



No. 331. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JULY 20th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BUCK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE NEED OF HONORARY MEMBERS.

Last week we reported, in the account of the Midland Counties' Association meeting, that the President "brought to notice the necessity of increasing the interest in the Association (especially amongst the clergy and churchwardens), and asked the members to do all they could to obtain honorary members." This advice tendered to the members of the Midland Counties' Association might well be taken to heart by many of the other ringing organisations throughout the country. The question of extending interest in the work of the various associations is one which has a direct bearing upon their financial position, and we have more than once in this column urged the importance of the members of ringing societies doing their best to build up the stability of their respective associations by bringing in those who would increase the honorary roll. The return which many societies give to their practising members for the annual subscription paid would be out of the question were it not for the assistance received from the honorary members, and the tendency in later years has been, generally, for the latter numerically to decrease. There are many causes which lead from year to year to the non-renewal of honorary subscriptions, and it is admittedly difficult, when a shrinkage has to be made good, to show an actual net gain. It is generally felt that the field for recruiting honorary members of ringing societies is somewhat limited, and it is usual to look more or less exclusively to the clergy and churchwardens for this class of support. Is it not likely, however, that there are well-to-do members of congregations who, if approached in the right way, would readily help? Such individuals could, of course, only be reached through local bands, and they could perhaps achieve the best results by calling in the aid of the incumbent.

If members of congregations in a position to help could be thus approached, the result would indeed be a happy one for the Associations concerned. Two new honorary members brought in in this way through each tower would be a splendid asset to the finances of any organisation, and by making an effort to achieve this end, local companies would be rendering invaluable aid. The point we would emphasize, however, is, that this is essentially work for individual towers, for it could not be accomplished with anything like the same chances of success through the central officers of a society. Local men applying to members of the congregation of their own church would have far more influence, and those who value their Ringing Associations ought to be willing and ready to make this little effort. At the same time one may very pertinently ask whether the majority of the associations do all that they might to retain the interest of the honorary members.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST

FRAMES

**IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.**

Chiming Machines.

**Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed**

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.**

**MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.
BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.**

**BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Tower**

SEND FOR CATALOGUE

**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, report and tender before deciding your contract,--we may be able to assist you.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer.**

80, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway)

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

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

MALPAS, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 16th, 1917, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

*ARTHUR NEWALL Treble	*HARRY OVERTON 5
EDWARD HARRISON 2	JAMES V. WRIGHT 6
ROBERT SPERRING 3	†RICHARD T. HOLDING 7
GEORGE JONES 4	THOMAS ROWLAND Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

*First peal. †Fiftieth peal. First peal on the bells since they were augmented to eight.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, July 10th, 1917, in Two Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,
At 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.4.

A NON-CONDUCTED

PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

CARTER'S ODD BOB ONE-PART.

HERBERT LANGDON 1-2	CHALLIS F. WINNEY 5-6
HARRY R. PASMORE 3-4	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL 7-8

Umpires: ARTHUR HUBBARD and HENRY R. NEWTON.

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT HARLINGTON.

When in July of last year some of the members of the Middlesex Association met at Harlington, the account given of it in this paper was headed: "A Strawberry Meeting." This year it was "Cherries," fruit in plenty, and of the finest description. The Rector (the Rev. J. H. Wilson) gave the company a hearty welcome at the tea table, and one of the West Ealing ringers replied. Of the fair sex with the party were: Mrs. Wm. Shepherd and Miss A. M. Emery from Horsham; Misses D. G. Feltham and E. A. Gorham from Hillingdon; Miss E. Fuller, Fulmer; and Miss C. M. Orlebar, King's Cliffe, Peterborough; the last-named lady, together with the Rev. J. Fraser Amies (Chalfont St. Peter) and Mr. G. T. Leader (Slough) being elected members. The Rector presided (as Mr. F. Beadle, the District Master, was obliged to leave early), and the routine business was transacted.—Mr. C. Edwards (West Ealing) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector, and Mr. W. H. Fussell, who seconded, said he considered that it was a very great concession on the part of the Rector and Mrs. Wilson to allow them to have the use of the bells for so long a time on account of the illness of the lady. He expressed a hope—which all those present shared—that Mrs. Wilson might have a speedy return to good health.—In reply, the Rector said it was most kind to allude to the illness of Mrs. Wilson, whose wish it was that the meeting should not be postponed, and he expressed his appreciation. Further, he explained that a considerable area of ground had this year been used for potatoes, or the strawberries would have been forthcoming instead of cherries.

