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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18th, 1944.

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transmission as a newspaper.]

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A MATTER OF COURTESY.

Among the several things which kept alive the Exercise and the art of change ringing during the dark days of the ban a prominent place must be given to the meetings which were held by so many of the associations. They were for the most part but sparsely attended, and there was little to do at them, but they kept those men in touch with each other who form the real nucleus of the Exercise and on whom the wellbeing of the whole body in no small degree depends. Now that the bells can be rung once more the number of meetings and the attendances at them are increasing, and when the lighter evenings come they will, we can confidently expect, increase very much more still. This is all to the good. Well attended meetings are a sign of active life, and not only give ringers opportunities of spending a pleasant afternoon but serve the best interests of the Exercise.

A very large debt of gratitude is due to those men to whom as secretaries of guilds and associations falls the task of arranging these meetings. A secretary's job is usually a rather unexciting one, sometimes an exacting one, and occasionally a thankless one. It is a fortunate thing that the Exercise has no lack of men who are willing to undertake the duties.

Generally, we may say these men's services are recognised, but there are occasions when ringers (by thoughtlessness as a rule) do make their task harder than it need be, and there is one notable instance of this which occurs far too frequently. At every meeting when a tea is provided the intending visitors are asked to send in their names by a given date. The reason is obvious to everybody. Even in normal times, unless people know how many are coming, they cannot make adequate preparation. They run the risk either of having a lot of food left over, or of not having enough for everybody present. Under wartime conditions, when supplies are so hard to obtain, the difficulty is increased tenfold. Yet, at every meeting a large proportion of those who turn up have not sent in their names. It is not fair to the secretaries.

We know there are excuses and occasionally quite good ones. It does happen sometimes that a man cannot decide to attend a meeting until long after the time at which he should give notice. It might happen that he did not know of the meeting until too late or had forgotten. But when all indulgences are granted for these

(Continued on page 66.)

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Manchester, Durban and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

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exceptional cases there still remain far too many which
are due to carelessness, thoughtlessness, and want of
consideration for others.

How to improve matters has exercised the minds of
many secretaries. Some have published threats that
those who turn up without having given notice will get
no tea. It is quite a reasonable attitude to take, but
almost invariably the threat is not carried out. Kind-
ness and good fellowship prevail over justice. The
weakness of threats is that if they are not put into force
at once, they lose their effect and become wind. So
it is with these. Men have become so used to them be-
ing made, and so little accustomed to them being carried
out, that they simply disregard them altogether. But,
we repeat, it is not fair to the secretaries. Where, then,
shall we find a remedy? There seems to be only one,
and that is to point out to ringers that it is a question
of good manners and ordinary consideration for other
people. Ringers are a decent lot of men. Some may
be careless and thoughtless, but there are very few who
would do anything, or omit to do anything, when they
knew it would cause inconvenience or annoyance to
others, especially to others who are voluntarily working
for their good. If this side of the question were put
plainly to visitors at meetings so that they understood it
and took it to heart, we think there would be an im-
provement.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SAWSTON, CAMBS.

THE SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Feb. 12, 1944, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*STUART BROWNTreble	CHARLES W. SMITH ... 5
T. REGINALD DENNIS ... 2	FRED HURRY 6
CHARLES W. COOK ... 3	ERNEST G. HIBBINS ... 7
JOHN V. CROSS 4	JAMES W. R. QUINNEY ...Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK PITSTOW. Conducted by E. G. HIBBINS.

* First attempt for a peal on eight bells. Rung to mark the 50th
anniversary of a peal of Grandsire Triples at Sawston and for the
220th anniversary of the Society of Cambridge Youths.

DODDERHILL, DROITWICH, WORCS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(Western Branch.)

On Sat., Feb. 12, 1944, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A. B. CARPENTER'S SIX-PART (No. 24 C.C.C.). Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

ERNEST WILSONTreble	GEORGE E. LARGE 5
WALTER H. RAXTER ... 2	ALLEN MORGAN 6
DENNIS R. SAYERS 3	REGINALD WOODYATT ... 7
RAYMOND C. SAYERS ... 4	FREDERICK G. YATES ...Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 12, 1944, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

FRANK H. HICKSTreble	†WILLIAM WELLING ... 5
TONY PRICE 2	*C. ALFRED LEVETT ... 6
JOHN M. GAYFORD ... 3	WILLIAM HENLEY 7
*NORMAN V. HARDING ... 4	GEORGE GILBERTTenor

Composed by JOHN THORP. Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

* First peal in the Oxford Variation. † 450th peal.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

HAVERHILL, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1944, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 12½ cwt.
*L.A.C. PETER CARTER Treble | SAMUEL J. TWITCHETT ... 4
*HARRY BACKLER ... 2 | GNR. N. HOUGH (R.A.)... 5
JAMES W. JENNINGS ... 3 | LESLIE WRIGHT ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES W. JENNINGS.

* First peal. First peal on the bells. Rung on the 40th anniversary of the opening of the bells.

POYNTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(Macclesfield Branch.)

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES |

Ten different callings.
*ROY PARKINSON ... Treble | WILLIAM GAYES ... 4
*FRANK CADMAN ... 2 | *RONALD H. THORNLEY ... 5
JOHN WORTH ... 3 | *GORDON HENSHAW ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal. All the above ringers are service ringers at Christ Church, Macclesfield.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.

On Sat., Feb. 6, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EUNY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES |

E. SAUNDERS ... Treble | S. SEYMOUR ... 4
J. REED ... 2 | V. WILLIAMS ... 5
H. SEYMOUR ... 3 | P. WILLIAMS ... Tenor

Conducted by V. WILLIAMS.

SALTER STREET, HOCKLEY HEATH, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Sat., Feb. 12, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PATRICK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES |

Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 8 cwt. 21 lb. in A.
WILFRED E. BOX ... Treble | *ARTHUR D. COOK ... 3
*RICHARD J. B. HADDEN 2 | JOHN N. LINDON ... 4
GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

* First peal of Grandsire. First peal on the bells.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(Western Branch.)

On Sat., Feb. 12, 1944, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES |

Being 720 each of Double Bob, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 14 cwt.

ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY ... Treble | GEOFFREY J. LEWIS ... 4
*DENNIS R. MORRIS ... 2 | +GEORGE AMBLER ... 5
WILLIAM RANFORD ... 3 | CHARLES J. CAMM ... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES J. CAMM.

* 100th peal. † First peal of Minor. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT WICKHAM.

A meeting of the Western District of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, held at Wickham on January 22nd, was attended by ringers from Chester-le-Street, Blackhill, Benfieldside, Wickham, Blaydon and Tanfield. A visitor was Mr. Sims, of Tampford, Bedfordshire. During the afternoon and evening a variety of Doubles and Minor methods were rung.

Mr. J. M. Broadbent proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens and to the ladies who waited at tea.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Consett on February 19th.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tues., Feb. 8, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE TAMWORTH ARMS, MOOR STREET, CITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES |

Tenor size 16 in B flat.
SERGT. E. SIBLEY, R.A.F. 1-2 | FRANK E. HAYNES ... 5-6
ALBERT WALKER ... 3-4 | GEORGE E. FEARN ... 7-8
HERBERT C. SPENCER ... 9-10
Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs. Feb. 10, 1944, in Two Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT 5, MONKSWOOD AVENUE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES |

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor size 9 in G.
*MRS. C. W. ROBERTS ... 1-2 | CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 5-6
JOHN THOMAS ... 3-4 | MRS. J. THOMAS ... 7-8
Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

* First handbell peal.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 10, 1944, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT 45, WALSINGHAM ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES |

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor size 16½.
*MRS. J. THOMAS ... 1-2 | ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 5-6
JOHN THOMAS ... 3-4 | CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7-8
Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

Umpire: Mrs. G. W. Fletcher.

* First peal of Stedman Triples on handbells.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Fri., Feb. 11, 1944, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT NEW COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES |

Tenor size 15 in C.
*JEAN A. SOUTHERST ... | J. E. SPICE (New College) 3-4
(Somerville) ... 1-2 | BETTY SPICE (Somerville)... 5-6
ALAN WHITE (Lincoln) ... 7-8

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE (C.C.C. No. 119).

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

* First attempt for a peal.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT FULHAM.

A meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association was held at All Saints', Fulham, on January 29th, and was attended by about 25 members and friends from Bushey, Chichester, Ealing (Christ Church, St. Mary's and St. Stephen's), Fulham, Heston, Hillingdon (St. John's), Hounslow, Isleworth, Kensington, Luton, Putney, Twickenham, Walthamstow and Wembley Park. Ringing was restricted to the standard methods, Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal, with a finishing touch of Bob Major. A number of beginners had plenty of opportunity for rounds.

A short meeting was held in the belfry, presided over by Mr. J. A. Trollope, supported by Mr. C. T. Coles (general secretary), Mr. E. C. S. Turner (Ringing Master) and other officers. On the proposition of Mr. E. C. S. Turner, seconded by Mr. J. Herbert, nine new members were elected or confirmed: Messrs. H. W. Barrett (Surbiton), G. E. Goodman (Kingston), N. V. Harding (Slough), as non-resident life members, and Messrs. M. A. Beauchamp, F. C. Price and R. C. Price (Feltham), J. Cobb and B. Rose (Heston) and W. J. Paice (St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington), as ringing members.

It was tentatively arranged to hold the next meeting at Feltham on March 18th, on the proposition of Mr. T. G. Bannister, seconded by Mr. J. Herbert. A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar of Fulham, and to Mr. H. M. Page for arranging the meeting.

HANDLING A BELL.

(Continued from page 61.)

When two or more men are raising a bell, especially when one of them is standing on a box, the man who is grasping the rope above the other should not retain his hold after he has pulled. As soon as he has lowered his hands as far as he can in a directly perpendicular path he should leave the rope to the other man. When he retains his hold (as so many men do) he only hampers his companion in his action, and spoils the natural and easy movement of the rope. He has plenty of time to regain his grasp of the rope as the bell swings upwards.

Raising a bell reveals clearly the advantages of correct handling and so usually do any defects in the bell's hanging, especially when it has a tendency to 'slip wheel.' The ringer's custom is to say that the bell slips wheel, but what, of course, he means and what his hearers understand, is that the rope slips out from the channel on the circumference of the wheel. This may be caused by one of several things. A part of the fillet or flange of the wheel may be broken away. The wheel may have become warped or may be set on the stock so that the path in which it moves is not in a direct line with the pulley. The pulley may be too close to the wheel, or may not be working freely. Damp weather and atmospheric conditions may affect the rope, or an extra thick splice may have to pass the pulley. And, finally, it may be caused by sheer slovenly and careless handling.

All these things are not nearly so likely to occur as once they were. For that we have to thank the modern bell hangers. Their wheels are much more solidly built than those of olden times, the channels through which the ropes pass are wider, and pulleys are better designed and better placed. A man must be a very slovenly handler to allow a bell with modern fittings to slip wheel, but some do manage it, somehow or other.

When part of the flange of the wheel is broken it is very difficult and often impossible to prevent the rope slipping from the channel, but fortunately this is a defect which can be repaired easily and without technical skill. When the wheel is warped or set on the stock out of truth it is a different matter and needs the attention of an expert bell hanger. It is remarkable how many of the old wheels were out of truth to a greater or less degree. In the majority of cases the defect was not enough to cause any serious trouble, but that the defect was there could at once be seen by the marks the rope made in the channel. Often they would show that the rope did not ride on the sole of the wheel, but on one of the flanges, and obviously it would take little to make it slip from the channel altogether.

The usual thing in such cases is to tell the ringer to ring with a tight rope. The advice is sound enough and what is meant is quite correct, but it is not usually correctly understood. By ringing with a tight rope many men understand that there must be hard pulling and hard checking, but hard pulling and hard checking will do nothing to prevent a bell slipping wheel. The ordinary strength of pulling, while it lasts, is quite sufficient to keep the rope in the channel, and that is not the time when the slipping occurs. It almost always happens after the ringer has finished his pull and usually from handstroke. What he should do is to keep his

hands on the rope as long as possible and so to make his pull that it has no chance to become slack between the wheel and the pulley. If he always handles his bell correctly this will normally happen, and he need not bother specially about keeping a tight rope. He does that whether the bell has a tendency to slip wheel or not, or whether he has to pull much or little.

