



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

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**RINGING PUBLICATIONS.**

No man who knows anything of the story of the Exercise, whether throughout the past centuries or during more modern times, can fail to realise in some measure how much change ringing owes to printed books. While it is strictly true that the art must be, and is, carried on from generation to generation by personal contact and oral instruction, it is only through books that progress and improvements can be definitely secured and made available to ringers in general. Anything which would make the already extensive and steadily growing literature more widely known cannot fail to be of great value. There is therefore more than usual interest in the suggestion made in another column by Mr. B. H. Swinson.

Mr. Swinson suggests that it might be possible to form a society, on the lines of some that already exist, the object of which would be to publish at regular intervals either new books or reprints of old ones. It would depend on the subscriptions of its members, it could definitely calculate its financial position before undertaking any particular publication, and therefore it need incur no loss by lack of sales.

It is an attractive suggestion and the object is an admirable one. But the question arises—is this the best way in existing circumstances to achieve it? Do we really need a new society, even if it would be possible to form one? We have already the Central Council and one of the chief objects of the Council is to undertake just such a role as that proposed. Indeed, during its fifty years' life the Council has issued many publications.

Perhaps it will be objected, and not without reason, that the Council's record in the matter is not an inspiring one. We can admit it to the full, but it would be well to seek for the reason of the shortcomings, and to see whether they are remediable or not. The first thing which has hampered the Council has been lack of capital and the tendency to print too few copies of any publication to enable it to be sold without a financial loss. The second and far more serious defect has been the lack of any idea of what is needed to make a good book. The third has been the custom of entrusting the work to committees and the habit of outside members seeking to influence and alter the book while it is being prepared. The only successful method would be to entrust the work to one man (who might, if he thought fit, ask others to help him) who would alone be responsible. When he had completed his task he would submit his

(Continued on page 194.)

work, and the Council would exercise its rights as publisher and decide whether to print or not. Until some such plan as this is adopted, it is safe to say that the Council's publications will never be successful.

There is a widespread impression among people that provided a man knows a subject thoroughly he can write a good book about it. That is an entirely mistaken idea. It usually happens that the man who understands how to write can impart far more knowledge of a subject than the man who knows far more about it, but does not understand how to write.

The Central Council has now come into possession of 'The Ringing World' and that opens out great possibilities for the advancement of change ringing by means of the printed word. If the paper is a financial success (and there is every reason to believe that it will be) it will be possible to finance and publish books of great use to the Exercise. Whether the task will be undertaken or not we cannot say, and it is not our immediate concern; but we can say that it can only be done if it is carried out on strictly business lines. The possibilities and limitations of any action should be clearly understood and only that undertaken which has a reasonable chance of success. Men should be encouraged to write on subjects on which they are authorities and to submit the results, but no obligation of publication should be undertaken until the book is finished and after having been submitted to capable men has been judged to be useful to the Exercise. In short, the Council should recognise that no good book can be produced without a responsible and independent author, and should exercise the rights and duties of publisher on sound businesslike lines.

#### FLIGHT-SERGT. BRIAN WAYMAN.

Two of the late Flight-Sergt. Brian Wayman's fellow airmen write as follows:—

'We, who lived and worked with Flight-Sergt. Brian Wayman, knew him as thoroughly, perhaps, as anyone, and our regard for him was very real affection.

'He was at all times the most cheerful and alive of comrades, the most conscientious of colleagues and the most generous of people to be with. What is unusual, his generosity was of the mind as much as of the hand. He could always find extenuation of another's lapses.

'It is rather more than twelve months since he joined our Squadron, during which time he became such an integral part of 'B' Flight that his loss is felt severely by all ranks. It will be a long time before we get accustomed to his absence—his place will never be properly filled.'

On April 25th, a half-muffled quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques, 1,323 changes, was rung to the memory of Flight-Sergt. Wayman at St. Martin's, Birmingham, by A. Walker (conductor) 1, W. C. Dowding 2, T. H. Reeves 3, E. T. Allaway 4, H. C. Spencer 5, L. Tuffery 6, J. Penfold 7, H. H. Fearn 8, E. Mansell 9, F. E. Haynes 10, G. E. Fearn 11, W. T. Froggatt 12. It consisted of 663 changes in the Inverted Titlums position and 600 in the Handstroke Home position.

#### A LETTER FROM MRS. SHURCLIFF.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—I was interested in Mr. Nolan Golden's letter in the February 11th 'Ringing World,' asking about Paul Revere.

My father, Dr. Arthur H. Nichols, made a study of the bells of Paul Revere, over eight hundred in all, and wrote a pamphlet on the 'Revere Bells.' Esther Forbes quotes from this pamphlet in her book. I have just visited Christ Church and climbed up among the old bells, which I myself have rung many times, but not lately.

Are there any ringers left who remember my visit to London with my father in 1902? Have any of your lady ringers beaten my two handbell peals in one day?

I have a fine set of 30 bells and would enjoy a light touch of change ringing if any English ringers were available to help out.

I see lots of English sailors in the streets of Boston, but I don't know how to pick out the ringers. Perhaps you can reach them through your magazine and will ask any ringer who finds himself in Boston to look me up.

MARGARET H. SHURCLIFF.

66. Mt. Vernon Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

## TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

WALTER F. JUDGE ... .. 2	FRANK E. PERVIN ... .. 7
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 2	SHIRLEY BURTON ... .. 8
CHARLES T. COLES ... .. 3	HARRY BROUGHTON ... .. 9
WILLIAM C. DOWDING ... .. 4	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 10
GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... .. 5	FRANK E. HAYNES ... .. 11
JAMES BENNETT ... .. 6	ERNEST MORRIS... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

## TEN BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN, STEPNEY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5089 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

GEORGE M. KILBY ... .. Treble	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 6
THOMAS G. BANNISTER ... .. 2	GEORGE W. CECIL ... .. 7
THOMAS G. FOX ... .. 3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... .. 8
FRANCIS KIRK ... .. 4	RICHARD F. DEAL ... .. 9
GEORGE E. FEARN ... .. 5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

AUGHTON, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANOSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAY'S SIX-PART.

SYDNEY FLINT ... .. Treble	JOSEPH RIDYARD ... .. 5
THOMAS HORRIDGE ... .. 2	ARTHUR MAWDESLEY ... 6
JAMES TAYLOR ... .. 3	*PETER CROOK ... .. 7
JACK LUNHAM ... .. 4	†HARRY MOORCROFT ... Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

\* 200th peal for the association. † First peal.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 11 lb.

*ALAN A. POTTS ... .. Treble	TOM WILDE ... .. 5
ALFRED BARNES ... .. 2	JOHN WORTH ... .. 6
W. A. WOLSTENCROFT... 3	CECIL AUSTIN ... .. 7
WILLIAM FERNLEY ... 4	JAMES A. MILNER ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

\* First peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in F.

*WILFRED E. BOX ... .. Treble	HERBERT C. SPENCER ... 2
DANIEL T. MATKIN ... .. 2	LEONARD TUFFREY ... .. 6
JOHN PINFOLD ... .. 3	*JOHN W. LINDON ... .. 7
†RICHARD J. B. HADDEN 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... Tenor

Composed by GEO. HUGHES. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

\* First peal of Major. † First peal of Bob Major. First peal in the method on the bells.

**BROMHAM, BEDS.**

**THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OWEN,*

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

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 23 cwt.