Mr. Wm. Shepherd thought Sunbury would be a convenient place for the next meeting, and his suggestion met with approval. He referred to the bereavement sustained by the Master (Mr. Wm. Pyel) and proposed a vote of sympathy.

Thirty-two members were present (as against 26 last year), and the following towers were represented: Bucklebury, Chalfont St. Peter, Fulmer, Harrow, Heston, Horsham, Harlington, Hillingdon, Isleworth, King's Cliffe, Norwood Green, Slough, Staines, Tunbridge Wells, Ventnor, Windsor, and West Ealing. After the meeting the Rector invited all to see, and roam in, his garden, and in a cosy nook with overhanging foliage the handbells were soon going to touches of Grandsire and a course of Stedman Triples by A. W. Davis, W. H. Fussell, W. Shepherd (conductor), and W. L.

MEETING OF NORTANTS AND BEDS RINGERS.

On Saturday last a very pleasant gathering was held at Sharnbrook Beds, at which ringers were present from Bedford, and the local tower, and the following Northants belfries, viz.: Wellingborough, Northampton, Higham Ferrers, Finedon, Burton Latimer, and Isham. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and included Cambridge, Woodbine, Kent, Oxford, Double Court, Oxford Bob, and Bob Minor, and Stedman Doubles. A capital tea was served in very pleasant surroundings at the "Elms," and was much appreciated. The handbells were brought into use, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples being rung by some of the company. A return was then made to the tower, and further touches brought round, this concluding a very successful meeting.

OUTINGS.

WORKSOP PRIORY CHURCH COMPANY.

On Saturday last, the members of the Worksop Priory Church band had their annual outing, the places selected being Harworth and Tickhill. Accompanied by Mr. J. Kelk, assistant organist, and a few other churchworkers, the party drove by char-a-banc, and arrived a little before 3 p.m. at Harworth, where the Vicar (the Rev. F. d'Arblay Burney) was waiting to welcome them. Permission was readily given to Mr. Kelk to make good use of the organ, and the proceedings, therefore, opened with a few verses of the beautiful hymn, "We love the place, O God," after which some excellent selections of other music followed. Ringing on the mellow-toned ring of six bells was next indulged in, and touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise were rung, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob brought round by: S. C. Walker 1, T. Bartholomew 2, H. Stenton 3, C. F. Fowler (conductor) 4, J. T. Wilson 5, H. Haigh 6, this being the first 720 in the method by the ringers of the 5th. While the ringing was in progress some of the company obtained permission, and proceeded to view the new coal pit, formerly in the hands of a German syndicate, and also other places of interest, but as the stay was only a short one, were soon again on the way to Tickhill, where they arrived a little after 5 p.m., and were met by Mr. A. Winn, the leader of the local ringers, and Mr. Ellis. Mr. Kelk was soon on the keyboard of the organ, and after a few suitable hymns had been sung, and another brief recital given, the beautiful ring of eight bells were pulled up in peal, and a short touch of Grandsire Triples rung as a "feeler" before tea, which took place at the Millstone Hotel. Subsequently the party returned to the tower, where some good touches of Grandsire Triples Kent Treble Bob Major, and Violet Minor were rung, the bells being lowered in peal a little after 8 p.m., and the carillon put in working order to play three verses of "Home, sweet Home," which everyone enjoyed listening to, especially Arnold, who was in khaki, and home on soldier's leave. A beautiful bird's-eye view from the top of the tower, through the field glasses, revealed many interesting peeps, which will not readily be forgotten. The company are grateful to Messrs. C. F. Fowler and H. Stenton, of Angton; J. H. Brothwell, of Treeton; and Mr. McKell, of Rotherham, for joining them at different intervals during the day, and taking part in the ringing. Warmest thanks are given, through the medium of "The Ringing World," to the Vicars of Harworth and Tickhill for placing the organs and bells at the disposal of the party.

LADY RINGERS RAISE INTEREST AT PRESTBURY.

