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A NOTABLE ANNIVERSARY

IT is very appropriate that the Guild of Devonshire Ringers should have chosen to visit Plymouth for the Annual Festival on Whit Monday, for it was at Plymouth 80 years ago, on June 15th, 1874, that the first General Meeting of the Guild was held.

A great deal of preparatory work had been done to ensure that the first public function of the newly-formed Guild should be a success. Three committee meetings had been held beforehand to settle the arrangements for the great day. In order to induce as many members as possible to attend, the Secretary was authorised 'to pay the railway fares of such performing members as should apply to him for the same one week before the Annual Meeting,' and tickets for the dinner at the Royal Hotel were supplied to performing members at 1s. each.

One probable reason why Plymouth had been chosen was that William Bannister, the well-known College Youth and author of a book on ringing, had migrated from Woolwich to Devonport in 1865, and had trained one of the few change ringing bands to be found at that time in the county. Another was that St. Andrew's bells were being augmented from 8 to 10, and June 15th was the date selected for their opening. There were very few men indeed in the county in 1874 capable of ten-bell ringing, and so the College Youths were invited to come at the expense of the Guild and open the bells.

It is fair to assume that Bannister was the prime mover in this matter, although in the very full account of the day's proceedings in 'The Western Daily Mercury' he is not mentioned as taking part in the opening touches. 'The ringers,' says this report, 'were Messrs. Haley, Haworth, Cooter, Wood, Ferris, Pettit, Muskett, Greanleaf, Jones and Tanner, and this same set have, during the last year, opened the belfries of the chief churches at Dundee, Waterford, Northwold, Norfolk and Bournemouth. The inauguration of the new bells was of a most satisfactory character, the treble bells harmonised most thoroughly with the others, whilst the peals themselves were highly enjoyed by the large assemblage of persons in the vicinity

of the church. During the day were rung pieces of the Grand Sire, Stedman's principle and Kent treble bob methods.' Incidentally, the Guild Minute Book reveals that the band were paid £31 10s. for their trouble—30s. a head expenses and £1 13s. each for travelling. A subsequent application by Haley for a further sum for expenses was courteously but firmly declined.

The day began with a service in St. Andrew's followed by a dinner at the Royal Hotel, at which over 100 members and friends attended. The president, Col. C. A. W. Troyte (the author of 'Change Ringing' and Squire of Huntsham), took the chair at the subsequent business meeting which, judging by the newspaper report, must have been a lengthy affair. The strength of the three-months-old Guild was given as 60 honorary and 57 performing members, belonging to 11 different bands of ringers.

The Festival ended with a concert in the Assembly Rooms. 'At the commencement,' says the Press report, 'the President gave a very lucid explanation of the methods of change ringing, which was accompanied with illustrations on the handbells. The members of St. Andrew's choir, under the able direction of Mr. Graham Clarke, sang some choice pieces in their usual spirited manner. Mr. George Cox, the noted tenor of Exeter Cathedral, kindly gave his assistance, and acquitted himself in a manner that called forth much applause. Not the least attraction was Mr. William Bannister's bell band, who, to the intense and manifold delight of those present, performed some charming selections of concerted music. Altogether the affair was a great success, the hall being crowded with a large and gratified audience.'

In those early days the emphasis was on the great need for belfry reform, and for the recognition of ringers as church workers: that prime object has been very largely achieved. The enthusiasts of 1874 also hoped to convert the whole county to half-pull changes. That dream has still to be realised, but if on Whit Monday they could be present in the flesh as surely they will be in the spirit, the founders of the Guild would have good reason to look with approval at what has been built upon the foundations which they so well and truly laid.

E. J. T.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 5, 1954, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,**A PEAL OF 5280 FRAMLAND SURPRISE MAXIMUS**

Tenor 25 cwt.

BRIAN MARTIN	Treble	*JOHN A. ACRES	7
WINIFRED M. BURTON ..	2	HAROLD J. POOLE	8
ERNEST W. RAWSON ..	3	S. ANTHONY JESSON ..	9
TERENCE A. THORNER ..	4	†JOHN R. SMITH	10
PETER J. STANFORTH ..	5	HERRICK B. BOWLEY ..	11
SHIRLEY BURTON	6	WILLIAM J. ROOT	Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 75th peal for the Guild. † 50th Surprise Maximus peal. First peal to be rung in this method. All members of the Cathedral Service Band.

Rung as a welcome to the Very Rev. Mervyn Armstrong, O.B.E., M.A., upon his installation as Provost of Leicester.

TEN BELL PEALS

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,**A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL**

Tenor 27½ cwt. in D flat.

JESSIE M. KIPPIN	Treble	WILLIAM F. OATWAY ..	6
FRANK E. DARBY	2	THOMAS G. BANNISTER ..	7
ROYDON DAVIES	3	TONY PRICE	8
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ..	4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ..	9
EDWARD G. TALBOT	5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN	Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE.

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

Rung as a memorial peal to Daniel D. Cooper, late Master of the Surrey Association, by the secretary and associates of many years' standing. Also to Frank Blondell, a member of the local band, who died on March 29th.

SOUTHOVER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 10, 1954, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,**A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL**

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in E.

*DORIS E. COLGATE	Treble	C. ERNEST SMITH	6
WILLIAM ROGERS	2	*ROBERT COLLINS	7
*FRANK H. HICKS	3	*LEONARD STILWELL	8
EDGAR R. RAPLEY	4	*RAYMOND OVERY	9
KENNETH SNELLING	5	WILLIAM T. BEESON ..	Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by WILLIAM ROGERS.

* First peal of Yorkshire Royal. First peal of Yorkshire Royal as conductor.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Joan E. M. Hills.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

DONCASTER, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES**

Thurstans' Four-part.

Tenor 30½ cwt.

EDGAR C. STACEY	Treble	HAROLD WAGSTAFF	5
MRS. NORA WALL	2	DENNIS A. CHAPMAN ..	6
F. ARTHUR STAVELEY ..	3	HAROLD WALKER	7
JAMES MCCLUSKEY	4	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY ..	Tenor

Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. G. Halksworth, of Scarborough, on the occasion of their diamond wedding.

PENKRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb.

SANDFORD C. DUMBELL ..	Treble	ARTHUR S. WILLIAMS ..	5
EDMUND MALIN	2	ROY K. MOWFORTH ..	6
ROY BASTONE	3	ROGER L. HAWKSWORTH ..	7
RONALD W. ADAMS	4	WILLIAM R. JOHNSON ..	Tenor

Conducted by ROGER L. HAWKSWORTH.

Rung as a diamond wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. Bellingham, of Penkridge.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., April 5, 1954, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5152 DARLINGTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

H. JAMES TURNER	Treble	PETER BORDER	5
MURIEL REAY	2	JOHN PINFOLD	6
ARTHUR V. PEARSON ..	3	CLIFFORD A. BARRON ..	7
RODNEY B. MEADOWS ..	4	GEORGE E. FEARN	Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. BARRON.