HERBERT L. HARLOW ... <i>Treble</i>	C. HENRY HARDING ... 5
HENRY GAYTON ... 2	JOHN CHURCH ... 6
*MISS P. L. GILBERT ... 3	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... 7
*LEONARD H. BOWLER ... 4	REGINALD HOUGHTON ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by L. H. BYWATERS.

\* First peal.

**SIX BELL PEALS.**

**SANDIACRE.**

**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**

*On Sun., April 29, 1944, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,*

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, three of Kent Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 18 cwt.

SERG. A. SHEPPARD ... <i>Treble</i>	G. RIGBY ... 4
A. HARTLAND ... 2	*W. R. DRAGE ... 5
P. L. PARROTT ... 3	H. TURNER ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by W. R. DRAGE.

\* 150th peal.

**ABBOTSBURY, DORSET.**

**THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH ST. NICHOLAS,*

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

HENRY J. FORD ... <i>Treble</i>	JOSEPH H. HAYNE ... 4
REGINALD C. TREVEET ... 2	SERG. P. TOCOCK ... 5
JOHN H. W. WOOD ... 3	W. HAROLD TOMS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by SERGT. P. TOCOCK.

First peal on the bells. First peal and first attempt by all except the conductor. First peal as conductor.

**HITCHAM, BUCKS.**

**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., May 6, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,*

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob, Single Oxford, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 11 lb. in B flat.

E. DENNIS POOLE ... <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM HENLEY ... 4
*C. ALFRED LEVETT ... 2	FRANK H. HICKS ... 5
WILLIAM WELLING ... 3	GEORGE GILBERT ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

\* First peal of Minor in more than one method.

**HANDBELL PEALS.**

**COVENTRY, WARWICKSHIRE.**

**THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**

*On Sat., April 29, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,  
AT 117, WIDDRINGTON ROAD,*

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5065 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15 in C.

FRANK E. HAYNES ... 1-2	FRANK E. PERVIN ... 5-6
FRANK W. PERRENS ... 3-4	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 7-8

FRANK K. MEASURES ... 9-10

Composed by FRANK W. PERRENS. Silent and non-conducted. Umpire, Albert Walker. Witness, Ernest Stone.

**LEICESTER.**

**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**

*On Sun., April 30, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six and a Half Minutes,*

**AT WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,  
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15 in C.

MISS JILL POOLE ... 1-2	HAROLD J. POOLE ... 5-6
GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 3-4	ERNEST MORRIS ... 7-8

\*NOLAN GOLDEN ... 9-10

Composed by F. W. PERRENS. Conducted by H. J. POOLE.

\* First peal of Stedman and on ten bells 'in hand.'

**LEICESTER.**

**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**

*On Tues., May 2, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,  
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CATHEDRAL,*

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

Tenor size 15 in C

*MISS JILL POOLE ... 1-2	GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 5-6
HAROLD J. POOLE ... 3-4	ERNEST MORRIS ... 7-8

† JOSIAH MORRIS ... 9-10

Composed by WM. H. INGLESANT. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

\* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Royal 'in hand.'

**LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.**

**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Wed., May 3, 1944, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes,  
AT 57, THE HEADROW,*

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15 in C.

MISS L. K. BOWLING ... 1-2	WILLIAM BARTON ... 5-6
PERCY J. JOHNSON ... 3-4	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 7-8

Composed and Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

**MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES**

**BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, March 26th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. Buckland 1, G. Gutteridge 2, Miss D. R. Fletcher 3, Rev. R. Routh 4, W. Edwards 5, J. Harrison 6, H. Wingrove (conductor) 7, A. Routh 8.—On Sunday, April 23rd, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Miss D. Fletcher 1, Miss K. Fletcher 2, W. Redrup 3, Rev. R. Routh 4, R. Buckland 5, W. Edwards 6, J. Harrison 7, H. Wingrove (conductor) 8.

**AMERSHAM, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, April 23rd, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: C. Chalwin 1, E. C. Ayres 2, H. J. Freeborn 3, L. Haddon 4, W. Edwards 5, W. Redrup (conductor) 6.

**HARLOW COMMON.**—On April 16th, 1,260 Kent Treble Bob: Lewis Whitby 1, Ben Copping 2, Fred Whitby 3, Vincent Tipton 4, Lewis Cordell 5, Robert Springham 6, Stanley Clark 7, William Wheeler (conductor) 8.—On April 23rd, 1,248 Bob Major: Ben Copping 1, Lewis Whitby (first quarter in the method inside) 2, Fred Whitby 3, Robert Springham 4, Stanley Clark 5, Lewis Cordell 6, Vincent Tipton 7, William Wheeler (conductor) 8.

**WILLESBOROUGH.**—On April 23rd, 720 Bob Minor: \*R. Booth 1, \*J. Ireland 2, \*R. Newton 3, M. Lancefield 4, W. J. Lancefield 5, E. S. Ruck (conductor) 6. \* First 720 of Minor.

**BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.**—On Monday, April 24th, at Holy Trinity, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Edward B. Webster 1, James W. Kay 2, Mrs. G. Annie Paine (conductor) 3, Everest Ford 4, Albert Greenhalgh 5, Sergt. E. W. Bugden 6, Peter Crook, sen. 7, William Smalley 8.

**NORTH STONEHAM.**—On Friday, April 28th, 504 Stedman Triples: J. W. Faithfull 1, G. Pullinger 2, N. Haves (first 504) 3, R. Linter 4, C. J. Fray 5, G. Williams (conductor) 6, W. T. Tucker 7, C. Taylor 8.

**NORTH MYMMS.**—On Sunday, April 30th, 720 Treble Bob Minor: F. Howkins 1, A. R. Lawrence 2, W. Nash 3, A. W. Coles (conductor) 4, C. Nash (first in method) 5, T. J. Lock 6, F. Nash tenor covering.

**WHICKHAM ST. MARY, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.**—On Sunday, April 30th, 1,320 Bob Minor: \*E. Cairns 1, \*S. Thompson, jun. 2, G. Wall 3, \*S. Proud 4, \*J. Jackson 5, S. Thompson (conductor) 6. \* First quarter-peal of Minor.

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## BELLS AND THE REFORMATION.

(Continued from page 177.)

I mentioned that the parish churches were stripped of their goods and ornaments. This was done with a ruthless efficiency which contrasts strikingly with the mismanagement by the government of the general policy of the country. In every county commissions were issued to a number of leading men and a series of questions were submitted to churchwardens who were required to furnish a minute inventory of all the goods, plate, jewels, vestments, bells and ornaments in their charge. In London the churchwardens were summoned to the Guildhall and there received instructions. They were to furnish, not only a list of the goods, but also an account of all moneys they had received and spent during their year of office. As a result the government had a complete list of all the property in all the parish churches throughout the land. The goods were divided into parts. Just enough to serve for the bare needs of the simplified ritual of the new prayer book was handed back; the rest was confiscated to the Crown, but for the time being was left in the custody of the churchwardens.

In the year 1553 a second commission was issued. The terms for all the counties were similar, and the following, which relates to the county of Cheshire, will serve as an example.