Here we may note the advantage of moving the hands down and up smoothly and in a directly perpendicular path, not only when actually pulling, but afterwards. For it is seldom a bell will slip wheel if the rope passes through the pulley at the same rate as it comes from the wheel. It is the slackness of the rope between the wheel and the pulley which is the proximate cause of slipping. The weight of the rope is in most cases sufficient to carry it through the pulley as fast as it comes from the wheel; but when the pulley does not run freely, or when the rope is stiff from atmospheric conditions, or when there is a splice in the way, the skilful handling of the ringer is called upon to supply the defect.

It sometimes happens that the bell chamber is larger in area than the room below, which may be the belfry. The frame will then rest partly on an off-set in the walls, and if the ropes hung down directly from some of the wheels, they would fall much too close to the belfry walls. They are therefore drawn under the wheels and passed through double pulleys. These pulleys must be closer to the wheels than is usually the case, and if the wheels are large, they will shed the rope so rapidly that unless the ringer handles correctly the rope will bunch up between the wheel and pulley and miss the channel as the bell swings round. The ringer will blame the bell for the accident, but it would not have happened if his handling had not been at fault.

Where a bell is fitted with an extra large wheel, and when the pulley is too close to it, the same thing will happen.

The advantages of correct handling are shown where there is a long draught of rope and no guides. For comfort in ringing the ceiling of the belfry or the lowest set of guides should not be more than about fourteen feet from the floor, but sometimes it is considerably more. Occasionally when the ringing is done from the ground, someone will object to guides on the plea that they would disfigure some painted glass west window. The plea is usually not a valid one, and the window, not seldom, is a nineteenth century atrocity, but the ringers have to suffer. In such circumstances the little bells are much the more difficult to ring, but the man who handles correctly will find the sally will come to his hands quite naturally and easily. His chief difficulty will be caused by his anxiety not to miss his sally, for his tendency will be to move his hands too quickly and to lift them too suddenly after he has made his pull, and so will actually cause that erratic movement of the rope he is so anxious to guard against.

What we have said in these articles will, we hope, have shown that there is more in the art of handling a bell than most ringers imagine. It is a subject well worth attention, for there is no man whose handling is so good that it cannot be bettered, and the better it is the more satisfaction he will get out of ringing generally. If, then, these articles do something to create an interest in the matter they will have served their end.

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'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official Journal of the Central Council of
Church Bell Ringers.

President of the Council: EDWIN H. LEWIS, M.A.

Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.
45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

Treasurer of 'The Ringing World': A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,
34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

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'The Ringing World.'

TO SECRETARIES OF ASSOCIATIONS.

The invitation to associations to provide working
capital for this journal is now withdrawn and no further
sums are required for the present.

A list of the associations who accepted the invitation
will be published shortly.

E. H. LEWIS,
A. A. HUGHES,
G. W. FLETCHER.

NOTICE TO ASSOCIATIONS AND ALL SMALL ADVERTISERS.

On and after the issue of March 3rd, 1944, no notice
of meetings or other small advertisements will be pub-
lished unless fully prepaid. Where associations have
deposited a sum to cover their notices for the year, it
should be definitely stated how many insertions are re-
quired when the notice is sent, unless arrangements
have already been made.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

By the decision of the Standing Committee a meeting
of the Central Council will be held at the Jerusalem
Chamber, Westminster Abbey (by kind permission of
the Dean), on Whit Monday, May 29th. Full details
will be published later.

We are asked to say that the organist at the Guildford meeting
at Farnham was Mr. F. C. W. Knight, not Wright as reported.

Mr. Ernest G. Fenn, the Master of the Ancient Society of College
Youths, has retired from the Post Office after 48 years. The King
has awarded him the Imperial Service Medal 'for faithful service.'

The handbell peal of Stedman Caters rung at Enfield on February
3rd should be credited to the Middlesex County Association.

Any member of the National Guild of Police Ringers who has not
received a letter from the hon. secretary recently is asked to com-
municate with him at The Wayside, 150, Narborough Road South,
Leicester.

DEATH OF MR FREDERICK G. SYMONDS.

The death has occurred of Mr. Frederick George Symonds, who
passed away suddenly on February 10th as he was preparing to leave
home for his office.

Mr. Symonds was one of the ringing family of Lavenham and a
son of Mr. Arthur Symonds. He was a member of the Society of
Royal Cumberland Youths and of the band at St. Martin's-in-the-
Fields, and was well known among London ringers. He was clerk to
Mr. Justice Henn Collins.

The funeral was at Southgate Parish Church on Wednesday last.

THE MONTH'S PEALS.

During the month of January 50 peals were rung, 34 of them on tower bells and 16 on handbells.

The tower bell peals consisted of Grandsire Doubles 2, Triples 5; Stedman Triples 4; Bob Major 7; Kent Treble Bob Major 3; Little Bob Major 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major 2; Cambridge Surprise Major 2, Royal 1; Minor in 3 methods 4, in 4 methods 1, in 5 methods 1, and in 7 methods 1.

The handbell peals consisted of Grandsire Doubles 2, Triples 4, Caters 1; Stedman Caters 1, Cinques 1; Bob Major 3, Royal 1; Kent Treble Bob Major 2; and Spliced Surprise Major in five methods 1.

Thirty conductors took part in the tower bell peals; Mr. W. F. Judge called three, and Mr. H. J. Poole and Mr. A. Price two each.

Eight conductors took part in the handbell peals; Mr. John Thomas called six, and Mr. A. H. Pulling, Mr. J. E. Spice and Mr. A. V. Davis two each. Mr. Pulling and Mr. Spice also called one tower bell peal each.

The best tower bell performance was Cambridge Surprise Royal at Leicester. The Oxford Diocesan Guild rang Cambridge Major, Little Bob Major and Double Norwich Court Bob Major, as well as Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. The St. Martin's Guild of Birmingham rang Cambridge Major.