First peal in the method for the Guild, and by all.

PRESTWOLD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 7, 1954, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

MRS. H. J. POOLE	Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER ..	5
HAROLD J. POOLE	2	JOHN R. SMITH	6
ERNEST V. RAWSON ..	3	MICHAEL E. BROWN ..	7
JOHN A. ACRES	4	S. ANTHONY JESSON ..	Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

First peal in the method on the bells.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., April 8, 1954, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5152 COLMORE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.

EVELYN M. FLETCHER ..	Treble	JOHN PINFOLD	5
PETER BORDER	2	TERRY R. HAMPTON ..	6
MURIEL REAY	3	CLIFFORD A. BARRON ..	7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON ..	4	GEORGE E. FEARN	Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER.

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

First peal in the method (Tipler's A41/3).

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., April 8, 1954, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 BYFLEET SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

C. EDWARD LANKESTER ..	Treble	THOMAS J. LOCK	5
ALICK CUTLER	2	BRIAN D. THRELFALL ..	6
THOMAS H. FRANCIS ..	3	ALFRED J. HOUSE	7
JOHN R. MAYNE	4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED ..	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

The first peal in the method.

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LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., April 9, 1954, in 2 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5152 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6½ cwt.

E. CHARLES TURNER Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE 5
*WINIFRED M. BURTON 2	*JOHN A. ACRES 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE 3	J. FREDERICK MILNER 7
PETER J. STANFORTH 4	*S. ANTHONY JESSON .. Tenor

Composed by C. KENNETH LEWIS. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

* First peal in the method.

CAMPSALL, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Doncaster and District Society.)

On Sat., April 10, 1954, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt 1 qr. 5 lb. in A flat.

EDGAR C. STACEY Treble	ERNEST SHORT 5
JOHN WARDLE 2	†FREDERICK J. JACKSON .. 6
*ALBERT HULLEY 3	HAROLD WAGSTAFFE .. 7
*DENNIS A. CHAPMAN .. 4	ERNEST J. PADGETT .. Tenor

Composed by J. NICHOL. Conducted by ERNEST J. PADGETT.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method 'inside.'

Rung to celebrate the birth of a granddaughter to the ringer of the 5th.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Sat., April 10, 1954, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. in E flat.

ANTHONY AGER Treble	*TERRY R. HAMPTON 5
ARTHUR V. PEARSON 2	JOHN PINFOLD 6
MURIEL REAY 3	*GEORGE E. FEARN 7
J. EDWARD CAWSE 4	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.

* 200th peal together.

HENLEY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Fri., April 9, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5088 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 lb. in A flat.

RONALD W. STEWARD Treble	ROBERT E. LESTER 5
RODERICK W. PIPE 2	*JOHN W. BLYTHE 6
PATRICIA M. CLARKE 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
GEORGE W. PIPE 4	CECIL W. PIPE Tenor

Composed by CHAS. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

* First peal of Surprise Major. First peal of Pudsey Major by all except the ringers of 7 and 8

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

OAKLEY, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 27, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Tenor 12 cwt.

ROY F. BARRETT Treble	BRIAN J. MAKEHAM 3
MICHAEL SINFIELD 2	RAYMOND A. LUCAS 4
BRYAN PATTISON Tenor	

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

Rung by members of Bedford Modern School for the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

SHARNBROOK, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., March 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb.

*BETTY MARSH Treble	†BRIAN J. MAKEHAM 4
MARY STEPHENS 2	†RAYMOND A. LUCAS 5
†MICHAEL SINFIELD 3	BRYAN PATTISON Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

Rung by members of the Dame Alice Harpur School for Girls, and Bedford Modern School.

OCKBROOK, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different 720's.

Tenor 9 cwt.

W. RODNEY HARRISON .. Treble	†ALAN TAYLOR 4
JOHN S. HARRISON 2	DAVID J. MARSHALL .. 5
*ELISABETH GRIME 3	MAURICE BAILEY Tenor

Conducted by W. RODNEY HARRISON.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in the method.

HANDLEY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 7, 1954, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Cambridge, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

BRIAN HARRIS Treble	J. BENJAMIN BUDD 4
*C. ANNE MUIRHEAD 2	ROGER B. MORRIS 5
*KENNETH W. MACINTOSH 3	HENRY O. BAKER Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN HARRIS.

* First peal in seven methods.

WAVERTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 7, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt.

HENRY O. BAKER Treble	J. BENJAMIN BUDD 4
*E. CYRIL CREWE 2	†ROBERT W. HINDE 5
C. ANNE MUIRHEAD 3	BRIAN HARRIS Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN HARRIS.

* First peal of Plain Bob 'inside.' † First peal of Plain Bob.

FRYERNING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 10, 1954, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Hereward, Oxford Bob, Thelwall, Double Oxford, Childwall, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*DAVID J. TEMPLE Treble	JOE E. G. ROAST 4
*MARY DOWSETT 2	PETER J. EVES 5
ERNEST E. S. JOHNSON .. 3	DENIS A. S. SYMONDS .. Tenor

Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.

* First peal in seven methods. The conductor has now 'circled' this tower.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., April 11, 1954, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 15 methods, viz.: (i) Old Oxford, Willesden, and College Bob IV. Delight; (ii) Duke of Norfolk, Norbury and College Exercise Treble Bob; (iii) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob; (iv) Oxford Bob and Plain Bob; (v) Thelwall and Double Oxford; (vi) Childwall and St. Clement's; (vii) Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 10 cwt.

F. KEITH WILLIAMSON .. Treble	TERRY EARLE 4
ALAN R. SYDER 2	*DENIS A. S. SYMONDS .. 5
IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS .. 3	JOE E. G. ROAST Tenor

Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.

* 75th peal. First peal in 15 methods by all.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., April 13, 1954, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORK SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. in A.
HILDA M. SNOWDEN Treble | ALAN R. SYDER 4
HILDA G. SNOWDEN 2 | WALTER ARNOLD 5
JOHN WARNER 3 | TERRY EARLE Tenor

Conducted by TERRY EARLE.

First peal in the method by all the band and on the bells. Miss H. G. Snowden has now 'circled' this tower.

HANDBELL PEALS

LONDONDERRY.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Jan. 13, 1954, in 1 Hour and 47 Minutes,
AT 116, FOUNTAIN STREET,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

JOHN J. FIELDING 1—2 | FREDERICK E. DUKES 3—4
JACK CAMPBELL 5—6

Conducted by JACK CAMPBELL.

OCKBROOK, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 1, 1954, in 1 Hour and 57 Minutes,
AT 7, BARE LANE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 13 in F.
*JOHN S. HARRISON 1—2 | MAURICE BAILEY 3—4
†W. RODNEY HARRISON 5—6

Conducted by W. RODNEY HARRISON.

*First peal 'in hand' and of Minor. †First peal of Minor 'in hand.' First peal of Minor as conductor.