To William Earl of Pembroke, Lord President of the Council of Wales, and others. 'May 29, 1553. Whereas all manner of goods plate jewels vestmanties belles and other ornaments of every church chapel brotherhood guild fraternity and company within every parish of England and Wales was made and by indenture thereof the one part remains with the Custos rotulorum of the county or his deputy or clerk of the peace and the churchwardens charged to keep the goods and the other part returned to the Privy Council inasmuch as the King is informed that some of the said goods have been embezzled and removed and desires to know the truth and take further order in the matter,' the commissioners were to survey all goods within the County of Cheshire and make an inventory, compare it with the former inventory, enquire into defaults by the oaths of honest men as to the defaulters and into whose possessions the embezzled goods had come. They were authorised to leave for the administration of Holy Communion in every cathedral or collegiate church and in every great parish, one or two chalices, and in every small parish one chalice. After providing for honest and comely coverings for the communion table and surplices for the minister, the residue of the ornaments and implements of linen were to be distributed among the poor of the parish. That done all ready money, plate and jewels were to be delivered to Sir Edmund Peckham and the plate and jewels to the master of the King's jewel house. The commissioners might then sell to the King's use all the remaining copes, vestments, altar cloths, and ornaments, and also sell to the King's use by weight all metal 'except the great bell and saunce bell in every of the said churches and chapels,' and deliver to Peckham the money arising from such sales.

The bells, which in every county were handed back to the custody of the churchwardens are marked in the inventories as 'remaining to the king's use,' and the churchwardens were charged to keep them 'unspoiled unembesiled and unsold until the King's pleasure was

further know.' It is a moot point whether this was done (as some writers have supposed) to forbid their sale by the parish or any private person, or whether the Council were still undecided what to do with them. Probably they had not entirely given up the idea of using them as revenue.

Upon such a slender thread did the fate of the bells of England hang. We cannot doubt that if the spoilers had worked their wicked will the loss would have been, not for a time, but for ever. It is not merely that the cost of replacing the bells would have been enormous, or that men would have been little disposed to make sacrifices for what might at any moment be swept into the coffers of the government; but history abundantly shows that when the life of any institution or custom based on sentiment and tradition is abruptly ended, it cannot be revived after an interval of years. After four centuries the Church of England has but partially replaced the copes and vestments which were sold in 1553, and that has been possible, not only because an unbroken doctrinal significance is attached to them, but also because their use has never ceased in the Churches abroad. It would not have been so with the bells. What would have happened we may perhaps see from what actually did happen in Scotland.

Scotland lost all her bells save one in each church, but she lost much more than that. She lost the sentiment attached to bells. There is something more than fancy in the comparison drawn by Robert Louis Stevenson between the bells of Oxford and the bells of Edinburgh. 'I have heard the chimes of Oxford playing their symphony in a golden autumn morning, and beautiful it was to hear. But in Edinburgh all manner of loud bells join, or rather disjoin, in one swelling brutal babblement of noise. . . . Indeed, there are not many uproars in this world more dismal than that of the Sabbath bells in Edinburgh.' Does it signify that in both cases the result is produced by a number of unrelated bells in separate towers? The result should be the same; is the same to many people. But the underlying spirit is totally different. Had England lost her sentiment of bells there was nowhere whence she could have recovered it. Not from the Continent. Many foreign countries, if not all, use bells, and some of them (Belgium and Holland for instance) love them; but their sentiment is not the English one. That was a purely national thing, a curious mixture, like the English character, springing from religious feeling, the love of home and the love of sport. Once lost, it would have been lost for ever.

But, after all, was the thread upon which the fate of the bells hung, so very slender a one? We have seen how ruthless was the determination to wring every bit of available property out of the Church and how thoroughly it was done. Public opinion must have been of unusual strength since it availed to keep the hands of the robbers from the spoliation of the church bells.

A very large number of the inventories drawn up by the Commissioners or to their order are still in existence. The majority are at the Public Record Office, others are in private hands. They give a more comprehensive account of the number of rings of bells that were in England in 1552 and 1553, than exists for any other time in the history of the country. They prove conclusively that the threatened spoliation did not take place, did not even begin. The bells of Oxfordshire, which Froude

says were taken down in 1549, were still in the steeples in 1553, and so were the bells of Devonshire, which more narrowly escaped destruction.

The returns for the City of London are fairly full. Of the 106 parish churches there are inventories for 94, but nine of them are defective and at present do not tell us anything about the bells. One parish, St. Faith's under St. Paul's, had no tower and no bells. In the remaining 82 churches there were two rings of six, 33 of five, 26 of four, and 20 of three. Two churches had but two bells, and one a single one.

In addition, there were rings of five at St. Paul's Cathedral, St. Martin-le-Grand and St. Bartholomew the Great, and a ring of three at St. Bartholomew the Less. The two latter are among the parish churches for which no inventories survive. There are no inventories for All Hallows', Barking, St. Michael's, Paternoster Royal, and St. James', Garlickhithe, all of which most probably had five (or, at any rate, four) bells. Of the churches whose inventories are defective, St. Botolph's, Aldgate, St. Bartholomew Exchange, St. Peter Poor, and St. Vedast, Foster Lane, all had rings of five not very long after 1553. The number of bells at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, is doubtful, but I am inclined to read the mutilated word as six.

Only two other churches possessed that number; St. Sepulchre's, which had lately acquired the bells of St. Bartholomew's Priory, and St. Michael's, Cornhill, where the bells were the special pride of the parish. In both cases the tenor was rather more than 30 cwt. in weight.

The fives at St. Martin-le-Grand, St. Mary-le-Bow, and St. Giles', Cripplegate, were also heavy. The other

rings varied in weight down to such fives as the one which still hangs in St. Bartholomew's tower, and the little threes in such churches as St. Ethelreda's or St. Helen's, where the steeples were not more than turrets.

In almost every church, in addition to the bells in the ringing peal, there was a saunce bell, and in a few an extra bell for the clock to strike on. In the year 1552 there were about 440 bells in the churches of the City of London; in the year 1939 there were about 235. In 1552 there were about 70 ringing peals (of four and upwards). In 1939 there were 21, of which only 12 were ever rung. To-day the number has been reduced much more.

Whatever looting of bells took place in country villages, there was none in the City of London.

(To be continued.)

**SERVICE TOUCHES.**

STEDMAN CATERS.

221

231456789

361452978 1, 6.

134265879 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 15.

Call a bob at the go off. Then call the Sixth in 8-9 up after quick when it is dodging with the Second. These will produce the first (going-off) course after 12 more sixes.

Call the Sixth last Half Turn (8-9 will dodge behind). Call a bob when the Sixth is dodging in 4-5 up after slow, and three consecutive bobs when the Sixth in dodging in 8-9 up with the Third. Then first Half Turn. The bells will run round at the third change of the Six following the course end.

As a variation, call an extra bob in the going-off course with the Sixth in 6-7 down before slow, and omit the last bob in the second (homing) course. The bells will run round at the first change after the course end, and the number will be 219.

Another variation. Add the bob with the Sixth in 6-7 down before slow to the going-off course, and then call two more similar bobs each in a separate course. Then call the homing course as in the 221. The number of changes will be 457.

# John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

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Etc.

### 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

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Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.  
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the office for 4s. 3d. per quarter payable in advance.

Cheques and remittances should be made payable to  
'The Ringing World.'

### THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Will representatives of associations who intend to be  
present at the Central Council meeting on Whit Monday  
please ascertain whether their affiliation fee has been  
paid, as the subscriptions of 25 societies still remain  
unpaid.

G. W. FLETCHER.

Alan A. Potts, who rang the treble to the peal of Bob Major at  
Hyde on May 6th, is twelve years old. He had not previously struck  
a blow in Major. On the other hand, Mr. H. L. Harlow, who rang  
the treble to the peal of Grandsire Triples at Bromham, is in his  
79th year.

Leicester Cathedral bells will be heard on the wireless on Monday,  
May 15th, Forces programme, 8 p.m. to 8.30; and Wednesday, May  
17th, 2.30 to 3 p.m., in 'Home Flash.'

#### FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Loughborough, Leicestershire. The Midland Counties Association.  
On Tuesday, May 15th, 1894, in Six Hours and Sixteen Minutes at the  
Church of All Saints. A Peal of Superlative Surprise Major, 8,800  
changes. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. N. J. Pitstow 1, Rev. G. F. Coleridge  
2, Arthur James 3, Ernest Pitstow 4, J. Hardy 5, S. Smith 6, R. T.  
Lane 7, J. W. Taylor, jun., Tenor. Composed and Conducted by  
N. J. Pitstow. This is the longest length composed and rung in the  
method.—'The Bell News.'

#### 'RINGING AND LIFE.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The author of 'Ringing and Life' certainly treads on  
dangerous ground when he considers making access to our belfries  
more difficult.

It is true that visitors are sometimes embarrassing and the  
majority not prospective ringers. Nevertheless, I think we ought to  
encourage the Vicar to treat his friends to a ringing exhibition, and  
welcome the stranger who stumbles into the ringing room at the  
wrong moment.

Without the financial assistance of parishioners, many fine rings  
would not exist to-day. I believe a person who has seen and heard  
us will be more sympathetic to any appeal for help than one who has  
only heard our efforts from afar. Let us show our bellringing when-  
ever we can.

We must remember that a ring of bells is an expensive luxury and  
not a necessity for modern church activities.

W. C. RHODES.  
16, Maxstoke Lane, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

Sir,—I admire Mr. Haines' pluck and the admirable manner in  
which he has expressed his warning. His fears are well grounded,  
based as they are on the craze for speed and excitement so apparent  
in this modern age. This plea for a regard of those values which  
have made us the most reliable nation on earth cannot be condemned  
as reactionary.

Let the realists reflect that the most important things in life are  
the intangible.

J. H. R. FREEBORN.  
Aith, Little Chalfont, Amersham.

**THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.**

MINUTES of the first session of the Seventeenth Council (47th Annual Meeting), held in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall, Westminster, by kind permission of the Middlesex County Council, on Whitsun Tuesday, May 30th, 1939.

The Council was welcomed to Westminster by the Rev. Canon Jocelyn Perkins, of Westminster Abbey. The President responded and took the chair. The meeting opened with prayer.

- PRESENT:—**  
 Ancient Society of College Youths.—Mr. E. G. Fenn, Mr. A. B. Peck.  
 Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—Mr. J. I. Dyke, Mr. J. Hunt, Miss N. Williams.  
 Bedfordshire Association.—Mr. A. King, Mr. A. E. Sharman.  
 Cambridge University Guild.—Mr. E. M. Atkins, Rev. B. F. Sheppard.  
 Chester Diocesan Guild.—Mr. J. Cooke, Mr. J. Swindley.  
 Devon Guild.—Mr. T. Laver, Mr. F. C. Smale.  
 Dudley and District Guild.—Mr. F. Colclough.  
 Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—Mr. W. H. Barber, Mr. W. J. Davidson.  
 East Derbyshire and Notts Association.—Mr. T. Clarke.  
 East Grinstead and District Guild.—Mr. A. Reife.  
 Ely Diocesan Association.—Mr. C. W. Cook, Mr. F. Warrington.  
 Essex Association.—Mr. E. J. Butler, Mr. G. R. Pye, Mr. H. Edwards.  
 Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Mr. J. Austin, Mr. E. Guise, Mr. W. B. Kynaston.  
 Guildford Diocesan Guild.—Mr. G. L. Grover, Mr. A. C. Hazelden, Mr. A. Harman, Mr. A. H. Pulling.  
 Hertford County Association.—Mr. W. Ayre, Mr. H. G. Cashmore, Mr. H. E. C. Goodenough.  
 Irish Association.—Mr. G. Lindoff.  
 Kent County Association.—Mr. F. J. Cullum, Mr. F. M. Mitchell, Mr. T. E. Sone, Mr. G. H. Spice.  
 Ladies' Guild.—Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, Mrs. R. Richardson, Miss E. Steel.  
 Lancashire Association.—Mr. P. Crook, Mr. G. R. Newton, Mr. W. H. Shuker, Mr. T. B. Worsley.  
 Lincoln Diocesan Guild.—Mr. J. Bray, Mr. R. Richardson.  
 Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association.—Mr. J. W. Jones, Mr. E. Stith.  
 London County Association.—Mr. T. H. Taffender, Mr. T. W. Taffender.  
 Middlesex County Association.—Mr. J. E. L. Cockey, Mr. C. T. Cole, Mr. G. W. Fletcher, Mr. W. G. Wilson.  
 Midland Counties Association.—Mr. A. J. Harris, Mr. J. H. Swinfield, Mr. P. L. Taylor, Mr. W. E. White.  
 Norwich Diocesan Association.—Mr. A. L. Coleman, Mr. F. Nolan Golden, Mr. L. W. Houghton.  
 North Staffordshire Association.—Mr. A. Thompson.  
 Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Mr. A. D. Barker, Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge, Mr. A. E. Lock, Mr. R. A. Post.  
 Oxford Society.—Mr. W. Collett.  
 Oxford University Society.—Rev. C. E. Wigg.  
 Peterborough Diocesan Guild.—Mr. H. Chambers, Rev. E. S. Powell.  
 Romney Marsh and District Guild.—Mr. P. Page.  
 St. Martin's Guild.—Mr. A. Paddon Smith.  
 Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Mr. S. H. Hillier, Mr. C. Jennings, Mr. F. W. Romaine.  
 Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.—Mr. G. H. Cross, Mr. G. Gilbert, Mr. G. W. Steere.  
 Stafford Archdeaconry Society.—Mr. B. Horton, Mr. H. Knight.  
 Suffolk Guild.—Rev. H. Drake, Mr. C. Mee, Mr. C. J. Sedgely.  
 Surrey Association.—Mr. W. Claydon, Mr. D. D. Cooper, Mr. C. H. Kippin.  
 Sussex County Association.—Mr. F. H. Dallaway, Mr. A. W. Groves, Mr. F. I. Hairs, Mr. O. Sippetts.  
 Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild.—Mr. D. H. Bennett.  
 Warwickshire Guild.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Mr. F. W. Perrens.  
 Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.—Mr. G. Pullinger, Mr. F. W. Rogers, Mr. G. Williams.  
 Worcester and Districts Association.—Mr. S. T. Holt, Mr. J. D. Johnson, Mr. C. H. Woodberry.  
 Yorkshire Association.—Mr. P. J. Johnson, Mr. L. W. G. Morris, Mr. S. F. Palmer.  
 Honorary members.—Mr. W. A. Cave, Mr. C. Dean, Mr. G. E. Debenham, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Mr. A. A. Hughes, Mr. E. H. Lewis, Mr. J. A. Trollope, Mr. E. C. S. Turner, Mr. A. Walker, Mr. S. H. Wood, Mr. T. Groombridge, Mr. W. H. J. Hooton.

**REPORT AS TO MEMBERSHIP.**

The hon. secretary reported the constitution of the Council as:—

Associations affiliated	49
Total members to which entitled	139
Total members elected	132
Honorary members	16

The North Notts Association and North Wales Association were no longer affiliated.

The secretary also reported that three associations had failed to supply information as to membership and representatives, two associations were entitled to an extra representative, and one association had elected more representatives than it was entitled to under the rules.