On handbells the best performance was the Spliced Surprise Major at Bushey in five methods, London, Wembley, Bristol, Superlative and Cambridge. The Birmingham men added to their long list of peals of Stedman Cinques, and at Enfield no fewer than eight peals were rung, consisting of Grandsire Triples 2, Caters 1; Bob Major 2, Royal 1; Kent Treble Bob Major 1; and Stedman Caters 1. Some of the band were old and well-experienced ringers, but some were pupils of Mr. John Thomas who have but recently learnt to ring. We said some time ago that the new year would probably hear something of this band, and our prophecy is already in fair way of being fulfilled.

THE GREAT BELL OF NOVGOROD

A message from the Moscow correspondent of 'The Times' states that the great bell of Novgorod has been saved from destruction at enemy hands.

'It was cast in the 17th century and used to hang with two others in St. Sophia belfry. These three bells were too heavy to be moved when other bells in Novgorod were taken to safety in August, 1941.

'When the fall of Novgorod seemed imminent local officials made another attempt to take the bells to safety. The two smaller were put in a barge, but this was sunk by a bomb. The big bell was still on the river bank when the Germans broke into the town. Under shellfire the mayor and his assistants managed to bury the bell, and though the Germans during their 2½ years' occupation asked many people where it was, nobody told them.

'Now the bell has been dug up by Red Army sappers, and divers are at work in the river looking for the other two.'

The bell is given in Lord Grimthorpe's list of big bells as 31 tons in weight and the heaviest in the world outside Moscow. (The China and Burma bells are not listed.) 'The Times' correspondent says it could be heard at a distance of 25 miles. Statements of that sort have often been made about famous bells, but it is extremely unlikely that a bell, with so deep a note as this must have, could be heard anything nearly so far off. It would be interesting to know what are the furthest distances any of our own bells have definitely been heard.

HANDLING A BELL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The question as to how an instructor should teach his pupil to hold his rope's end when pulling from backstroke has arisen in our tower and the tower of a neighbouring church. The majority of ringers in this district advocate the placing of the hands close together, in fact, touching; while the minority say that about two or three inches between the hands is preferable.

I should be extremely grateful if readers of 'The Ringing World' would offer their opinions about this. Speaking from personal experience, I have found, after having taught some 50 young people, that a far superior control of the bell is obtained when the hands are placed about three inches apart. When the hands are touching I have found in every case that the loop formed beneath the sally is inclined to shoot out at the bottom, thus causing unnecessary shaking about of the rope. Enough space should be allowed between the hands so that the knuckles are not pressed together. This contact causes the wrists to flick the rope, whereas, if the aforementioned space is maintained, the flexibility of the rope between the two hands will bring about a far better control of the bell.

F. C. W. KNIGHT.

The Grammar School, Farnham.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT MARKET LAVINGTON.

A meeting of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held on February 5th at Market Lavington, and was attended by ringers from Melksham, Market Lavington, North Bradley, Erchfont, Bishop's Cannings, Devizes (St. John's and St. Mary's) and Southbroom. The Vicar conducted service in church, and the methods rung consisted of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor.

ACOUSTICS OF THE BELFRY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have never doubted the accuracy of Mr. Corby's statement as 'K.C.A.' charges me with, neither had I any desire to ascribe the credit of the ideal outside acoustic condition of the tower in question to other than the Central Council. The last part of my letter proves this, in that I wrote, 'I very much doubt whether all the Central Council's advice was taken.' I left your readers to infer that the Central Council advised on the inside as well as the outside conditions. Perhaps 'K.C.A.' did not notice the word 'all.'

I do not know the tower in question and have no axe to grind in the matter.

SYDNEY R. ROPER.

South Croydon.

ODD STRUCK BELLS.

Dear Sir,—I was very pleased to read your recent editorial on the above subject—an important one to ringers, and, as you say, one that is not attended to as it should be, even allowing for all the difficulties that are in the way. There are many occasions when ringers do not speak on these matters as they should, e.g., opening days and at meetings when the clergy and perhaps other church representatives are present.

In addition to the items you mention, perhaps one or two more could be added (of course, I realise you were not making an exhaustive list). Other items are: (1) Badly odd struck bells. Of these we have plenty, and though no serious drawback to a really experienced ringer, they are nevertheless a nuisance and a source of discomfort and bad striking. In very few cases would it be difficult for these to be rectified, and with a new peal of bells are inexcusable. Any odd struck bells should be rectified by the bellfounders immediately they are found to be so, say after the opening of the new peal. This is where the experienced ringers should exert their influence. Unfortunately, however, everyone is so pleased that the bells are restored that they overlook details which might otherwise receive attention if sufficient pressure were brought to bear.

Other defects which are prevalent are: Where salleys go through the ceiling the holes are sometimes too small, causing salleys to jump if the ceiling is low. Clock cases badly placed, organ blower motors or air feed pipes situated in the ringing chamber and causing obstruction of sight or standing room. Bad circles or too wide circles where such could be avoided. Certain ropes hung too close to the wall, preventing a straight and normal pull. Excessive long draughts where a higher floor could be arranged. These are a great drawback to raising beginners and teaching them to control. Bad ventilation, noticeable at many ringing meetings, and the bad adjustment of ropes; usually the salleys are too low and the rope ends too long.

Ropes should be adjusted for a good sized chap and boxes provided for ringers of small stature. In addition to making the ringer reach high, they decrease wear due to ropes catching the floor. Bell foundries cannot be blamed for defects to apparatus or fittings, etc., which are not in the scope of their contract, but they, and competent ringers who can get their advice to the right quarter, should emphasise the necessity for these things receiving proper attention.

It is foolish to spoil a good job for a halfpennyworth of tar, and, compared with the cost of restoration of a peal of bells, many of these accessories are a small charge, and, of course, there are places where these details have been attended to.

As the Editor says, a steeple or tower is primarily a home for the bells and should be designed for that end, or where possible improved.

Would the clergy be content to preach from a soap box perched on top of the organ? Not for long. He and his parishioners would soon bring about an improvement.