DONCASTER, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 8, 1954, in 2 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT 38, CASTLE HILLS ROAD, SCAWTHORPE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 34 methods: (1) Plain, Double, Reverse, Fulbeck, Canterbury, Double Oxford, Thelwall, London, Lytham, St. Clement's, Childwall, College, Wavertree College, Windermere, Frodsham, Horsmonden, Killarny, Cumberland and Ennerdale; (2) Oxford, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Capel Treble Bob; (3) Walsingham, Cromer, Olney, Tibenham, Lammass, Steventon, Fulmer and Chalfont Alliance and Little Bob; (4) Kent Treble Bob; (5), (6) and (7) Plain Bob. Tenor size 15 in C.
HOWARD SCOTT 1—2 | WILFRID F. MORETON 3—4
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY 5—6

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

First peal in 34 methods 'in hand' by all and for the Association. A birthday compliment to Mrs. W. E. Critchley.

HAMPSTEAD, LONDON.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sat., April 10, 1954, in 1 Hour and 48 Minutes,

AT 76, FITZJOHNS AVENUE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor size 13 in E.

J. M. C. CLARK-MAXWELL (Selwyn) 1—2
J. M. ABERCROMBIE (Newnham) 3—4
R. J. W. HOUSDEN (Selwyn) 5—6

Conducted by R. J. W. HOUSDEN.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On April 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Rosemary Patching 1, Edna Everest 2, Valerie Mephram 3, Agnes F. Millam 4, H. W. Brown 5, S. W. Brown (cond.) 6. First of Minor for 1, 2 and 4. Rung as a farewell to John Truran, of Wivelsfield, before leaving for H.M. Forces.

CLERKENWELL, E.C.—At St. James' Church on April 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Deverell 1, Miss M. Prockson 2, E. Pryor 3, R. Newman 4, G. Parsons 5, W. Prockson 6, R. Begrie (cond.) 7, H. Barnard 8. Rung for Palm Sunday, also a birthday compliment to H. Barnard.

COLERNE, WILTS.—On March 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: T. Gray 1, G. C. Weeks 2, G. J. Sheppard 3, J. R. C. Tiley 4, P. W. Weeks (cond.) 5.

ELTHAM, KENT.—On April 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Rawlings 1, K. Burbridge (first of Triples) 2, B. Aldridge 3, F. Hurrell 4, T. Easterby 5, G. Daynes 6, E. B. Crowder (cond.) 7, J. Hurrell 8. Rung for Eltham and district Toc H service.

GRAVELEY, HERTS.—On April 4th, 1,320 Ipswich Surprise Minor: D. Jones (cond.) 1, R. Dixon 2, Miss A. Willes 3, M. Orme 4, M. Collings 5, P. Mehew 6. First of Ipswich by all. For the children's missionary service.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.—On April 4th, 1,280 Bristol Surprise Major: L. J. Last 1, G. W. Pipe 2, C. J. Sedgley 3, R. W. Pipe (cond.) 4, J. Bennett 5, C. W. Pipe 6, L. W. Wiffen 7, H. G. Snowden 8. Rung for Matins.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On April 7th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: K. Timbury (first quarter of major) 1, Miss A. Willes 2, E. Winters 3, W. Todd 4, J. Church 5, M. Orme (first in the method 'inside') 6, D. Gullick 7, D. Jones (cond.) 8. Confirmation service by the Bishop of St. Albans.

HOOK NORTON, OXON.—On March 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles, with 4.6.8 covering: F. Wyton 1, Miss D. Page 2, I. Harris 3, F. Davis 4, C. Sole 5, R. Nind 6, A. E. Borsberry (cond.) 7, A. Charles 8. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect for J. E. Fairbrother, an old ringer, whose funeral took place that day.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.—At St. Margaret's Church on March 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: H. Crome 1, S. G. Stanley 2, E. Greenacre 3, R. Greenacre 4, W. J. Houghton (first on ten) 5, C. Tovell 6, E. H. Mastin 7, L. Houghton 8, W. Rose 9, N. V. Harding (cond.) 10.

KINGSTHORPE, NORTHAMPTON.—On April 11th, 1,260 Bob Minor: D. F. Wright 1, J. Felce 2, J. Payne 3, B. E. Frost 4, F. Benfield 5, S. F. Earl (cond.) 6. Birthday compliments to the ringer of 2nd (39) and to Harry Clarke (87).

LAMBETH, S.E.—On April 4th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. A. Hales 1, T. H. Taffender 2, Miss S. Barringer 3, J. Bullock 4, F. L. W. Blewer 5, N. G. Hollingworth (cond.) 6, C. W. Ottley 7, W. D. Grainger 8. Rung for evensong.

LONDON, E.C.—At St. Olave's, Hart Street, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Hales 1, T. H. Taffender (cond.) 2, Miss S. Barringer 3, C. A. Hughes 4, Mrs. S. Bullock 5, C. W. Ottley 6, L. Bullock 7, J. Bullock 8.

MARLOW, BUCKS.—On March 27th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: E. Silvey 1, R. E. Dean 2, M. Spracklen 3, Miss S. Hazelby 4, Miss E. Gibson 5, J. T. Clay 6, L. J. Young (cond.) 7, E. D. Poole 8. For evensong on Mothering Sunday.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. L. Boore (first quarter) 1, W. J. Burt 2, C. Watson 3, W. Welling 4, A. Cross 5, D. W. Stone (cond.) 6, G. Coussins 7, R. B. Warman 8. Rung for Confirmation service, held by the Bishop of Reading.

PECKLETON, LEICS.—On April 3rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Michael Brown 1, Kathleen Proctor 2, Rita Stratford 3, Christine Stratford 4, Roy Hall 5, Allan Chapman 6. Rung on the occasion of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. Hall, of Peckleton. Mr. Hall is head ringer and has been verger of this church for 44 years.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKS.—On April 10th, 1,320 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Smith 1, F. White 2, H. Nutt 3, L. Dawson (cond.) 4, A. Farrand 5, A. J. Bennett 6. Rung as a 90th birthday compliment to Jonathan Pilling, of Saddleworth.

SHOREDITCH, E.—At St. Leonard's on March 28th, 1,260 Double Norwich Court Bob Royal: Mrs. L. Pearson 1, Mrs. F. J. Matthews 2, Mrs. C. J. Matthews 3, Mrs. T. H. Francis 4, L. Pearson 5, A. J. House 6, A. R. Ling 7, J. R. Leeming 8, F. J. Matthews 9, T. H. Francis (cond.) 10. First quarter in the method for 5, 7 and 8.

WANDSWORTH, S.W.—On April 4th, at Holy Trinity Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. S. Langdon 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, H. Langdon (cond.) 3, W. Rawlings 4, J. Stephenson 5, J. Phillips 6, H. Belcher 7, H. M. Page 8. Rung for evensong, also a birthday compliment to Mr. L. H. Ford, G.M., bell warden of the above church.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On March 28th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Anne Holmes 1, A. S. Richards 2, Sheila Gramson (first quarter away from treble) 3, Mary Fuller 4, R. Bird (cond.) 5, J. E. Cannell 6.