Members of past Councils who did not appear on the new roll were noted as: Miss K. Willers and Messrs. R. G. Black, C. E. Borrett, H. W. Brown, J. H. Cheesman, F. E. Dawe, E. Denison Taylor, T. Groombridge and C. F. Winny.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies reported were: Mr. J. W. Millner, Chester; Mr. J. C. Pollard, Cleveland and N. Yorks; Messrs. E. W. Marsh and G. C. Woodley, Devon; Mr. J. W. Parker, Durham and Newcastle; Mr. L. W. Wiffen, Essex; Mr. J. P. Hyett, Hereford; Mr. C. W. Woolley, Hertford; Ven. Archdeacon Parry and Mr. G. Chester, Lincoln; Mr. P. A. Corby, London County; Mr. K. Thacker, North Staffs; Mr. T. Tebbutt, Peterborough; Mr. W. Saunders, Shropshire; Mr. J. Parker, Society of Royal Cumberland Youths; Mr. S. H. Symonds, Suffolk; Mr. H. Barton, Winchester; the Rev. C. C. Marshall, Yorkshire; and Messrs. C. W. Roberts, C. F. Johnston and E. Alex. Young, honorary members.

It was decided to convey to Mr. James Parker the Council's best wishes for a speedy recovery from his illness.

**PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE PRESIDENT.**

As provided by Rule 11 all new members were introduced to the President.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS.**

President.—It was proposed by Mr. A. Paddon Smith, seconded by the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge and carried unanimously, that Mr. E. H. Lewis be re-elected President.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.—On the President's motion, Mr. G. W. Fletcher was re-elected.

Hon. Librarian.—Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, who had ceased to be a member of the Council, was, on the proposal of Mr. A. Walker, seconded by Mr. S. H. Wood, elected an honorary member, and on the motion of Mr. A. Walker, seconded by the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, re-elected hon. librarian.

**ELECTION OF AUDITORS.**

It was proposed by Mr. W. A. Cave, seconded by Mr. G. R. Newton and carried, that Mr. C. T. Coles and Mr. A. A. Hughes be re-appointed.

**ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBERS.**

The following were re-elected on the proposal of Mr. A. Walker, seconded by Mr. J. T. Dyke: The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. C. Dean, J. S. Goldsmith, C. F. Johnston, J. A. Trollope and E. Alex. Young.

Four vacancies were filled by the election of Mr. T. Groombridge, proposed by Mr. A. A. Hughes, seconded by Major J. H. B. Hesse; Mr. J. F. Smallwood, proposed by Mr. T. B. Worsley, seconded by Mr. C. J. Sedgely; Mr. F. Sharp, proposed by the Rev. C. E. Wigg, seconded by Mr. A. D. Barker; and Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, hon. librarian.

**LOSS OF MEMBERS THROUGH DEATH.**

The President reported the deaths of Mr. W. T. Pates (1891-1894), the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore (1894-1929) and Mr. A. B. Bennett (1903-1905).

A silent tribute was paid by all members standing.

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

Proposed by Mr. J. Hunt, seconded by Mr. W. Ayre and carried, that minutes circulated to all members, and published in 'The Ringing World' May 19th, 1939, pages 322-323, be taken as read and be approved.

**REPORTS.**

The following reports, etc., were circulated to all members and associations and have been published in full or in abbreviated form in 'The Ringing World.' They are preserved in the Council's records and are available for inspection.

**REPORT OF THE HON. LIBRARIAN.**

('The Ringing World,' June 9th, 1939, page 371.)

The hon. librarian presented his report showing sales of 505 publications—200 of which were the Minor and Doubles book. The surplus was £14 12s. 4d. The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, seconded by Mr. A. A. Hughes.

Maintenance of books.—On the President's motion, the hon. librarian was given full powers to repair and maintain the books in the library.

New publications.—On the proposal of the Rev. H. Drake, seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson, the Standing Committee were asked to consider the preparation and publication of a new 'Glossary.'

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO REVISE 'MODEL RULES FOR A LOCAL COMPANY.'**

The committee presented two complete sets of rules, which were considered in detail and amended as found desirable ('The Ringing World,' June 16th, pages 385-386). The committee's report was adopted on the proposal of the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, seconded by Mr. S. H. Wood, and on the motion of the Rev. H. Drake, seconded by Mr. C. H. Jennings, it was resolved to approve the amended rules and to authorise printing.

(Continued on next page.)

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from previous page.)

### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

('The Ringing World,' June 2nd, 1939, page 354.)

The hon. treasurer presented accounts showing a balance of £115 11s. 8d. and investments of a market value of £133 2s. 6d., and moved the adoption. The motion was seconded by Mr. A. A. Hughes and carried.

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE CARTER RINGING MACHINE.

('The Ringing World,' June 16th, page 386.)

The report, presented by Mr. A. A. Hughes, referred to the repair work now being undertaken by Mr. Sharman, which it was expected would be completed in a few weeks. The report was seconded by Mr. A. Paddon Smith and adopted, and authority was given for the payment of demonstrators' fees.

### REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The committee reported that they had considered the agenda, and had given careful thought to the question of affiliation. They recommended that all societies be urged to pay more attention to the number of their members, and that the London County Association be asked to furnish further particulars as to their resident life members. They reported that they had considered the question of mechanical ringing and their findings would be placed before the Council. A final draft report was now being made on muffling. The report was adopted on the proposal of Mr. G. W. Fletcher, seconded by the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge.

Members re-elected were the Ven. Archdeacon H. T. Parry, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. W. A. Cave, J. T. Dyke, C. F. Johnston, R. Richardson, A. Paddon Smith, A. Walker and S. H. Wood on the proposal of Mr. T. Groombridge, seconded by Mr. J. Hunt, and additional members—Mr. E. C. S. Turner, proposed by Mr. A. Walker, seconded by Mr. C. J. Sedgely; Mr. G. E. Debenham, proposed by Mr. G. W. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. W. Ayre.

Ex-officio members.—President, Mr. E. H. Lewis; hon. secretary, Mr. G. W. Fletcher; hon. auditors, Messrs. C. T. Coles and A. A. Hughes; past officers, the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge and Mr. E. Alex. Young; conveners of committees—Peal Collection, Mr. G. Lindoff; Methods, Mr. J. A. Trollope; Peal Analysis, Mrs. E. K. Fletcher; Towers and Belfries, Mr. E. H. Lewis; Literature, Press and Broadcasting, the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards; Peal Boards, Mr. W. G. Wilson; Biographies, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith.

### REPORT OF THE PEAL COLLECTION COMMITTEE.

The committee presented a collection of best compositions, and the Standing Committee recommended that these be printed if the cost was reasonable. The recommendation was adopted on the proposal of Mr. C. T. Coles, seconded by Mr. R. Richardson.

The committee was reconstituted as follows: Mr. G. Lindoff, the Rev. E. S. Powell, Messrs. G. R. Newton, G. R. Pye and T. B. Worsley, proposed by Mr. A. A. Hughes, seconded by Mr. E. C. S. Turner; Mr. H. G. Cashmore, proposed by Mr. W. Ayre, seconded by Mr. A. King, with Mr. Lindoff as convener, proposed by Mr. G. H. Cross, seconded by the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards.

### REPORT OF THE METHODS COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' June 23rd, 1939, pages 401-2.)

The committee presented its report signed by two members only, and a minority report was submitted by Mr. S. H. Wood.

Arising from a discussion on the new Surprise Book, it was agreed, on the proposal of Mr. W. Ayre, that all methods printed in the book should be named.