There are, of course, many improvements ringers themselves could bring about, e.g., covering louvres of noisy bells, etc.

Some towers have a more suitable fabric than others for an ideal lay-out. An example that comes to mind of a 'good job' is St. John's Parish Church, Croydon. And, of course, many others could be quoted, St. Marie's, Norfolk Row, Sheffield; Bolsover, Derbyshire; St. Mary's, Portsea, and so on.

As regards bells that are all greatly indistinct in the belfry. In these cases it would be possible to have a valve amplifier suitably placed near the bells, with a speaker or speakers correctly placed in the ringing chamber—say in the ceiling—so that the sound of the bells was normal (and adjustable) in the ringing chamber.

In conclusion, I would suggest that the ringing of peals on defective sets of bells be avoided (as this often gives the impression that all is well, when such is not the case), and that ringers keep these things in mind and make constant effort towards improvement.

NORMAN CHADDOCK.

ST PAULS CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

The annual meeting of the St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, Society was held in the belfry on August 25th, 1943, under the chairmanship of Dean Langley. The following officers were elected: Captain, J. Spencer; vice-captain, A. Reider; secretary, W. Wagborne; assistant secretary, A. Zelius; steeplekeeper, W. Wagborne; auditors, E. Knott, M. Hemstorgde; committee, F. Boughton, Mrs. Switson, M. Hemstorgde. Reference was made to the death of Mr. E. Behan, who was connected with the belfry for many years.

MODERN TOWERS OF CORNWALL.

BY THE REV. A. S. ROBERTS.

Out of some fifty churches built in Cornwall and the Scilly Isles (which are a part of the Diocese of Truro) during the past one hundred and fifteen years only four have rings of bells, and only about twelve others have a tower of any kind. There is a doubt whether some of these towers would take a ringing peal, being either too small or too poorly built. It is not, then, the church builders of the period in question whom we have to thank for the towers which accommodate the one hundred and forty-two rings of five bells or more in the county. Most of these towers are built strongly of Cornish granite in what has become known as the traditional Cornish style and are mostly from four to six hundred years old.

The builders of last century and this have given little thought to towers. A turret or a bellcote seems to have sufficed. In only one or two cases has provision for the future building of a tower being made, as at St. John's, Penzance, built in 1881, where the base of a future tower forms the south porch, and the lower portion of the spiral staircase is crowned with a small wooden bellcote.

Of the towers that do exist Chacewater (1828) and Halsetown (1866) have one bell each, and Pendeen one bell and ten tubes erected in 1908 at a cost of £242. At Mithian a church was built in 1846, but by 1898 the tower and spire had become so weak that they were taken down. The one bell of about 5 cwts. was hung in a wooden structure in the churchyard, but about 15 years ago a typical new Cornish tower was built of granite brought from a nearby disused engine house of a long closed tin mine. The one bell was hung for ringing in the new tower by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. Two Truro churches have towers—St. George's (1855) with one tube, and St. Paul's. St. Paul's tower was built in 1909-10 at the same time as the two western towers and spires of the Cathedral. The N.W. tower of the Cathedral was provided with its fine ring of ten (tenor 33 cwts. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.) and St. Paul's tower got ten tubes. These latter were unsuccessful and were soon sold, but the money was set aside, and 1923 Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. provided a good 12 cwt. ringing bell. In 1938 an offer was made to add other bells to this one, but it was not accepted on the score that they would clash with the Cathedral bells. This seems a pity, because a ring of six would have been an asset to the city, and St. Paul's is well distant from the Cathedral. In the Scilly Isles the church on St. Mary's Island, built in 1835, has one bell and eight tubes in its tower. The churches on St. Agnes and Trescoe (1879) also have one bell each.

The four churches with rings of bells must now be mentioned. At St. Mary's, Penzance, rebuilt in 1834, a ring of eight (tenor 20½ cwts. in E) was hung in 1865. St. Mary's tower became the stronghold of change-ringing in Cornwall, and a good band was brought into being and led by Colonel H. R. Trelawney. The tradition of the tower was maintained under the inspiration and leadership of Dr. John Symons, the present President of the Truro Diocesan Guild. But in 1904 St. Mary's bells were considered unsafe and the ringing tradition came to an abrupt end. Most of the band transferred to the nearby tower of Gulval. St. Mary's bells were silent for 25 years, and it was not until 1929 that Dr. Symons was

able to inspire their restoration, when they were recast and the present ring (tenor 23 cwts. 3 qrs. 23 lbs.) was installed. This is the heaviest eight in Cornwall, and the bells are a delight to ring. It is only to be hoped that the ringing tradition will be revived.

The present church of All Hallows, Kea, was built in 1896 in place of one built in 1802. It is the third church in the parish. It has a tower and spire and eight bells (tenor 12 cwts.), hung in 1904 by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. The fifteenth century tower of a much earlier church still stands some three miles distant on the banks of the river Fal, and the seventh bell in the new tower was the tenor of the ring of three in this old tower. The late J. C. Daubuz, who lived at Killiow Mansion, not far from the present church, was keenly interested in bells and ringing, and was generous towards the provision of Kea bells; the second bell at Truro Cathedral is inscribed as having been given by him in memory of his father. He also left an endowment for the Kea ringers.

Tuckingmill Church, built in 1845, was for nearly ninety years without bells, but now has a pleasing octave (tenor 10½ cwts.) by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. Six bells were hung and a frame for eight provided in 1931, and the two trebles were added in 1937. The six bells were erected during the incumbency of the late Rev. J. J. Howarth, who had erected a ring of six, similar in weight, at St. Thomas', Launceston, when Vicar there.

The fourth tower (surmounted by spire) with bells is Baldu. There is a ring of six. The church of St. Michael was built in 1848 by George Henry, second Earl of Falmouth, and the bells were given at the same time by Anne, Countess of Falmouth. The tenor weights 9 cwts., and the ring came from the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. These bells are one of four rings of Cornwall's one hundred and forty-two rings of five and upwards which cannot be rung for want of rehang-ing. It is one of the last towers west of mid-Cornwall where prize-ringing took place, and there are still some memories of such prizes as six hats and six pairs of gloves being given at contests in the tower.