On Saturday last the ringers of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, had their annual outing to Prestbury, via Macclesfield, at which latter place the party were met by several of the local company, including Messrs. Walmsley, Mothershead, Ankinson, and Norbury, who had kindly arranged for a pull on the bells of the historic Church of St. Michael. Before ascending the tower, Mr. J. Norbury conducted the party round the church, pointing out the many items of interest associated with the edifice. In the tower the visitors saw several notable vessels with a history, which a former company of Ashton ringers well remember in 1891. Several courses of Grandsire were rung, the local men being pleased to take part with the first ladies to ring in this tower. After visiting various places of interest in the town, the party proceeded through beautiful country, in lovely weather and in joyous spirits, till they reached the old, quaint and historic village of Prestbury, where they were met by Mr. Wm. Mayers, the tower keeper, who had made preparations which left no one in doubt that he intended that the ringers of Ashton should not forget for a long time to come their visit to Prestbury. A bountiful tea had been provided, and was much enjoyed. One of the Macclesfield ringers cycled over to join in the subsequent ringing, which was heartily enjoyed by all. Mr. Mayers had allowed it to leak out that some ladies were to ring the bells, consequently many of the villagers had assembled in the church to witness what was to them a unique and interesting performance, and no doubt it will be the means of many more taking to the art. The visitors extend to the ringers and friends of Macclesfield, and Mr. Mayers, of Prestbury, their hearty thanks for the efforts bestowed on making the outing so enjoyable, and to the incumbents for giving permission to ring on the bells.

A BIRMINGHAM OUTING.

On Saturday afternoon last the ringers of the Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, held their annual outing at Solihull. On arrival the party proceeded to the tower, where they were met by Mr. J. H. White (secretary of the Warwickshire Guild) and other friends from Coventry, and Mr. Ben Gough from Tipton. Mr. Bragg had everything in readiness, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Stedman Caters and Bob Royal, were rung.

An excellent tea was provided by Host Walker at the Mason's Arms. The Rector of Solihull gave the visitors a hearty welcome, and thanked them for ringing the bells. He stated that some of the wounded soldiers in the neighbourhood were delighted to hear them, and longed for the time when they would hear them rung for peace. He hoped the party would have a pleasant time, and invited them to visit the Rectory Grounds, and expressed the wish that the ladies would take a few roses back with them.

At the conclusion of tea, Mr. Carrod (the hon. secretary) said how

pleased he was to be able to be with the members again, and thanked them for their sympathy with him in his long illness. He would like to say that they had not been asleep during the past year. They had by voluntary contributions raised about £2 10s., which had been spent in parcels for their ringers at the front, who had gratefully acknowledged them. The Ringing Master (Mr. James George) had collected about £8, and had had a new entrance to the belfry made. Continuing, Mr. Carrod proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. G. E. Badger) for his hospitality, and for the interest he always takes in the welfare of the ringers; also to the Rector of Solihull for the use of the bells and his hearty welcome, and to Mr. Bragg for having the bells ready.—Mr. George, in seconding, said he hoped that the present cordial relations would always exist among the members, for they had a Vicar who took great interest in the ringers, and there were few non-ringing clergy who did so. So far as he was personally concerned he was only too pleased to do all he could for the benefit of the tower and ringers.

The Vicar, in replying, said how pleased he was to see Mr. Carrod again with them, and thanked the ringers for their services. He hoped they would continue to keep the bells going. The new entrance was a great improvement, and he felt deeply indebted to Mr. George. He hoped shortly to see a band of lady ringers.

The party then betook themselves to the Rectory grounds, and afterwards a few more touches on the bells brought the visit to a close.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL BRANCH.

A successful meeting of the Bristol branch took place at the pretty little village of Dyrham, some ten miles from Bristol. The majority of the members and friends who attended left Bristol by brake, the weather being beautifully fine. The outward journey was greatly appreciated, a peal of handbells, on which tunes were rung and change ringing practised, adding to the pleasure. On arrival at Dyrham the tower was immediately visited, and touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman and Kent Treble Bob on the pretty peal of six, were brought round.

At the kind invitation of the Rector (Rev. W. E. Blathwayt, M.A.), the company, which now numbered 34, adjourned to the Rectory lawn, where a splendid tea was provided.

A short business meeting followed, the Rector being voted to the chair.—One new member was elected, and Abbots Leigh was proposed as the next meeting-place (particulars will be advertised in due course). Mr. F. K. Howell (hon. treasurer of the Association) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for so kindly providing tea, and also to the ladies for their part in the arrangements.—This was carried with applause.—The Rector, in responding, mentioned that he was pleased to see the Association there again, and would also be pleased to welcome them in future. He stated that last year they had with them the late Rev. H. A. Cockey, and he would like to take the opportunity of associating himself with the Association in the great loss sustained by the death of their treasurer.