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. J. A. Trollope, seconded by Mr. S. H. Wood. The thanks of the Council were accorded to the committee, and on the proposal of Mr. W. A. Cave, seconded by Mr. J. Hunt, the committee was re-elected with Mr. Trollope as convener, proposed by the Rev. E. S. Powell, seconded by Mr. J. Clarke.

Committee: Messrs. J. A. Trollope, E. C. S. Turner and S. H. Wood. Surprise Book.—The hon. secretary reported on the response regarding support to be given by the associations in the printing of this book. Of a proposed issue of 750 copies associations had undertaken to purchase 462.

### REPORT OF THE PEAL ANALYSIS AND RECORDS COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' April 7th, 1939, pages 217-219.)

The report was presented by Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, who moved the adoption. The motion was seconded by Mr. G. R. Pye and carried.

Attention was drawn to the need of accuracy when sending peals for publication. The committee—Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, Messrs. C. Dean, G. L. Grover, G. R. Pye and W. Ayre—was reappointed with thanks for past services on the proposal of Mr. T. Groombridge, seconded by Mr. F. Perrens, with Mrs. Fletcher as convener, proposed by Mr. A. A. Hughes, seconded by Mr. E. J. Butler.

### REPORT OF THE TOWERS AND BELFRIES COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' June 23rd, 1939, page 402.)

Mr. E. H. Lewis reported for the committee and amplified the report regarding individual matters dealt with during the year. The report was adopted. The committee was reappointed on the proposal

of Mr. P. Crook, seconded by Mr. A. J. Harris, with Mr. Lewis as convener, proposed by Mr. J. Hunt, seconded by Mr. W. A. Cave. Committee: Mr. E. H. Lewis, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Mr. E. Alex. Young and Mr. J. Hunt.

### REPORT OF THE LITERATURE, PRESS AND BROADCASTING COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' June 30th, 1939, page 417.)

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards presented the report and moved its adoption. The proposal was seconded by Mr. A. Paddon Smith and carried.

The committee was reappointed on the proposal of Mr. L. W. Houghton, seconded by Mr. F. W. Perrens, with the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards as convener, proposed by Mr. G. H. Cross, seconded by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith. Committee: The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Messrs. J. S. Goldsmith, A. Paddon Smith and A. Walker.

### REPORT OF THE PEAL BOARDS COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' June 30th, 1939, page 417.)

On the motion of Mr. W. G. Wilson, seconded by Mr. W. Ayre, the report was adopted. The committee requested that they be authorised to appoint district representatives in order to obtain details of old peal boards in particular localities. The request was granted on the proposal of Mr. W. G. Wilson, seconded by the Rev. C. E. Wigg. The committee was reappointed on the motion of Mr. A. J. Harris, seconded by the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, with Mr. Wilson as convener, proposed by Mr. S. H. Wood, seconded by Mr. E. C. S. Turner. Committee: Mr. W. G. Wilson, the Rev. C. E. Wigg and Mr. W. Ayre.

### REPORT OF THE BIOGRAPHIES COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' June 30th, 1939, page 418.)

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mr. W. A. Cave and carried. The committee—Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Mr. W. A. Cave and Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, with the addition of Mr. A. C. Hazelden—was reappointed on the proposal of Mr. A. A. Hughes, seconded by Mr. F. I. Hairs, with Mr. Goldsmith as convener, proposed by Mr. W. A. Cave, seconded by Mr. R. Richardson.

### CIRCULATION OF 'THE RINGING WORLD'.

The hon. secretary reported on this matter, and the Standing Committee recommended that further consideration be left to the committee. The recommendation was adopted on the proposal of Mr. G. W. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. A. Walker.

### MUFFLING OF BELLS.

The President reported that the drafting of a final report was proceeding.

### PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

The Standing Committee recommended that the next meeting be held at Cardiff. The recommendation was adopted on the motion of Mr. J. A. Trollope, seconded by Mr. W. A. Cave.

### MECHANICAL RINGING.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards reported that this question, raised by the Rev. H. Drake last year, had been considered by the Standing Committee. He presented a report ('The Ringing World,' June 7th, 1939, page 435), which was adopted on the President's motion, and it was agreed that it should be sent to all Diocesan Advisory Committees.

### CHESTERFIELD BELLS.

The President referred to this matter and stated that in a recent article in 'The Sheffield Telegraph' the Archdeacon was considering installing some form of 'canned' bells or gramophone records if he was unable to obtain the services of ringers. On this matter the Towers and Belfries Committee were anxious for information. Mr. S. F. Palmer stated that he understood that the services of ringers had been offered, and that a meeting was being arranged between the Archdeacon and a Chesterfield ringer. On the proposal of the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, seconded by Mr. W. G. Wilson, the secretary was instructed to write to the Archdeacon to say that the Council was very glad to hear of the proposed meeting and hoped that successful results would be the outcome.

### HANDBELL RINGING.

On the proposal of Mr. G. W. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, it was agreed that the draft book prepared by Mr. C. W. Woolley be passed to prominent handbell ringers for their comments, and afterwards to the Standing Committee for printing as soon as possible.

### SILENCERS.

A question by Mr. A. D. Barker as to the recognition of a peal where silencers were used, and the general use of different types of silencers, was, on the President's suggestion, deferred for consideration at a future meeting.

### RECORD ATTENDANCE.

The hon. secretary reported the attendance at the meeting as 104 representative and 13 honorary members. Twenty-four associations were fully represented, 19 partly and six not.

### VOTES OF THANKS.

On the President's motion, thanks were accorded to Dr. Jocelyn Perkins for his welcome, the Middlesex County Council for the use of the Council Chamber, H.M. Office of Works for the use of Imperial Institute bells, and all Church authorities and towerkeepers, and to the London societies and their representatives for arrangements.

The meeting terminated at 4.45 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the President, proposed by the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge, and to the hon. secretary and Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, proposed by the President.



**RINGING PUBLICATIONS.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I feel that I am not alone in my enjoyment of the excerpts from Mr. Trollope's unpublished 'History of London Ringing,' which have appeared in your columns, or in my regret that a work of such great interest to ringers should, for obvious reasons, remain unpublished.

It is possible that other works of equal value to the Exercise exist in manuscript form only, and as the years pass by the chance increases of years of loving labour becoming lost to the world in general and the Exercise in particular.

A bibliography of ringing literature, such as is contained in Mr. Morris' history, is impressive, but, apart from the current publications in the Central Council and Snowdon series, it is practically impossible to obtain a copy of even the more important works, such as the 'Clavis' and Shipway's 'Campanologia.'

This unfortunate state of affairs was realised some 50 years ago and a series of reprints of the older works was issued by 'The Bell News.' Unfortunately for posterity, however, these issues were made in weekly parts, and in most cases seem to have been destroyed along with the copy of 'The Bell News' in which they were contained. Furthermore, the reprints were just what they purported to be, reprints without the benefit of a competent editor's care. I cannot guarantee the correctness of these statements regarding 'The Bell News' reprints, but I have distinct recollections of an old ringer proudly telling me how he himself had bound his copy of Shipway's 'Campanologia.'