WILLOUGHBY, WARWICKS.—On March 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. W. O. Hancock 1, G. H. Hancock (cond.) 2, R. Fennell 3, S. G. Ivens 4, F. W. Hancock 5, C. J. Jarvis 6. Rung on the 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Jarvis.—Also on Feb. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. W. O. Hancock 1, G. H. Hancock (cond.) 2, F. W. Hancock 3, S. G. Ivens 4, S. W. Berry (first quarter) 5, C. J. Jarvis 6. Rung for Sunday evening service.

WYKE REGIS, DORSET.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Stephens 1, F. Crude 2, F. Symonds 3, G. Abbott 4, J. W. Rose (cond.) 5, J. Hart 6, F. Stedman 7, J. Rose 8. Rung for Confirmation service by the Bishop of Sherborne and for the birthday of the conductor.

QUARTER PEALS

BLEDLow, BUCKS.—On April 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Alan Plumridge 1, Gordon Strathdee 2, Aubrey J. Seymour (cond.) 3, George Seymour 4, John Hunt 5. Rung half-muffled in memory of Clement Oswald Skilbeck.

BOSTON, Lincs.—On April 4th, at St. Botolph's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Lorna Briggs 1, A. Freeston 2, R. Brown 3, S. Jessop 4, J. Petch 5, F. Dewey (cond.) 6, W. E. Clarke 7, T. Freeston 8. A 70th birthday compliment to the conductor and to commemorate his 40th year as a ringer at this church.

BUCKINGHAM.—On April 10th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: G. F. Burton 1, F. Vickers (first in method) 2, E. E. Pearson 3, H. H. Alexander 4, W. A. Yates 5, G. W. Holland 6, E. J. Smith 7, A. R. Pink (conductor) 8.

CHERITON, KENT.—On April 10th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: J. E. Chittenden 1, W. C. Chandler 2, G. F. Gray (first of Major) 3, E. J. Walker 4, M. J. Martin 5, T. Ellender 6, J. R. Cooper 7, C. A. Wratten (cond.) 8.

CHILDE OKEFORD, DORSET.—On April 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Pike 1, B. Ridout 2, W. J. Foot 3, G. Eagle 4, A. Hart (cond.) 5, W. Trevett 6. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. E. Clark and Miss W. Dunn.

EASTON IN GORDANO, SOMERSET.—On April 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. G. Stiffall (first quarter) 1, G. Chamberlain 2, L. W. Allen 3, H. R. Carlsson (first 'inside') 4, N. H. Coombs (cond.) 5, E. Light 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. E. J. Neate, mother of S. F. Neate (captain), who was buried this day.

FULHAM, LONDON.—On April 11th, at All Saints' Church, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: H. M. Page 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, J. B. Sansom 3, W. J. Rawlings 4, H. Belcher 5, M. V. Chilcott 6, J. Stephenson 7, R. F. Deal (cond.) 8, T. E. Setter 9, J. Phillips 10.

HENLOW, BEDS.—On April 11th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Miss J. Dear 1, Miss D. Hare 2, G. Dear (first of Cambridge) 3, M. Orme 4, L. Bywaters 5, D. Jones (cond.) 6.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.—On April 8th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. Reeks 1, B. Pidgeon 2, J. Salway 3, S. Skinner 4, F. Wreford 5, J. Glanvill 6, J. Quick 7, G. E. Retter (cond.) 8. First in the method by 1, 3, 4, 7 and 8.

HORSELL, SURREY.—On April 3rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Doreen Gibbons 1, Pauline Drury (first quarter 'inside') 2, Betty Olney 3, E. R. Warner 4, George Oliver (cond.) 5, A. Sibbick 6.

HOUGHTON CONQUEST, BEDS.—On April 9th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Betty Marsh 1, J. B. Long 2, Mary Stephens 3, R. A. Ward 4, S. J. Woodcock 5, B. Pattison (cond.) 6. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to R. A. Ward.

LINCOLN.—At St. Botolph's Church on April 4th, 1,260 Minor (720 Cambridge, 180 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Plain Bob): J. Walden 1, Betty Brown 2, G. Paul 3, C. Brown 4, H. Lowman 5, J. E. Cook (cond.) 6. Rung for evensong and a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th.

MARSTON BIGOT, SOMERSET.—On April 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Bridges 1, H. Carver 2, J. Phippen 3, G. Wareham 4, E. Bray (cond.) 5, C. Pearce 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. Mills, of Frome.—Also on April 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Carver 1, J. Phippen 2, E. Bray (cond.) 3, G. Wareham 4, W. Mills 5, C. Pearce 6. Rung before evensong.

OSSETT, YORKS.—On April 4th, 1,316 Grandsire Triples: Fred Bennett 1, Leslie Fisher 2, David Cubitt 3, Kenneth Park 4, Geoffrey Townend 5, Herbert Kirby 6, Wilfrid Moreton (cond.) 7, Mark Lockwood 8. Rung as a token of appreciation to the Rev. John Barton, of this parish, who is leaving for Kirkburton.

PRESTON, DORSET.—On April 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Dr. C. A. Ward 1, Mrs. A. J. Slade 2, H. Corben 3, Miss B. Marsh 4, A. J. Slade (cond.) 5, G. Randall 6. First quarter for 1 and 6. Rung on the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. H. T. Cornick (a member of the local band) and Mrs. Cornick.

ROWDE, WILTS.—On April 9th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. Mortimer 1, D. Beresford (cond.) 2, G. Winter 3, S. Grant 4, J. Romain 5, H. A. Gummer 6.

SEEND, WILTS.—On April 2nd, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. Mortimer 1, D. Beresford (cond.) 2, G. Winter 3, S. G. Grant 4, J. Romain 5, H. Gummer 6.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Joan Wilcockson (first quarter) 1, D. Cattell 2, Margaret Mesley (first 'inside') 3, J. Schofield 4, E. J. Leversuch 5, R. Stoddard 6, W. Wenban (cond.) 7, C. Wenban 8.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On April 6th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: R. King 1, D. Taylor 2, A. Dix 3, A. Wenban 4, S. Hoare 5, D. K. Adkins 6, W. Wenban 7, J. Mayne (cond.) 8. First in method for 2 and 4.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church on April 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Battell (first of Triples) 1, R. Lumsden 2, H. Rumens 3, A. J. N. Boyack 4, E. E. Holman (cond.) 5, H. Smith 6, F. C. Maynard 7, C. T. W. Coles 8. Rung for evensong.



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GUILDFORD GUILD AND SURREY ASSOCIATION

FRIENDSHIP, BUT INDIVIDUALITY TO BE MAINTAINED — 17-YEAR-OLD LEADING CONDUCTOR—TWO NEW VICE-PRESIDENTS—EDITOR EXPLAINS 'RINGING WORLD' POSITION—ANONYMOUS LETTERS DISCUSSED

THE principal business before the annual meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, held at Guildford on April 10th, with the Master (Mr. A. Harman) in the chair, was the relationship of the Guild with the Surrey Association.