The second newest of all these some fifty churches can be taken as an example to delight the hearts of those who always hope that provision will be made, as of old, for bells when a new church is to be erected or one rebuilt. In this respect there will be many such cases to be considered in the post-war years, and local opinion can, no doubt, do a great deal. The example is my own church of All Saints, Carbis Bay, which was needed in a growing district some two miles from St. Ives, and which has now been incorporated in the ancient borough of St. Ives. In 1926 an anonymous gift of £7,000 was made, accompanied by four typewritten words 'For Carbis Bay Church.' The present church took the place of a wooden Mission Room. A local church building committee was formed, and this committee demanded a 'Cornish Church' in opposition to another plan which was put forward for a modern building. The design of Mr. R. F. Wheatly, of Truro, was accepted, but with the unusual feature for a Cornish church of the tower at the south-east corner—most towers being at the west end. But as the carrying out of the complete plan would have cost £12,000, and it had to be curtailed to meet the £7,000, four bays of the nave were cut out, and also the upper portion of the tower, but still the feature of a

tower remained, the walls of which are carried up to beyond the level for the bells. The point of the temporary pyramidal roof rises to the level of the future flat roof, above which will rise the embattlements and pinnacles.

The minutes of the meetings of the building committee record that when the plans were sent to the late bishop (Dr. W. H. Frere) for his approval he sent them back, asking whether, in order to economise in the amount of money available, a tower was necessary. The reply of the committee was that as the base of the tower formed the Lady Chapel it would not be practicable to dispense with it. There seems to have been no thought given, at the time, to bells, and the old mission room bell has done duty ever since, so there seems no reason at all why the tower could not have been finished at roof level of the church except that the committee demanded some kind of a tower. The result, therefore, is that the ringing chamber has been provided, and is so marked on the architect's plan, and there is room above to hang a light ring of eight on one level as the tower is eleven feet square and is built solidly of Cornish granite. Entrance to the ringing chamber is from the outside by a substantial spiral staircase of some twenty-five steps.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT SUNDERLAND.

A meeting of the Eastern District of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held at St. Ignatius' Church, Sunderland, on February 5th, when about twenty members were present from Chester-le-Street, Houghton-le-Spring, West Hartlepool, Bishopwearmouth and the home tower. Welcome was given to three visitors, Lieut. Hawkins, of Warwickshire, Pte. Parker, of Reading, and Pte. Simm, of Bedfordshire.

The methods rung included Kent Treble Bob Minor, Grandsire and Steadman Triples, Bob Major, Double Norwich, Spliced Oxford and Kent and Cambridge Surprise Major.

Tea was served in the Church Institute, the Vicar, the Rev. G. H. Marshall, and the churchwarden, Mr. R. L. Patterson, joining the party. Mr. J. W. Parker, proposing a vote of thanks, referred to the willing way in which the majority of incumbents granted permission to ring on these occasions. It gave great pleasure to the ringers when the clergy attended.

The Vicar said he rather thought that the clergy's thanks were due to the ringers. He had enjoyed walking in his parish that afternoon listening to the music of the bells, and he certainly had been happy among the ringers. He thanked the ringers' wives and friends for looking after the tea arrangements.

The next meeting will be on March 4th, when the Eastern and Western Districts are holding a combined meeting at Chester-le-Street.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT ADLINGTON.

The meeting of the Preston Branch of the Lancashire Association, held at Adlington on January 29th, was well attended, over thirty ringers being present from eight towers in the branch as well as members from the Wigan Branch and Mr. T. B. Worsley, Mr. P. D. Roberts, Corpl. Crampton and Gunner J. E. Jeans.

The Vicar welcomed the ringers, and Mr. F. E. Bradley presided at the business meeting, at which five of the local band were re-elected. It was decided to hold a joint meeting with the Wigan Branch at Coppull on February 26th.

A letter was read from the Rector of Brownedge saying he was sorry he had to cancel the permission he had given, but after the advice he had received from the architect, he could not do otherwise. The chairman made a strong appeal to all to take 'The Ringing World.' The secretary said that the new rates for notices would be a welcome concession.

GLoucester AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT MANGOTSFIELD.

The annual meeting of the Bristol Rural Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Mangotsfield on January 29th and was attended by about 40 members from Westerleigh, Coalpit Heath, Warmley, St. Ambrose, Henbury and the local tower, as well as some unattached members.

Service in church was conducted by the Vicar, who presided at the business meeting, held after tea in the Parish Room. The branch chairman, Mr. C. R. Harding, referred to the death of Canon H. J. Gay, Vicar of Warmley, who for many years had been an honorary member of the association. Since the ban was lifted the branch had held four meetings with an average attendance of 30. The speaker was pleased to say that the Vicar of Bitton was now a performing member. Despite war-time difficulties, the activities of the branch had showed an improvement.

The hon. secretary reported that subscriptions were increasing, but all had not yet come in. The annual report was adopted.

It was decided to hold quarterly meetings in March at St. Ambrose, in June at Marshfield, in September at Almondsbury, and the annual meeting at Henbury. The next monthly meeting was fixed for Stapleton on February 26th.

The officers were elected as follows: Chairman, Mr. C. R. Harding; hon. secretary, Mr. C. Gifford; representative on the Management Committee, Mr. C. Harding.

Thanks were given to the Vicar, to Mrs. Wise, to the organist and to the choir.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT PUDSEY.

There was a good attendance on January 29th at the meeting of the Leeds and District Society at Pudsey. Members were present from Armley, Bradford, Bramley, Burley, Calverley, Earlsheaton, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Liversedge, Queensbury, Rotherham, Selby, Shipley and the local company.

At the business meeting in the Conservative Club, Canon Marshall presided in the absence of the president, Mr. J. F. Harvey, who has left the county. A letter from Mr. Harvey tendering his resignation was read, and it was decided to send a reply thanking him for his services. The office was left vacant until the general meeting.

Mention was made of the death of Mr. George Titterton, a member of many years standing, and it was decided to send a letter of sympathy to his family.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT LEICESTER.

At the request of the Leicester District, a special general meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held at Leicester on Saturday, January 29th.