In considering the question of publishing books, mainly of interest to ringers, it must be admitted that the comparative small circle of potential readers precludes issue by a publishing firm in the ordinary course of business. It remains, therefore, to discover if any form of non-commercial publishing is possible and it may be illustrative to examine the methods by which other bodies with special interests manage to bring out volumes mainly of interest to their own members. An examination of any literary journal such as 'The Times Literary Supplement' will show that there are numerous societies whose members pay an annual subscription of £1 and receive an annual volume which has been thoroughly edited by one of their own members as a labour of love. A small number of volumes are reserved for the general public at a price of 25s. to 30s. I would mention the case of the Navy Records Society, of which I am a member. This society has a membership of some 450, many of the 'members' being libraries, clubs and other institutions of a similar public nature. For an annual subscription of £1 1s. each member receives a handsomely produced volume of some rare or out of print work or work not previously printed, or a collection of naval papers previously difficult of access. The success of this society and the real worth of the volumes issued over the fifty years of its existence leads me to wonder if there is not scope within the Exercise for a society on similar lines to publish works of permanent value to the Exercise. I realise that an annual subscription of £1 1s. would be beyond the means of many ringers, but it should not be beyond the means of any society affiliated with the Central Council or tower society of more than ten or twelve members. I feel sure that several libraries at home and certainly a number in the United States would become members if approached in a diplomatic manner and comprehensive information of the society's objects furnished to them. Also there must be at least 200 ringers who would be only too glad to make some sacrifice to become individual members.

Whilst it is certain that no action can be taken until the war is over, there is no reason at all why the Exercise should not follow the lead of the Government and prepare for peace and, amongst other things, consider the possible value of a society for the printing of works of value to the Exercise itself.

It would, of course, be necessary for the proposed society to have a name and I would suggest the 'John Goldsmith Society' as a fitting memorial to the man who conferred an inestimable benefit on the Exercise through the printed word, issued over a long period of years. often at personal financial sacrifice.

Maracaibo, Venezuela.

B. H. SWINSON.

**OVER 62 YEARS A RINGER.**

An engraved plate has been erected in the belfry of St. James' Church, Barrow, to commemorate more than 62 years' service as a ringer by Mr. C. J. A. Cushing. It was dedicated on April 23rd by the Vicar in the presence of the churchwardens and many other persons. Mr. Cushing is a life member of the Lancashire Association, which he joined in 1888.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.****MEETING AT TOPSHAM.**

Seventy members of the Aylesbeare Deanery Branch of the Devonshire Guild were present at a meeting at Topsham on April 15th. They came from Honiton Clyst, Sowton, Whimple, Colaton Raleigh, East Budleigh, Otterton, Withycombe Raleigh, Limpstone and Topsham. Visitors were from Tedburn St. Mary, Buckfastleigh, Dawlish, Exeter (St. Thomas') and Sidmouth.

At the business meeting, Mr. Brian Pidgeon, of East Budleigh, was appointed secretary in place of Mr. R. Brook, who had resigned on account of failing eyesight after 10 years' service.

Seventeen performing members and one honorary member were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Whimple on September 9th.

The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Plain and Kent Treble Bob Minor.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD****MEETING AT WILLENHALL.**

A meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford was held at Willenhall on April 22nd. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. Ashley, and the address given by Canon Brierley, Rector of Wolverhampton. Six new members were elected, and the annual meeting was provisionally fixed to be held at Walsall. The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Caters, Bob Major and Royal, and Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.****MEETING AT LYONSHALL.**

A meeting of the Kington District of the Hereford Diocesan Guild was held at Lyonshall on April 22nd, at which 22 members attended. The methods rung were four of Doubles, Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob Minor.

The Vicar presided at the meeting and mention was made of the deaths of Mr. S. Jones, of Kington, a member of the Guild for over 40 years, and Sergt. W. J. Reece, of Staunton-on-Arrow.

The secretary reported that combined practices had been held with fair attendances. He congratulated the young band at Erdishand on the progress they had made. The bands at several towers were depleted and regular service ringing could not be carried on. Five new members were elected.

It was decided to hold a practice at Weobley in May and a meeting at New Radnor in July if possible.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.**

A meeting of the Eastern District of the Durham and Newcastle Association was held at St. Oswald's, West Hartlepool, on Saturday, April 29th, when ringers were present from Sunderland (St. Ignatius' and St. Michael's), Houghton-le-Spring, Stockton Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, South Shields and the home tower.

The methods rung included Bob Royal, Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Cambridge Surprise Major, Kent Treble Bob Major and Stedman Triples.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.****MEETING AT WALLASEY.**

A meeting of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Wallasey on April 29th, at which the service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. Simpson, who gave an address and welcomed the ringers. Six new members were elected and Bebington was selected for the next meeting.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.****MEETING AT ABBOTSBURY.**

Twenty-seven members from Abbotsbury, Bradford Peverell, Dorchester, Maiden Newton, Stratton, Upwey, Wool and Wyke Regus were present on April 29th at the meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, held at Abbotsbury.

Tea in the vicarage garden was followed by the business meeting, at which the chairman, Canon A. W. Markby, referred to the death of Mr. C. H. Jennings and his work for the Guild. The vacant post of secretary was left open until the end of the war, Mr. J. T. Godwin and the chairman being asked to carry on in the meantime. Invitations to visit Wool in June and Stratton in August were accepted. At the service in church the address was given by the Rev. W. G. E. Squire.

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**BIG BEN**

Last Friday, 'The Times' printed the following letter from Mr. Dingle Foot: 'Big Ben is the most famous clock in the world, but the reason for the existence of the clock tower is seldom realised. The legend is that Sir Ralph Higham, a mediæval Lord Chief Justice, altered a Court record in order to reduce the amount which a poor litigant had to pay. This action came to the ears of the King, who fined the Lord Chief Justice 800 marks. The money was used for the erection of a clock tower so that the bell striking the hour would be a constant reminder to the judges in Westminster Hall and other Courts nearby to indifferently administer justice.'

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.****ANNUAL MEETING.**

The annual general meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at Leeds Parish Church on April 29th.

The business meeting was in the tower. Mr. W. H. Senior presided and members were present from Armley, Batley, Bradford, Headingley (St. Chad's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Rotherham, Rothwell, Selby and Wakefield.

The secretary reported that eleven meetings had been held. The total membership was 152. Five members had lapsed, two had died and only three new members had been elected.

The balance sheet showed a further improvement and a credit of £19 10s. 7d.

The following officers were elected: President, Mr. W. H. Senior; vice-presidents, Messrs. T. W. Strangeway and S. Barron; secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. Lofthouse; Ringing Master, Mr. A. Smith.

The next meeting will be at Guiseley on Saturday, May 27th.

**HUDDERSFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.****MEETING AT ELLAND.**

A meeting of the Huddersfield and District Society, held at Elland on April 29th, was attended by about 30 ringers from Halifax, Sowerby, Ripponden, Lightcliffe, Liversedge, Brighouse, Lindley, Huddersfield, Kirkburton, Longwood, Meltham, Almondbury and Elland. The methods rung were Stedman Triples and Plain Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob and Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major.

In future meetings will be held on the last Saturday in each month, and the next will be at Marsden on May 27th.

**VISITORS.***To the Editor.*

Sir,—I should like to second Mr. Butler's suggestion in his letter headed 'Visitors.'

Personally I have spent many hours in a new district visiting churches, trying to find out if they have bells and if they ring and when, and have returned to camp with no particulars.

When you know your next chance to get a pull might be in two months' time, it is very disappointing to think you have missed a chance through not knowing if any when a tower rings.

Unfortunately, we cannot pick our days off, and more often than not they come in the week, not on a Saturday or Sunday as we would like them to. You can be sure if the chance was there a ringer would be having a pull somewhere if at all possible.

As Mr. Butler suggests, the information put on notice board in porch would help not only the visitor, but the band also in many cases.

L. W. JARVIS.

**RAISING A BELL.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—If Mr. Dibley's suggestion in your issue of April 28th is that stored energy is carried forward from one swing to another as may happen in the case of a flywheel having rotation in one direction, then I am afraid the answer is no.