The matter had been considered by the Executive Committee, who drafted the following paragraph defining the Guild's policy:—

'It has come to the notice of your officers that suggestions emanating from ringers resident in the Diocese are being made in certain quarters that the time is ripe for some sort of arrangement to be made with the Surrey Association, primarily, apparently, to ensure that ringers can be members of this Guild and the County Association on payment of one subscription only.

'The committee takes this opportunity of saying that the Guildford Guild wishes to work in perfect harmony with all other organisations, including particularly the Surrey Association, and points out that we have never raised any objection to any other organisation holding meetings, ringing peals and recruiting members within the Diocese, but the Guildford Guild does rightly claim that it is the ringing organisation of the Diocese and that all Church of England ringers resident within the Diocese owe their allegiance first and foremost to us.

'Your committee thinks, too, and we trust that the general body of members will agree with us, that any arrangement with any other organisation which would involve control from outside the Diocese being exercised in any way over the Guild's finances, activities or administration would at once destroy the Diocesan status of the Guild with perhaps far-reaching and, from the point of view of a Diocesan organisation, disastrous results.

'Your committee wishes it to be understood that it cannot without protest permit any ringer resident within its boundaries to take any action tending to usurp the loyalty of any of its members, and it asks all members to turn a deaf ear to the blandishments of the advocates of any sort of amalgamation with any other ringing organisation.'

THE DISCUSSION

Mr. G. L. Grover said the Surrey Association claimed to be a county association and they could not object to them getting members from the county. What they did object to was Surrey Association members, who should be members of the Guildford Guild by residence, doing all they could to upset the Guildford Guild. With reference to the alteration of boundaries of the Surrey districts, he had received a letter from Mr. Champion stating that it was in no sense an aggressive but a domestic matter between two districts of the Association.

Mr. A. H. Pulling expressed the hope that the whole meeting would be behind the Executive Committee's report.

Mr. C. Denyer felt that the Surrey Association would wish for a happy relationship with them. Ringing for the Church came first, whether it was rung by the Guildford Diocesan Guild or the Surrey Association.

Mr. R. Whittington, said the subject was brought up 40 or 50 years ago, and when they came to examine it they found it was a couple of people nagging.

Mr. H. Pitstow said he was an officer of the Guild and also of the Surrey Association, and he assured the meeting that the Surrey Association wished nothing but amicable arrangements with the Guild. Unfortunately, there were two

or three who wanted amalgamation, but the vast majority of Surrey Association members were quite content with the present arrangement and deprecate this movement. The definition of ringing areas which took place at the Surrey Association meeting was a domestic matter relating to the transfer of one or two towers. The Surrey Association had no intention of coming into the south-west corner of Surrey.

Mr. A. C. Hazelden commented that this was the third or fourth time the matter had been raised, and it arose from dual subscriptions, particularly in areas like Leatherhead, Epsom and Banstead. At the time of the foundation of the Guildford Diocesan Guild it was seriously suggested that some financial arrangement should be made, but the late Mr. J. D. Drewitt prevented it being reached.

The report of the committee was adopted with one vote being cast against.

PEAL RINGING

The report recorded a marked increase in peal ringing during the year. Forty-four peals were rung, all on tower bells, in 28 diocesan towers and three towers outside the diocese. Although nearly twice as many peals were rung as in the previous year, the committee regretted to note that there were only the same number of first pealers in 1953 as in 1952. The committee noted with disquiet that no handbell peals were rung and thought that this branch of their art was worthy of a little more attention. Congratulations were offered to Mr. E. J. Wells, of Farnham, who rang in 27 peals and topped the list of conductors with 17 to his credit. As Mr. Wells was only 17 years of age, he 'bids fair, if he continues in the way he has started, to make a name in the world of ringing.' Shalford Surprise Major was rung for the first time.

Major E. J. Bragg, who was re-elected peal recorder, said the peal book had been written up to the end of 1952. He had indexed the 743 peals that had been rung for the Guild, and of these 166 had been rung in Holy Trinity, Guildford. There had been 82 conductors, and Mr. Pulling had conducted 331 peals and Mr. Harman 73. There had been 42 handbell peals. Doubles peals totalled 21, Minor 61 (a six-method peal had yet to be rung), Triples 221, Major 165 (Double Norwich C.B. 65), Surprise Major 145 (in 28 different methods), Spliced Surprise 3, Caters 46, Royal 32 and Cinques 1. The next peal would be the 800th.

TWO NEW VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mr. C. Denyer (Farnham) and Mr. R. Whittington (Cranleigh) were added to the list of vice-presidents. The report recorded the services of Mr. Denyer to the Farnham District as secretary and afterwards as Ringing Master, and that he had been succeeded as Ringing Master by Messrs. T. Page and E. J. Wells. Mr. R. Whittington had retired from the Guild Committee, having served from its formation and had also served on the Central Council. Prior to 1928 he served on the committee of the Winchester Guild. Both returned thanks for their election, Mr. Denyer remarking that he had 40 years more to do before reaching Mr. Whittington's record.

Other officers elected were: Master, Mr. A. Harman; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. G. L. Grover; assistant hon. secretary, Miss W. Oliver; hon. auditor, Mr. R. C. W. Hunter; Central Council representatives, Messrs. A. H. Pulling, A. C. Hazelden, A. Harman and J. R. Worrall.

Mr. T. W. White expressed regret at the resignation of Mr. G. Grover from the Central Council brought about to avoid a ballot. His decision to resign was a loss to the Exercise, as he undertook very useful work on the Peal Analysis Committee. It was invaluable to the smooth working of ringing generally that Guild secretaries should be members of the Central Council. He moved that a vote of thanks be accorded to Mr. Grover for his work on the Council.

Mr. Pulling expressed the opinion that the Central Council would not lose the services of Mr. Grover, and Mr. Shepherd suggested that the delegates to the Council from the Guild should take a recommendation from the meeting pressing for Mr. Grover to be elected an honorary member. Such a course was deprecated by Mr. T. W. White, who said it would be construed as an endeavour on the part of the Guild to obtain additional representation. Any action for the retention of Mr. Grover's services should come from outside the Guild and not be sponsored by the meeting.

THE ACCOUNTS

The accounts were presented by Mr. L. C. W. Hunter and showed a balance on the general fund of £48 18s. 9d., against £42 1s. 5d. at the beginning of the year. The Benevolent Fund had a balance of £116 and the New Cathedral Bells Fund £72 17s. 2d. Mr. C. W. Denyer offered suitable collecting boxes for the two funds last mentioned, for which there was an appeal for greater support.

LOSSES BY DEATH

The meeting stood in remembrance of Mr. A. C. Otway (Leatherhead), Mr. G. S. Gurr (honorary member, Cobham), Mr. D. Cooper (Croydon) and Mr. S. Sleet (Ottershaw). It was decided to send a letter of condolence to Mrs. Cooper.