At the committee meeting it was decided that no full and comprehensive report should be printed this year, but instead a pamphlet giving the names of all resident members, honorary, active and life, and a list of the towers in each district with the number of bells and the practice nights. The secretaries are asked to co-operate in compiling this. Appeals for assistance from the Bell Repair Fund were left over until more favourable times.

At the Co-op Cafe, 58 members and friends sat down and the general meeting followed, at which in the absence of the president, Mr. Colin Harrison (vice-president) took the chair. He was supported by Miss I. B. Thompson (hon. treasurer) and Mr. Ernest Morris (general secretary). Members were present from Anstey, Ashby, Belgrave, Burbage, Croft, Derby, Earl Shilton, Groby, Hugglescote, Ibstock, Loughborough, Nottingham, Syston, Sileby, Wigston and elsewhere.

The chairman welcomed the large and representative gathering, which was almost on pre-war lines, and paid special tribute to the young members present, especially those from Anstey and Groby, who were progressing well in the art. Five honorary, 32 ringing and seven resident life members were elected, in addition to 44 who rejoined the association. Two auditors, Messrs. F. Poole and A. J. Harris, were appointed.

It was announced that this year's annual meeting will be in Leicester on April 15th and that the Bishop of Leicester will preach the sermon at St. Margaret's.

Before the meeting the twelve bells at St. Margaret's were rung and afterwards the twelve at the Cathedral. The methods included Cambridge Royal and Bristol and London Surprise Major.

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THE BEST RING OF BELLS.

A TALE OF C. W. O. JENKYN.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reference to Mr. Bagworth's letter, Whittle bells are eight and the key is E flat. It was never my intention to back them against all comers. What Mr. Sharpe asked for was that ringers should express their opinions as to which were the best toned ring (both Simpson and ordinary) in each particular county.

I must express thanks for Major Hesse's letter, also your excellent leader, each was an education and as such appreciated by all. I will close by relating a little incident concerning the late Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn. It was on a tour, possibly the same one mentioned by Mr. Lancaster. A party had gone up to ring, but C. W. O. J. stayed outside to hear the bells. He went to various vantage points in the churchyard and then finally came to the foot of the belfry steps and said, 'Taylors, 1900.' He was right, but how he got the year has always been a mystery to me.

'LANCASTRIAN.'

WEST COUNTRY BELLS.

Dear Sir,—I should like to express my opinion, which I know is also shared by many ringers whose opinions on bells command respect, regarding which is the best peal.

In the first place, I would say that for numbers a peal of eight is best and the ideal weight (to listen to) 20-25 cwt. For sheer grandeur the peal at Chewton Mendip in Somerset is the best, and the peals at Ditcheat, Somerset, and Tiverton, Devon, are almost as good. My old friend, J. T. Dyke, used to say that if Ditcheat bells were in Chewton tower they would sound the better peal. I have been told that Aberystwyth (Cardigan) bells are better than those I mention. They must be extraordinarily good if this is correct. I would like to hear other opinions.

I decided many years ago that Chewton was the best peal I had heard, and the last time I was there we had met for a peal, but owing to a death in the parish we rang touches of Double Norwich, Cambridge and Stedman Triples. How beautiful it was. I have often wondered which our bellfounders think is the best peal yet cast.

On other numbers the peals I consider are the best for their weight (leaving out the heavy peals) are Painswick (12), Cullompton, Devon, and Newbury, Berks (10), whilst the prettiest peal of six is at Ash Priors in Somerset.

I would also like to ask ringers' opinions regarding the 11th at Exeter Cathedral. Is she for her weight of 2 tons the finest bell yet cast?

All the above is very West Country but I think that it is generally agreed there is no other part of the country with such beautiful bells as the west.

W. A. COLES.

Hayes, Middlesex.

CONGRESBURY.

Dear Sir,—I was very surprised that Major Hesse did not mention Congresbury in his letter about Somerset bells. I was also surprised that Watford was not included in the article on some of Gillett and Johnston's notable rings. Taking the risk of being considered biased, I think Watford are a first-class eight, and certainly one of the best in Hertfordshire.

RICHARD G. BELL.

131, Hamper Mill Lane, Watford.

TWO OUTSTANDING RINGS.

Sir,—It has been my privilege to ring on one or two peals of bells during my short connection with ringing, but I feel somewhat diffident about expressing an opinion, preferring to think of them as being grand productions of the bell founder's craft and workmanship. Being a Lancastrian, one doesn't care to sound his own trumpet, but it may be not many have heard Ashton's noble peal of 12 and eight bells.

There are two outstanding peals possessing remarkable and beautiful tonal qualities, which rank them amongst the best peals we have got. I refer to St. Marie's (Norfolk Row), Sheffield, and Youlgreave (Bakewell), Derbyshire. A native of the last named came to live as next-door neighbour 45 years ago and she was constantly saying we ought to hear their bells, as there were no others half so grand.

I began to think there was something in it when the late Mr. J. W. Washbrook remarked to me that they were amongst the best he had ever heard. Spending a holiday some six miles away, we made arrangement to walk the distance on a Sunday afternoon to be in time for the evening service ringing. The bells had been specially oiled, etc., for the occasion, and a full band had been rallied so that we could hear them to advantage, both inside and outside the tower. Norfolk Row, I believe, is a sister peal to the foregoing and is applicable in like manner. I agree in all that was said about them, also what has been written about Whittle-le-Woods. It has been one of the joys of life to hear such noble peals from time to time.

W. W. WOLSTENCROFT.

Ashton-under-Lyne.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

All lines exceeding six in any one insertion are charged at the rate of 4d. per line.