A short service in the church followed, after which all were graciously invited by the lord of the manor, Mr. Robert Wynter Blathwayt, J.P., to view the house and grounds of Dyrham Park, where the visitors were able to admire the magnificent paintings, the tapestry, etc., and the beautiful plants contained in the conservatory. The visitors were conducted through the gardens, and spent an enjoyable time wandering amongst the trees and flowers. The park is some 250 acres in extent, and it was on this spot that a battle was fought between the Saxons and the Britons in the year 577, and called "The Battle of Dearnham."

That the visit was thoroughly enjoyed need hardly be stated, and a pleasant return journey in the cool evening provided a delightful conclusion to the outing.

One of the company was Pto. J. Nicholls, of Leighton Buzzard, Beds, who has been visiting several towers at different times during his stay in the district.

STROUD BRANCH SUNDAY VISITS.

In place of the usual monthly practice meetings, on Saturdays, the members of the Stroud and District branch have held three Sunday afternoon visits to Haresfield on May 20th, Frocester on June 10th, and Bisley on July 1st, with an attendance of 14, 19 and 10 members respectively. There has been some good ringing at all the towers visited, and every member has put forth his best efforts, much of the ringing being for the Sunday services at all the places visited. Both the clergy and local societies of ringers have received the visitors most cordially, and it is hoped to visit all the towers during the summer and autumn months, and thus to stimulate ringing where there is, as in most belfries, a shortage of ringers.

LADY RINGERS AT ALDERSHOT.

A band of lady bell ringers has been formed at Aldershot. Their instructor is a well-known Essex ringer. "Determined to Succeed" is stamped on each fair brow, and rapid progress is being made.

HELD OVER.

Owing to pressure on our present limited space, several reports are unavoidably held over until next week.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

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Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

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**Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.**

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

BELLS AND Belfry REFORM.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Player's letter in your issue of June 22nd raises a number of interesting questions, to which I should have replied before had I not been away from home. Now, with your permission, I will ask his pardon for a somewhat belated answer.

I think his opening remarks about clergy and ringers are covered by what I wrote before, viz., that there are clergy and clergy and ringers and ringers, and I will add, also, that with regard to the general public there are sympathisers and non-sympathisers; and human nature being what it is, I think we must be content to leave it at that.

No, it was not the Vicar of Ashford to whom I alluded. I have not the pleasure of his acquaintance, but am very glad to hear that he is such a good friend of the "Exercise." The two extra bells at Ashford, by the way, are not both in peal for ringing purposes, one being a flut 2nd, added in 1887 to enable the "National Anthem" to be played on the carillon.

The question of wood versus iron frames is a thorny one. Personally, I have never seen a wooden frame in which the bells have preserved their "go" for any length of time in the perfection that they do in a first-class iron frame, wood being always pervious to extremes of damp and drought, and inclined to "give" at the corners. Possibly your correspondent has not heard of Mr. F. H. Lewis's investigations and experiments, as reported in the "Ringing World" about two years since. (I write from memory.)

It is quite a common practice to cramp stone buildings with iron, as witness the familiar crosses and circular plates so often seen in walls. I myself saw some in a church tower the other day; but, of course, it requires doing with care and knowledge, and like all work of its kind it needs occasional oversight.

I quite agree with Mr. Player in thinking that bells are more noisy in iron than in wood, but the remedy has meanwhile been pointed out in your issue of July 6th. Here, we have wooden boards covered on both sides with waterproof felt, and they are quite effective. I suppose the only way to actually prove who has the control of the bells and ringing would be to bring a test case into court. If this were done, I think it would be found that custom, the basis of all legal right, has given it from time immemorial to the incumbent.

I confess that I cannot understand your correspondent when he speaks of the east end being "overdone," an expression which, to my mind, is more suggestive of a leg of mutton than a chancel. If, however, he means that too much is made of the Holy Eucharist, the chief service of Christianity, I must, with whatever reluctance, say that I am quite unable to agree with him in this point. As a ringer, I sincerely hope that I shall never have to choose between the east and west ends of the church. I love them both, but if it came to a choice between the central act of Christian worship, and the partial custom of a local church (for not one per cent. of the Churches of Christianity have peals of bells hung for ringing), there could be no question as to which would "have to go." But why raise such a question? Long may ringing be the handmaid and ally of religion, and may it never be forced by misdirected enthusiasm into the position of a rival and an enemy!