LIBRARY REPORT

Mr. A. C. Hazelden, in his report, stated that the library had been out of action for six months owing to repairs to S. Nicolas' belfry. The Executive Committee had agreed to the production of a schedule of library property. Progress had been made in the repair of binding, in which Mr. Denyer was thanked for his services. Mr. Hazelden and his committee were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. Gordon Peters.

Mr. S. Joyce reported, as badge secretary, that 46 badges had been sold during the year, which made a profit of £1 3s. 3d. He was re-elected to his office with thanks for his services.

FREE CERTIFICATES

A proposition from the Chertsey District that membership certificates should be given free to new members joining from 1954 was defeated.

Major Bragg said that at Aldershot a Guild certificate, purchased by the tower, was given to each member on ringing his first quarter peal. This arrangement was warmly commended.

Mr. S. Joyce objected most strongly to free certificates. If distributed free they would not be valued, he said. They should not be given away free like election literature.

ANNUAL DINNER

Mr. W. H. Viggers reported on the success of the annual dinner, which was attended by a company of 158. He had provisionally booked the Lion Hotel, Guildford, for this year's dinner for October 16th. The meeting confirmed the booking and re-elected the Dinner Committee with thanks for their past services.

(Continued on next page)

GUILDFORD GUILD & SURREY ASSOCIATION—Continued

'RINGING WORLD' POSITION

A letter was read from the secretary of the Central Council calling attention to the need for more postal subscribers to keep 'The Ringing World' solvent.

Mr. T. W. White explained the present position, and said that the balance in hand on 1953 of approximately £40 was only secured by the generosity of ringers who sent donations with peals and quarter peals, and these amounted to £310. It was a magnificent gesture and the Editorial Committee much appreciated this assistance that had enabled them to tide over a difficult year. It meant, however, that the journal was living on charity. The only practical solution was a big increase in the number of postal subscribers. Costs of production had been analysed and it was found that for every additional copy purchased through the newsagent there was a margin of one farthing to meet the cost of running the paper. From a postal subscriber the committee received approximately 2d. a copy. The circulation was being well maintained; in fact, the sale for the last issue had only been exceeded once before by one of the Coronation issues. The committee were loath to increase the price to 6d.

In all Guilds to-day there were still a large number of ringers who did not take the journal and in consequence missed much of the fellowship its pages engendered. He asked conductors to make certain that each ringer ringing his first peal or quarter peal received a copy. It was one they would look back on in after years. Copies could be ordered when sending reports.

ANONYMOUS LETTERS

Mr. F. A. Munday drew attention to the ban on anonymous letters in 'The Ringing

World' and asked the meeting to pass the following resolution for submission to the Central Council: 'That this Council deprecates the ban on the publication of anonymous letters in 'The Ringing World' imposed by the Editorial Committee and instructs the committee to remove it forthwith.'

Mr. J. R. Worrall, seconding, said many felt it was an unjust ban.

Mr. A. H. Pulling: These anonymous letters go back 'donkey's years.' I have always been against them. In the time of the late Master (Major Hesse) an anonymous letter was the means of losing a peal. If anyone reads an anonymous letter between the lines they can understand the reason why.

Mr. Munday said as a College Youth he felt that some of the members got unnecessarily shirty about a certain matter. An anonymous letter gave people a chance of expressing an opinion without being ostracised.

Mr. Leslie Hunter: If a person has not the courage to put his name and address to a letter he should not write it.

The motion was defeated by a large majority and Mr. Grover informed the mover and seconder that any individual member could submit a motion to the Council if he could find a seconder.

Mr. F. E. Hawthorne proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies who had prepared such an excellent tea, and Mr. C. Denyer expressed the thanks of the Guild to Mr. Grover and Miss Oliver for their services during the year.

The Master expressed his personal thanks to all the officers for a good year's work.

The Rev. C. G. Pearson, who conducted the Guild's service in St. Mary's Church during the afternoon, was thanked by Mr. Grover for his services.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Canterbury District Thank the Archbishop for His Tribute

The quarterly meeting of the Canterbury District was held at Whitstable on April 10th. Forty-five members attended from Boughton, Birchington, Canterbury, Faversham, Ospringe, Sturry, St. Laurence, Throwley, Selling, Whitstable, Deal and Wickhambreaux. Ringing was held during the afternoon prior to the service, which was conducted by the Vicar, Rev. C. E. Waynforth, who also gave an address. The attendance of the choir attached to the church was much appreciated and added to the beauty of the service.

Tea followed in the spacious Church Hall of All Saints', this being arranged by Mr. C. C. Dilnot, whose teas are a noted feature in this district. Ringers and choir all joined to make a happy gathering.

The usual business meeting was held, with Mr. J. A. Russell occupying the chair. One new resident member was elected, as were five new non-resident life members. For the next quarterly meeting, Boughton-under-Blean was selected, and Goodnestone got a narrow vote in favour of Great Mongeham for the by-meeting. The collection was voted to the Bell Rope Fund of the church.

Mention was made of the Archbishop's tribute paid to ringers in his Diocesan Notes, and it was unanimously agreed that a letter be sent to him from the district appreciating his words.

The Chairman thanked all those who had made the meeting possible, especially Mr. Dilnot for his never-failing help.

Further ringing was held after tea, and a close at about 8.30 p.m. brought to an end another very happy meeting at Whitstable.

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD (convener), 122, Lee Road, Blackheath, London, S.E.3.
FRANK I. HAIRS.
JOSEPH T. DYKE.
HAROLD J. POOLE.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

This is a last reminder to postal subscribers whose subscriptions were due on April 2nd. Please remit without delay to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, and help in our drive for postal subscribers.

Fifty years ago, the bells of St. Andrew's, Wickhambreaux, near Canterbury, were rehung. Included among the ringers that day were Messrs. S. Walter, J. Walter and S. White. They were again at their places in the belfry on Sunday, April 4th, for special ringing to commemorate the occasion.

At a combined practice of the Salisbury District recently, Mr. Mussell was introduced to Mrs. Cockell. Sweet Molly Malone ought to have been somewhere around.

Mr. Harold Walker has been appointed assistant carriage and wagon works manager at York. For the past three and a half years he has been working at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Boston Stump is famed the world over. An interesting anniversary was commemorated this month by Mr. F. Dewey, who has completed 40 years as a ringer in St. Botolph's Church, Boston. The number of steps he has climbed would almost constitute a record.

The hope is expressed by Mr. W. F. Stenson that Oddfellows attending the West Central Counties Group Conference at Newport, Salop, on May 15th, may be privileged to assist the ringers at St. Nicholas' Church to mark the safe return of the Queen.