The charge for notices other than of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—North and East District.—Meeting at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, Saturday, Feb. 19th. Ringing 3 p.m. No other arrangements.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Annual meeting at Weybridge, Saturday, Feb. 19th, 3 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.30 p.m. Service 6 p.m.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting at St. Michael's, St. Albans, on Saturday, Feb. 19th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at Olde Times Cafe 5.30 p.m. Ringing in evening. Send names for tea.—R. Darvill, 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—Annual meeting at Steep, Saturday, Feb. 19th, 2.30. Service and dedication of treble 4. Tea and business in Memorial Village Hall 5.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., Sunnysbrook, Brook Lane, Warsash, Hants.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Meeting at Spondon, Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Own arrangements for tea, nearby cafe.—Wm. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Annual meeting at Brampton, Saturday, Feb. 19th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Cradley, Saturday, Feb. 19th, 3 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting, Castle Cary, Saturday, Feb. 19th, 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea and meeting following.—W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Bell Foundry, 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1, Feb. 26th, 3 p.m. Ringing at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate. Service ringing at Stepney, Feb. 20th, 9.30 a.m.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting at Romsey, Saturday, Feb. 26th, 2 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Feb. 23rd.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Annual meeting in the Corn Exchange, Spalding, on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (8) 2. Service 3.45. Tea and business 4.30. Names by Feb. 22nd.—W. A. Richardson, Hon. Sec., Glenside, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincs.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. — Annual meeting at Banstead, Saturday, Feb. 26th, 3.30. Service 5.15, followed by tea and meeting. Names to Mr. H. N. Pitstow, Saffron, High Street, Banstead, by Monday, Feb. 21st.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Hawkhurst, Saturday, Feb. 26th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45. Names to Mrs. S. H. Compton, The Vicarage, Hawkhurst, by Feb. 23rd.—T. Saunders, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Practice meeting at Crawley, Saturday, Feb. 26th, 3 p.m. No other arrangements. — O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Meeting at St. Michael's, Headingley, Saturday, Feb. 26th, 3 p.m. Own arrangements for tea. Business meeting 6.30 p.m. — H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds, 12.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Rumney, Saturday, Feb. 26th, 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by business meeting. — J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 94, Altery View, Newport, Mon.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — Meeting at Conisborough, Feb. 26th, 3 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided at small charge.—W. E. Lloyd, Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—Meeting at Measham, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch. — Meeting at St. Anne's, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided; bring food. — J. H. Foster, Hon. Sec

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Axbridge Deanery. — Meeting at Berrow, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (6) 6.30 p.m. — E. J. Avery, Hon. Local Sec., Sandford, Bristol.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS (12 bells). — Open practice on Saturday, Feb. 26th, 6.30-9 p.m. — Ralph Cole, 27, Priory Road, High Wycombe.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Meeting, Slough, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells 3 to 5 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern Division. — Annual meeting, Burgess Hill, Saturday, March 4th, 2.30 Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m Names by March 1st.—Mrs. E. L. Hairs, Hon. Sec., The Oaks, Theobalds Road, Burgess Hill.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District. — Meeting and unveiling of Memorial Tablet at Ilkeston on Saturday, March 4th, 2 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names to Mr. E. F. Gobey by Wednesday, March 1st.—T. Groombridge, jun., Hon. Dis. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern and Western Districts. — Joint meeting at Chester-le-Street, Saturday, March 4th, 2.30 p.m. Bring food; cups of tea provided.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — Meeting at St. George's, Bolton, Saturday, March 4th, 3 p.m. Business 6.30 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—Meeting at Danbury on March 4th. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by March 1st. — H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 48, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. — Henry Johnson Commemoration luncheon at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 4th, 1.30 p.m. Tickets to fully paid up ringing members 2s. each; to other members and friends 6s. 6d. each. Early application is requested as the number is strictly limited.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

THE BIRMINGHAM BROADCAST.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should be interested to hear from any ringer who heard the broadcast of St. Chad's Cathedral bells last Sunday. It took place at a time when most ringers in this district were occupied at their Sunday service ringing, and I have as yet met no one who heard it.

The time allowed us was so short that I am anxious to know how much of the change ringing was heard. The touch was 144 Stedman Triples (bobs at 1.4.5.8.10.11 repeated), and the band was as follows: W. B. Cartwright 1, R. J. B. Hadden 2, J. Pinfield 3, G. C. Chaplin 4, H. C. Spencer 5, H. H. Fearn 6, G. E. Fearn (conductor) 7, J. N. Lindon 8.

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MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WHISTON, YORKSHIRE.—On New Year's Day, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: Gnr. S. Moss, R.A. 1, Mrs. D. E. Kelly 2, Percy Jervis 3, George Lee 4, Herbert O. Chaddock 5, Sgt. N. Chaddock, R.E.M.E. (conductor) 6.

NORTHAMPTON.—On January 16th, at St. Giles', 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Tanner 1, Miss E. Travill 2, B. O. Soden 3, W. R. Parker 4, Fred Hopper 5, H. England 6, T. Tebbutt (conductor) 7, W. Gammage 8.

APPLETON, BERKS.—On Monday, January 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: N. Sargent 1, C. G. White 2, F. Messenger 3, A. H. White 4, H. C. White 5, G. Holfield (conductor) 6, R. White 7, F. White 8. Rung half-muffled in memory of J. White, late of the Metropolitan Police, and son of the late Frederick White and brother of the ringers of 2, 4, 7 and tenor. He was buried at Appleton on the previous Saturday at the age of 74.

DARLINGTON.—On January 30th, at Holy Trinity Church, for evensong, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: R. Busby 1, J. T. Titt 2, W. H. J. Parker (Sandhurst, Berks) 3, G. W. Park 4, W. N. Park 5, R. Park (conductor) 6.

STALYBRIDGE.—On January 30th, at Holy Trinity Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Crawshaw 7, W. Schofield 2, A. Jackson 3, G. Crowdy 4, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 5, H. Saxon (first quarter-peal) 6, A. Roberts 7, V. Turner 8.

DARTFORD, KENT.—On Sunday, January 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Wheadon 1, R. Constant 2, Mrs. J. E. Bailey 3, H. Raynor 4, R. Wake (first quarter-peal of Stedman) 5, H. Hovard 6, J. E. Bailey (conductor) 7, V. J. Benning 8.

WINDSOR.—On Sunday, January 30th, for morning service 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. W. Croft 1, J. A. Glass 2, T. Smith 3, J. M. Gayford 4, N. V. Harding 5, G. Barkus 6, L. Stilwell (conductor) 7, F. Simmonds 8.

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