Trusting that Mr. Player will in his turn take these remarks in good part, and thanking you, sir, in anticipation for your courtesy in inserting this somewhat lengthy rejoinder, I am, yours truly,

A CLERICAL RINGER.

P.S.—Since writing the above I see that the question of the control of the bells and their use has been lifted out of the region of controversy in the "Ringing World" for July 6th by Mr. Drake, who has earned the gratitude of the Exercise for his lucid exposition of the canon law on the subject.

THE SUSSEX ANNUAL MEETING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am much obliged to Mr. Stone for his very lucid explanation to the last paragraph of my letter, and I am sure he will forgive me if I say I am not quite sure now that he is right. I think we should all do our duty, and when the "reckoning comes," of which he speaks, we shall not be found "six to one and half a dozen to the other." The unfortunate fact of the annual meeting being postponed cannot, that I see, place any of the divisions in jeopardy.

With paragraph 3 of Mr. Stone's letter I am in total agreement. I have always been an advocate of spending as much for the members' benefit as possible. Unlike friendly society work, we have not to pile up money for old age, as most of our ringing is done in our young days.

Paragraph No. 1 comes as a surprise to me. I was not aware the gentlemen in question were guilty of taking upon themselves the responsibility of "hoarding" the Association's funds. I believe at the last annual meeting, through advice from the committee, the general secretary did move that so much of the funds should be invested in Exchequer Bonds, and this was agreed to. Beyond this I do not propose to go. What these gentlemen have to say in defence is another matter. Trusting I shall yet be able to meet all old friends at the annual this year. Yours faithfully,

Lower Lake, Battle.

WALTER FRANKS.



HEROES FROM THE BELFRY.

The left-hand photograph is that of Pte. Alfred Gozzell, of Makhon, Essex, who was attached to the Middlesex Regiment, and was killed in France by a sniper whilst leaving the trenches on May 7th.

The centre picture is of Pte. James Thomas Ward, of Irthlingborough, Northants, serving in the Suffolk Regiment, who has been missing since April 28th last.

The right-hand photograph is of Pte. D. I. Brearley, of Bolsterstone, 24th York and Lancaster Regt., killed in action on May 14th, in France.

KILLED IN ACTION.

Corporal Sidney Franklin, a member of the band at St. Augustine's belfry, Woodstone, Peterborough, has, to the great regret of all, been killed in action in France. He is the first of the local band to fall. He was a promising ringer, and much respected by all who knew him.

On Sunday week, in the afternoon, a quarter-peal of Bob Doubles was rung on the bells at Woodstone Church as a last tribute of respect to his memory. The quarter, the first on the bells, was also the first by a Woodstone band, the ringers being: H. Hoare, senr., 1, F. T. Hoare 2, C. H. Hoare 3, E. Martin 4, H. Hoare, junr. (conductor), 5, W. Beeton 6.

The bells were opened on June 27th, 1914, and the ringers, like those at other towers, have been much depleted by claims of the war. None of the band could ring more than rounds when the bells were opened, and of those who took part in the quarter-peal some have only recently taken up ringing. The progress made, in face of great handicaps, is, therefore, highly creditable.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT'S NEW VICE-PRESIDENT.

The annual meeting of the Northampton District was held at Boughton, on Saturday week, the following towers being represented: St. Edmund's, St. Giles', and St. Peter's, Northampton; Kingsthorpe, Weston Favell, Cogenhoe, Ecton, Moulton, Great Brington, and Boughton. Stedman, Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. Johnstone Walker), Sergt. F. T. Slater, one of the organists at Winchester Cathedral, who has been wounded, and was in the village, kindly volunteering his services at the organ. The collection for the Association's Belfry Repair Fund amounted to 5s. 6d.

Tea was served at "The Griffin," 25 sitting down. Before the business meeting commenced, the Hon. Secretary (Mr. T. Law), in some well-chosen remarks, moved that a letter of condolence be sent to the relatives of the late Mr. James Clarke, who had been vice-president of the district during the past two years, and whose death was reported in "The Ringing World" a week or two ago. He also proposed that letters of condolence be sent to the relatives of Lance-Corpl. C. S. Faulkner, Easton Neston; Pte. A. Warren, Moulton, and Pte. R. Earl, Boughton, three ringing members who have made the supreme sacrifice.—The vote was passed by the members rising in silence.