Among the compliments paid to Mr. and Mrs. G. Halksworth, of Scarborough, on the occasion of their golden wedding was a peal of Stedman Triples at St. George's Church, Doncaster, on April 3rd, a tower of which he was Ringing Master for many years. Mr. Halksworth came to Doncaster for the occasion and was brought down by taxi to the church to listen to part of the ringing. The next evening he met Doncaster ringers and had a chat over old times. They were pleased to be able to persuade him to ring 7-8 to a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

Oldham has set a praiseworthy example to the country. The town has provided boards for the two Coronation peals rung in the borough. Both these have been unveiled by the Mayor.

Two new Surprise methods are introduced to the Exercise this week. Colmore Surprise was rung at Birmingham Cathedral and Byfleet Surprise at Willesden.

Mr. Terry Earle and his band, who rang the peal of 5,040 Netherseale Surprise Minor at Stisted, Essex, on April 3rd, will note with interest that a peal in the same method was rung on the bells on May 14th, 1939. In the record of the peal on page 244, please substitute Minor for Major. The error is regretted.

A crown of notoriety has been placed on the head of Mr. Herbert Rowley, of Horbury, Yorks, who, now 85, started ringing at Horbury in 1889. According to 'The Sunday Express' of April 11th, he has taken part in well over 7,000 peals! Now we know the incentive behind Mr. George E. Fearn and Mr. H. J. Poole—an endeavour to emulate this Yorkshire veteran!

The Guild of Clerical Ringers will assemble next Monday at the King's Head Hotel, Newport, for their annual tour. The party will consist of the following: The Revs. A. D. H. Allan, J. H. B. Andrews, D. Ballard, Canon C. Carew Cox, Preb. E. V. Cox, F. L. Edwards, R. P. Farrow, K. W. H. Felstead, M. C. C. Melville, F. A. Oswald (non-resident), I. J. Richards (non-resident), D. P. Roberts, R. D. St. J. Smith, A. G. G. Thurlow, H. F. Warren, E. B. Wood. The Revs. T. P. Hearn and W. A. Peel hope to join for a day, and E. G. Benson for Thursday afternoon and Friday. Mrs. D. P. Roberts will accompany the party.

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PEAL RINGING IN BERKSHIRE

By the Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

RINGING in Berkshire at the end of the 19th century will always be connected with the names of two of the most famous ringers of all times—the Rev. F. E. Robinson and J. W. Washbrook. The former was the first ringer to ring more than 1,000 peals, the latter, besides being a composer and the conductor of several (then) record lengths in various methods, was the first person to ring two tower bells to a peal—a feat which was disbelieved at first.

It is largely due to them that the towers with the largest numbers of peals in Berkshire are the 10 bells of Appleton (232) and the eight bells of Drayton (229). The former tower deserves special mention because it was the venue of many famous peals. The following are some of its records: The first peal of College Single Triples was rung there on December 2nd, 1873. It has held or holds the record for the longest lengths in several methods—10,080 Double Norwich Major on January 28th, 1888; 13,265 Grandsire Caters on April 11th, 1888; 12,041 Stedman Caters on March 5th, 1888, and after this length had been beaten at Cheltenham the following May, 15,041 on December 31st, 1888. (1888 was certainly a vintage year!) This remained the record for 21 years until the 18,027 was rung at Loughborough in 1909. But Appleton beat even that in 1922 with the present record tower bell peal in the method of 21,363—this was the longest peal ever rung (by one set of ringers) until the peal of 21,600 Bristol Surprise Major in November, 1950, at Over, Cheshire. Thus Appleton certainly deserves special mention. Actually just over half the peals at Appleton were rung before the first world war, but since 37 have been recorded since the last war, it is still a popular tower, as it has always been.

Drayton had its heyday whilst the Rev. F. E. Robinson was alive (he died in 1910). Thus 190 of the 229 peals were rung before 1914 (in 30 years). Since then the average has only been about one a year. Drayton, too, could claim a record length at one time—11,328 London Surprise Major on September 17th, 1896. This was beaten at King's Norton in 1903 with 14,112. Mr. Robinson became Vicar of Drayton in 1878 and I believe I am right in saying that he gave two bells at both Appleton and Drayton to make them ten and eight respectively (two tenors at Appleton and the treble and tenor at Drayton). Both these towers will have recorded peals before the period under review, Appleton a few in the 18th and 19th centuries and Drayton after Mr. Robinson became Vicar, so that both will be approaching the 250 mark. Before they do it may be possible to obtain an exact number for each. Apart from these, only two other churches have passed the 100 peal mark—Old Windsor with 132 and East Hagbourne with 102. In both cases the peals have been fairly evenly spread out over the 70 years.

TWELVE-BELL RINGING

Reading, St. Laurence, is the only twelve-bell church in the county. The number of peals since the last war (22) shows that, at the moment, there is greater activity than over the remainder of the period, although very rarely has a year gone by without at least one peal being rung. Eighty-two have been recorded here since 1881. Apart from the four towers with more than 100, only one other has more than this number—Boyne Hill with 86. In the latter case 60 of the peals were rung between 1882 and 1911. A few more were rung between 1924 and 1936 and there have been 11 since the war. Thus there have been ups and downs here. Besides Appleton there are two more ten-bell towers. Abingdon, St. Helen's, has produced

74 peals, the majority before 1914, and Newbury with 22. Twelve peals were rung here whilst it was an eight-bell tower between 1887 and 1932, four between 1933 and 1939 after it had been augmented, and six more since the war.

Apart from towers already mentioned, only three others have passed the 50 mark. In all, the majority of the peals were rung prior to 1914. They are Aldermaston (60, 39 between 1900 and 1914); Reading, St. Giles' (55, 46 before 1914, and only one in the past 21 years—in 1952); and Tilehurst (53, 45 before 1914, mostly between 1886 and 1899). Of the remaining eight-bell towers, Warfield is nearing the 50 mark with 47 with Wokingham next (42). The only other point of interest about these eight-bell towers is that Bray has not had a peal on the eight bells yet (I am taking it that it has eight bells from Dove's book), but only four on the six. No other church with eight bells remains to be 'conquered.'

There are 56 churches with six bells and 43 have had one or more peals rung at them. Clewer is easily at the top of the list with 37 (26 since the war). Only six others have reached double figures—Sandhurst (22), Binfield (17), Sunningwell (15) and Beenhaim-Valance. Finchampstead and Steventon with 10 each. The longest silence of any tower which has had a peal rung at it is Streatley, which has not appeared in the peal list since 1903. There are only 12 five-bell towers in the county, and four of these have each had a single peal on them—Braywood, North Moreton, Uffington and Wittenham Abbots.

I think it would be true to say that, at the moment, the Exercise is flourishing in Berkshire. All the ten- and eight-bell towers have had peals rung at them since the war, and the majority of the six-bell towers too. So carry on, Berkshire!

DR. HATCHER NEW SECRETARY OF K.C.A.

Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher was elected the new secretary of the Kent County Association at the annual meeting of the Association at Bromley on Easter Monday. He succeeds Mr. G. H. Spice, who has held the office for eight years.

Mr. John Willis (vice-president), who presided, said at the committee meeting that morning it was felt that they could not let Mr. Spice retire without some mark of their approval and voted him an honorarium.

