

SMITH of **DERBY**

Estimates and
Advice Free

for Church and Turret Clocks

Electric or Weight Driven

Makers of many famous Clocks, including St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and throughout the world.

JOHN SMITH & SONS, Midland Clock Works, Derby, Ltd.

Head Office and Works—
QUEEN STREET, DERBY

Tel. No. DERBY 45569
'Grams. CLOCKS, DERBY

The Central Council Publications

TO BE OBTAINED POST FREE

from the

Rev. E. S. POWELL, Staverton Vicarage, Daventry

COLLECTION OF TRIPLES METHODS	1	d.
REPORT OF CONFERENCE WITH S.P.A.B.		6
CARD OF INSTRUCTIONS IN THE CARE AND USE OF BELLS	1½	
METHOD SHEETS.—Cambridge Surprise Major	2	
Double Norwich and Cambridge Court	3	
Bristol Surprise Major	2	
HINTS TO INSTRUCTORS AND BEGINNERS	2	
VARIATION AND TRANSPOSITION	1	0
COLLECTION OF DOUBLES AND MINOR METHODS (New Edition)	2	0

The Jasper Snowdon Series

REVISED PRICES.

- 'ROPE-SIGHT,' 1s. 10d.; ninth edition; 150 pages; treats Plain Bob commencing on three bells.
- 'GRANDSIRE' 2s. 10d.; second edition; 204 pages, commencing on five bells, complete with the Thompson Charts, etc.
- 'STANDARD METHODS,' ninth edition, 2s. 10d.
- 'STEDMAN,' 2s. 10d. An entirely new book by J. Armiger Trollope. Contains full instructions for ringing and conducting the method on 5 to 11 bells, with touches and peals, and proof and composition.
- 'TREBLE BOB,' 1s. 10d.; second edition; with appendix; 100 pages.
- 'SURPRISE METHODS,' 2s. 10d. A book by the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., F.R.A.S. Contains a tabulated list of peals, 10 diagrams, 126 pages.

All post free, on receipt of postal order, from

Miss MARGARET E. SNOWDON
Woodlands, Newby Bridge, Ulverston, Lancs

PUBLICATIONS.

'GRANDSIRE DOUBLES AND TRIPLES, Simply Explained,' 9th thousand, 6½d. each, or 5s. 9d. dozen, post free. By I. Roe and M. Broome, Orchards, Wonersh, Surrey.

'BOB MINOR AND MAJOR, Simply Explained,' 2nd thousand. For Beginners on 6 bells. Same price and address as above.

'CAMBRIDGE MINOR AND MAJOR,' for those about to begin more advanced methods. 7½d. each, 6s. 9d. dozen, post free. From M. Broome, Orchards, Wonersh, Surrey.

THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK

by E. S. and M. POWELL.

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

Large selection of Compositions included.

Price:— Complete edition, to 8 bells, cloth, 120pp., 2/9 (6 copies for 15/-), 6 bell edition sewn, paper covers, 64pp., 1/2 (6 copies for 6/-).

Obtainable only post free from Rev. E. S. POWELL, Staverton Vicarage, near Daventry.

'THE WORLD'S BEST BELLROPE'S'

NOTED FOR EASY HANDLING AND NON STRETCHING

Est. 1820

Tel. 2400

JOHN PRITCHARD (ROPES) Ltd.

LOUGHBOROUGH

Order your Bell Ropes now, before prices increase, pre-war quality, and send us your old Bell Ropes for repairs whilst not in use.

Clock and Chiming Ropes. Flexible Ends, Splicing and Repairs
RINGING MATS AND BELL MUFFLERS

SUITABLE FOR PRESENTATION OR WEDDING GIFT

CORRECTLY MODELLED BELL INKSTAND

(Regd. Design)

IN SOLID SILVER



Diameter	2½in.	2½in.	3½in.	3½in.	4in.	4½in.	5in.	5½in.
Price	18/6	22/6	28/6	32/6	42/-	52/6	67/6	78/6

The 5 inch size is also made to hold 50 cigarettes

Initials and Inscriptions Engraved at Moderate Charges

T. E. RUSSELL Jeweller & Optician

Telephone 276

WOKING

J. A. TROLLOPE'S 'COLLEGE YOUTHS'

A History of the Society

5/6 (post free) from

'THE RINGING WORLD' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD WOKING, SURREY.

BUY AN EXTRA COPY

OF

'THE RINGING WORLD'

and send it to a Serving Member of your Tower

Printed for the Proprietor by the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, and Published by the Rolls House Publishing Co., Ltd., Breams Buildings, London, E.C.4.