Mr. F. Hopper was unanimously elected vice-president; Messrs. B. Soden and H. Clarke were appointed to represent the district on the Central Committee; Messrs. J. Melherell, W. Rogers and H. Busby, were elected on the District Committee; and Mr. T. Law was re-elected district secretary.

Three new ringing members were elected.—It was reported that during the past year three quarterly meetings and four special meetings had been held and 15 ringing members elected. The roll of honour now numbers 52.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the service and use of the bells, the organist, the local ringers, Rev. F. D. Massey (Kingsthorpe) for presiding until the election of vice-president, and Host and Hostess Dickens for the tea.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PRACTICE IN HIGHER METHODS.

The quarterly meeting of the Western District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Shipley on Saturday, June 23rd, and was attended by about 50 members from sixteen towers. The bells, a nice peal of eight (tenor 15½ cwt.), were rung to touches, Stedman, Grandsire, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob. Owing to the increased price of foodstuffs no tea was provided, so that members had to make their own arrangements, those who had tea before 6 p.m. having to get as much as possible for the regulation sixpence.

The committee meeting was held in the School Rooms at 6.30 p.m. Miss Olive Lumley, of Burley, and Mr. Geo. Wintersgill, of Holbeck, were elected as members.

The general meeting followed, with the vice-president (Mr. G. B. Bolland) in the chair.—It was proposed to approach Otley for the use of the bells for the September meeting.

Mr. Dransfield suggested that the ringers in different districts should band together, and practise higher methods than were being rung in some of the districts at the present time. He felt that too many ringers in the West Riding of Yorkshire only rang Kent Treble Bob Major, and never tried to ring any other methods.—The suggestion was agreed to by most of the members present, and it is to be hoped that success will attend their efforts in trying to raise the ringing standard to a higher degree.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of Shipley for the use of the bells, this was seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson, and carried unanimously.—The Vicar of Shipley, in responding, said that he welcomed the society to Shipley, and was sorry that he himself had not time to learn to ring, but he had given three days a week to the help of his country, in assisting to make shells, the other three days his curate filled his place in the same factory, and used the same number. He hoped the time was not far off when the peace bells would be ringing throughout the country.

A hearty vote of thanks to the local company for making the necessary arrangements for the visitors' comfort, was proposed by Mr. Bolland, and seconded by Mr. Maude, Mr. Kendall, of the local band, responding.—A vote of thanks to Mr. Bolland for occupying the chair concluded the meeting.

The handbells were then brought into use, and afterwards the tower was visited, and the bells set in motion to various methods until 9.30 p.m.

WEST EALING GATHERING.

A united practice was held at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Friday, July 6th, and the touches that were rung consisted of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob. The latter was conducted by G. M. Kilby (Willesden), and the attendance included visitors from afar: Miss C. M. Orlebar (King's Cliffe), and Mr. J. Bruce Williamson (Ventnor). Some handbell ringing was done at Wimborne Gardens (after the tower practice) on a peal with a tenor size 20; Mr. A. W. Davis kindly assisting.

DEATH IN THE BELFRY.

The death took place in the belfry at Cheshunt, on Sunday evening, of Mr. Henry G. Rowe, an active and esteemed member of the Hertford County Association. Mr. Rowe had taken part in the ringing for service, when he was seized with illness, and died almost immediately.

NOTICES.

THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on every first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on July 31st, for general business, also on the 26th for handbell practice, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A special general meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available all afternoon and evening. Committee meeting at 4.15. Service at 4.45. It is important that I should be notified by those intending to be present not later than July 15th. Business meeting after tea.—Joseph H. White, Hon. Secretary, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Todmorden Unitarian on Saturday, July 21st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock till dusk. Meeting at six.—T. K. Driver, Middleton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual business meeting will be held at the King's Road Institute, King's Road, Reading, on Saturday, July 21st, at 3 p.m.—A. E. Reeves, Lieut., R.D.C., Guild Secretary, 16, Mansfield Road, Reading.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Deane Parish Church on Saturday, July 21st, 1917. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society, established 1824).—Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the next meeting will be held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday, July 21st (not 14th as previously stated). Ringing from 4 p.m., business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Thrapston District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Thrapston on Saturday, July 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m.; meeting to follow in Church Room. Election of officers.—F. Stubbs, Dis. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Raunds.