The energy account must be made up and balanced for each swing because of the change in direction of rotation. The energy received from the pull is present as an increase in velocity during the swing, over and above that due to gravity, and what remains of it after balancing friction appears as the increase in height gained by the whole mass for that swing.

The energy resulting from mass and gravity is wholly expended in reascending the hill just descended.

A. W. DAVIS.

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**NOTICES.**

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division.—Meeting at Dunmow, Saturday, May 13th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Light tea provided.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Annual general meeting at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, Saturday, May 13th. Bells 2-8 p.m. Service 4. Business 4.45. No tea arrangements, but several restaurants nearby. Bells at St. Margaret's, Westminster, 6-8 p.m.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Western Division. Meeting at Woodford, Saturday, May 13th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Sec., 14, Wellesley Road, Wanstead, E.11.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.**—Meeting at Coleshill Parish Church, Warwickshire, on Saturday, May 13th, 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION and ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Joint meeting at King's Lynn on Saturday, May 13th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Note.—Lynn is in the restricted area.—W. J. Eldred, 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual general meeting at Guildford on Saturday, May 13th. Cathedral 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. St. Nicolas' 3 p.m. Service St. Nicolas' 4.30 p.m. Tea and business, Ayres' Cafe (next St. Nicolas') 5 p.m. Ringing at St. Nicolas' after meeting until 8 p.m.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, Surrey.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Reading Branch.—Annual meeting at Tilehurst on Saturday, May 13th, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea at the Old National Schools at 6 p.m. (1s. per head), followed by business.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Practice meeting, Ufford, Saturday, May 13th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided.—Chas. E. Fisher.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—Meeting at Storrington, Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4. Tea and meeting 4.30. Ringing till 8 p.m.—L. Stilwell, Pikeholme, Pulborough.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Leicester District.—Meeting at Great Glen, May 13th, 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Tea provided.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—Meeting at Redbourn, Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Usual arrangements.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

**BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Meeting at Horbury, near Wakefield, May 13th, 2.30 p.m.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Meeting at Bicker, Saturday, May 20th, 2 p.m. Service 3.45, followed by tea and business. Names to Mr. G. Dawson, Bicker, by May 15th.—W. A. Richardson, Hon. Sec.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—Meeting at Kenilworth, Saturday, May 20th, 3-8 p.m. Tea in Parochial Hall 5 p.m., at moderate charge. Bring sugar.—D. E. Beamish, 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Annual general meeting at Parish Church, Croydon, Saturday, May 20th. Bells (12) 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting, Sylverdale Hall. Names for tea to D. Cooper, 51, Waddon Road, Croydon, by 16th inst. — C. de Ste C. Parks, Assist. Sec.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—Meeting at Chilham, Saturday, May 20th. Bells (8) from 2.30. No tea.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—Meeting at Somerton on Saturday, May 20th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and business to follow. Notify early for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock, Somerset.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—N.W. Division.—Meeting at Harlow Common, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by May 17th.—W. Wheeler, Mill Street, Harlow Common.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—Meeting at Burbage, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. Meat tea (2s.), followed by very important business. Names for tea to Mr. F. K. Measures, 58, Lychgate Lane, Burbage, near Hinckley, by May 17th.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan Branch.—Meeting at Emmanuel Church, Southport, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. No tea. — S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at Kirkham, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided; bring food.—J. H. Foster, Hon. Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch.—Meeting at Preston Capes (5), Saturday, May 20th. Usual arrangements. Notify for tea. — W. C. Moore, 5, Williams Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

**ANGIANT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Next meeting, Saturday, May 20th, Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, 3 p.m. Ringing, All Saints', Poplar, 4.30. Sunday ringing, St. Dunstan's, Stepney, May 21st, 9.30 a.m.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Derby District.—Meeting at Wirksworth, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Bring food. Buses leave Derby hourly, 2.5, etc.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Chew Deanery.—Meeting at Clevedon, Saturday, May 20th, 4 p.m.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—St. Albans District.—Meeting at N. Mymms, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. Tea at the Corner Cafe. Names by May 17th.—R. Darvill, Hon. Sec., 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual meeting, Saturday, May 20th. Business in Church House 2.30 p.m. Service in St. Martin's 4.30. Tea (1s.) in St. Martin's Parish Hall 5.10. Bells (8) St. Thomas', St. Martin's, St. Edmund's; (6) St. Paul's, Britford, Coombe Bissett, Wilton (1-2.15, 6-9 p.m.). Names by May 15th.—F. Ll. Edwards, Kington Magna Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Wirral Branch.—Meeting at Bebington, May 20th, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Cups of tea provided.—Harry Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—Meeting at Winlaton, Saturday, May 20th, 2.30 p.m. (note amended date). Bring food. Cups of tea provided.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Belbroughton, Saturday, May 20th, 3 p.m. Tea at Shoes 5.15 p.m., and usual arrangements.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—V.W.H. Branch.—Annual meeting at Faringdon, Saturday, May 20th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea for Wednesday, May 17th.—R. F. J. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Northern Branch.—Annual meeting, Lincoln, Saturday, May 20th, Cathedral bells 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Meeting, Ringers' Chapel, 4 p.m. No tea.—J. Bray, Hon. Sec., Trentwood, Burton-on-Stather, Scunthorpe.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Northampton Branch.—Meeting at Collingtree, Saturday, May 20th. Service 4.15 p.m. Bring food.—R. S. Cowley, 83, Beech Avenue, Northampton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—Meeting at Mossley, May 20th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Light refreshment 5 p.m.—Frank Reynolds, Branch Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting at Chelmsford, Saturday, May 27th, 2 p.m. Service in Cathedral 3.30 p.m. Meeting 4 p.m. Tea, Cannon's Restaurant after meeting. Notify for tea. Great Bad-dow (8), Springfield (6) in evening.—L. J. Clark, Hon. Sec., Southdene, Petersfield Lane, Gosfield, near Halstead.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—Annual meeting at Howden, Saturday, May 27th, 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 2s. 6d. Names to Mr. J. W. Thompson, 16, Northolmby Street, Howden, by May 24th. Business meeting after tea.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual meeting at Irthlingborough on Whit Monday. Committee meeting 2.45. Service 3.30. Tea and business in Wesley Hall 4.30. Names by May 20th. Business after tea. Bells: Irthlingborough 11 a.m.; Finedon 11 to 12.30 and 6.30 to 8; Wellingborough 11 to 12.30 and 7 to 8; Higham Ferrers after tea.—R. G. Black, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

**TRURO.**—Whit Monday, practice, Kenwyn (8) 2 p.m., Cathedral 6 p.m. Tea will be arranged.—W. H. Southard.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual Festival, Stockport, St. George, Saturday, June 3rd, 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Tickets for tea 1s. 6d., until May 27th, from branch secretaries or H. Parker, 64, Church Road, Northwich.

**UNIVERSITIES' ASSOCIATION.**—As a result of the postal ballot, Miss M. R. Cross has been elected as the association's Central Council representative.—J. E. Spice, Hon. Sec.

**OSWESTRY.**—On Sunday, April 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss H. Kynaston 1, W. B. Kynaston 2, Cpl. W. H. M. Smith 3, D. Davies (conductor) 4, H. T. Hughes 5, E. H. Kynaston 6, R. Edwards 7, G. Beaton 8. Messrs. Davies and Edwards took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples rung on the bells on April 28th, 1894.

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