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION (Eastern Division).—The next meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, July 21st. Ringing from 2 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Members wishing to be present at tea must let me know not later than Tuesday, 17th.—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Secretary, Kenilworth, Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—There will be ringing at Holy Trinity Church, Lenton, on Saturday afternoon, July 21st, from 3 to 6 o'clock. Important business meeting afterwards for the election of district officers.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, July 21st. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. Tea, 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Shireoaks on Saturday, July 21st. Bells (6) available from 2 to 9 p.m.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec., 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—Owing to a serious illness near the church at Cheddar the quarterly meeting will be held at Worle on Saturday, July 28th. Service 5. Tea and meeting after. Bells (6) afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Finedon on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at the Star Hall, 5.30.—W. Perkins, Dis. Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Easton-in-Gordano on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available, 3.30. Divine Service, 4.30. Tea and business meeting, 5.30.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next meeting will be held at Dartford, by kind permission of the Rev. Leonard Savill (Vicar), on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service and address at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow in the Church Hall, Lowfield Street. Half rail fares allowed. Tea will be provided by the vicar and churchwardens to follow the service, but notice of those intending to be present must reach me not later than first post on Tuesday, July 24th.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, July 28th. Bells ready at 4. Meeting 5.30. Service 6.30.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secs.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. Established 1755.—Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 28th, at St. Martin's. Bells (12) available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Canon Willink has very kindly invited members to tea at the Rectory, Sir Harry's Road, and tea will be provided at 5.30 for those who send in their names, *not later than the 25th inst.*, to A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at St. Mary's, Stockport, on Saturday, July 28th. Service at 3.45. Preacher: The Rev. F. C. L. Hamilton, Rector of Northenden. Other particulars by circular.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, July 28th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting, 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A bye-meeting will be held at Stisted on Saturday, August 4th. Short service with address at 4.30. Tea at moderate charge at the Red Lion Inn, at 5.30. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than July 31st.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendlebury on Saturday, August 4th. Bells available from 4 p.m. Meeting at 6. Any alterations for the ringing calendar to be given in at once.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 6th. Service at St. John's Church at 4 o'clock; business meeting after. St. John's, St. Mary's and Woodston's bells will be available. No arrangements for tea, but all ringers welcome.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on August Bank Holiday, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be opened for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be prepared at the Castle Cabin; members 9d., others 1/- Business meeting after. All ringing friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, District Secretary.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

DEATH.

HUNT.—On July 15th, 1917, Lottie Edith (Cissy), aged 16 years and 9 months, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hunt, of 98, Clyde Road, Tottenham.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

SALISBURY GUILD.

DEVIZES BRANCH MEETING AT SEEND.

A most successful and enjoyable meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at the beautiful Church of the Holy Cross, at Seend, on Saturday afternoon last, and the day being fine, was well attended by ringers from St. John's, Devizes; Southbroom, Westbury, Trowbridge, Seend, Potterne, Bromham, Winchester, and Steeple Ashton, about 32 attending the meeting, amongst whom the members were pleased to welcome their old friend Bombardier S. J. Hector (formerly of Trowbridge), now hailing from Winchester. Some good touches of Grand-sire Doubles, Stedman Doubles and Plain Bob Minor were successfully brought round in the afternoon, and a good spell of call changes was also indulged in for those not quite so far advanced. In all cases the striking was very good.

The authorised Guild service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Cromwell Bush), with organ and surpliced choir, the singing being well sustained, and the address from the Vicar most encouraging.

Tea was very kindly provided for the company by the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Awdry in a large room upon their own premises, and afterwards the members were invited to walk round the gardens and admire the beautiful flowers, and also the grand scenery obtainable from their elevated position. Handbell ringing also took place on the lawn.

The business meeting which followed was presided over by the Branch Chairman (Mr. Sidney Hillier), supported by the honorary secretary (Mr. H. Brownlee West). The places of the next three meetings were decided upon as follows: August 4th, Pittleton with Netheravon; September 1st, Bratton; October 6th, Bradford-on-Avon.

Very hearty votes of thanks were given to the Vicar of Seend for the use of the bells and the service in church, and also to the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Awdry for their great kindness in providing for the temporary requirements of the company, both the reverend gentlemen replying in kind and encouraging speeches which were much appreciated. The ringers then returned to the tower for more ringing, and it was nearly nine o'clock when the long array of bicycles, left just outside the churchyard wall, began to disappear and make their way to their various homes.

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