The presentation of a cheque for £25 was made by Mr. E. H. Lewis, who said they all realised the great work Mr. Spice had done for the Association.

Thanking the members for their gift, Mr. Spice said he did not look for any reward. He hoped to be with them for a number of years to do 'a spot of ringing.'

Upon the proposition of Mr. B. Collison, the meeting elected Mr. Spice a vice-president of the Association.

There were two nominations for the post of hon. general secretary. Dr. Hatcher received 76 votes and Mr. B. J. Luck 61.

An extended report will appear in our next issue.

The Vicar of Ockbrook, Derbyshire, the Rev. I. B. L. Gibbs, generously entertained to tea the band that rang a peal in his tower on April 3rd. Thanks are accorded to him through 'The Ringing World.'

THE QUEEN'S RETURN

Coastal Welcome From Kent

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Kent County Association at Bromley on Easter Monday, Mr. Edwin H. Lewis, president of the Central Council, said when he wrote to 'The Ringing World' concerning the Queen's return he stated that Her Majesty would land at 3 p.m. The official time was now 3.15 p.m. and the official request was that all bells be rung for a short time when the Queen stepped on shore.

'While I think it is very desirable to follow that plan, local consideration should be given to the effect of the bells on those people watching the television or listening to the wireless. Lengthy ringing should not interfere with wireless or television.'

The matter was introduced to the meeting by Mr. John Willis, who presided, and said it was the wish and hope of all members of the committee that all towers would ring some time that day, preferably in the afternoon. Mr. George Butcher had informed him that the Queen would be coasting along the north coast of Kent from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., so it would be a graceful compliment that any towers near the river should ring about that time.

LONDON RINGING TOUR

The following observations on the Queen's return appeared in 'The Times':—

The City of London itself has a shortage of resident ringers. Of the 10 regulars of St. Michael's, Cornhill, for example, only one lives in central London. He is Mr. A. A. Hughes, who aims to assemble on May 15th a band of ringers who will ply the ropes for half an hour at various City churches in turn. Starting at St. Michael's, he hopes to go on to St. Botolph Without at Aldgate, St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, St. Olave's, Hart Street, and St. Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield. This operation will probably last from before lunch until late afternoon.

Final plans have not been made at all the great London churches, but the Stedman Triples will certainly be heard from Westminster Abbey, either at the moment the Queen sets foot on Westminster Pier just after 3.15 p.m. or as she comes up the river. At St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 12 ringers will attempt to repeat their Coronation performance last year: starting at 12.30, for three and a half hours at the least, they will ring Stedman Cinques.

AT NORWICH

Notable among the many groups of provincial ringers are those of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich. On May 15th the ringers there, led by Mr. Nolan Golden, will attempt a peal of Grandsire Cinques starting at 8 o'clock in the morning and lasting nearly four hours. 'After that,' says Mr. Golden, 'we shall go to King's Lynn and help there with another peal, Grandsire Caters. Just for fun, you know.' Such is the spirit of the bell ringers' greeting.

SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY

The April meeting of the above Society due to be held at South Anston was switched to Handsworth because of illness. In spite of this last-minute change, there was an excellent attendance, and over a dozen different Major methods, from Plain Bob to London, were rung: also Erin, Grandsire and Stedman Triples and rounds.

Cups of tea were provided free by the local company, who along with their Rector were gratefully thanked for enabling the meeting to be held at less than 24 hours' notice, and providing such a homely atmosphere for another happy meeting.

N. C.

CLAVERLEY A POPULAR MEETING

'The Ringing World' Discussed

The combined Shropshire Association and Bridgnorth Branch of the Hereford Diocesan Guild meetings have become so popular in recent years that they are looked upon as 'hardy annuals'!

That at Claverley on April 10th was attended by about eighty ringers, some from Staffordshire and Worcestershire making up for those from Shropshire who were unable to reach the rather remote corner of the county.

Once there, however, everyone was enabled to enjoy the very good bells, by ringing them, or listening in the sunshine of the churchyard or the winding village street.

The Vicar, Rev. G. A. H. Rainbow, conducted a short service from the Hereford Diocesan Book, which was appreciated and enjoyed.

An ample tea was provided by the Claverley ringers and ladies, a small charge covering the use of the spacious village hall.

Mr. A. Pritchard, Ringing Master, Shropshire Association, voiced the thanks of all to clergy, organist and helpers. He also spoke of the expressed wish that all bells should be rung for the Queen's return on May 15th.

Referring to the recent correspondence about the financial difficulties of 'The Ringing World,' he thought there were several remedies. Bell founders depended upon continual work, which came about through keen ringers, and they might meet some of the charges. If the revenue from newsagents' copies was so small, these might be stopped, and supplied to each tower. If these measures were not sufficient, a charge for peals, or an increase in subscriptions to ringers' organisations might become necessary. He said that he hoped they would all support the Ringing Festival at Shrewsbury on July 10th.

Mr. W. H. Lloyd, Ringing Master, Hereford Diocesan Guild, seconded the thanks, which met with applause. The Vicar responded, and said that both he and many parishioners appreciated their bells, the fact that ringers came from a distance to ring them, and also the fact that they had such a good band themselves.

Returning to the towers, all the usual methods were rung, except that Yorkshire was tried instead of Cambridge and, after two failures, a good course resulted. Bristol came round, only the last lead being in any doubt.

Proceedings continued for many at 'the local,' where a room had been engaged. Here tune-ringing and ringers' gossip was accompanied by suitable refreshment, a fitting end to a most enjoyable day.

IRISH ASSOCIATION

A company of 90 attended the annual meeting of the Southern District at Kilkenny on St. Patrick's Day, when a competition was held for the 'R. R. Cherry Cup.' This was won by Mount St. Alphonsus with 52 faults, followed by Bandon with 112 faults. The judges were Mr. F. E. Dukes and Mr. Gibb.

Visitors were hospitably entertained to lunch and tea. At the business meeting the following officers were elected: Chairman, Mr. D. Benson, Limerick; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. G. Bingham, Limerick; assistant secretary, Mr. J. Benson, Limerick; Ringing Master, Mr. Roy McCormack, Cork; vice-president, Mr. F. Bogan, Cork; two members to act on Executive Council with the secretary, Mr. C. W. Galbraith, Limerick, and Mr. A. M. Holloway, Bandon.

After tea the gathering was addressed by the Bishop of Ossery, Dr. Phair.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD

Ald. Paddon Smith Retires From Central Council

Following a custom of many years, the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham held their first quarterly meeting of the year at Aston Parish Church on April 3rd. The Guild's special form of service was conducted by Canon F. F. Guy Warman, Vicar of Aston.

At the request of the Master, the business meeting was presided over by Vice-President Alderman Paddon Smith, J.P.

A letter was read from the Hon. Secretary of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, pointing out the low financial position of 'The Ringing World,' and appealing for greater support. It was agreed that a copy of the letter be sent to each tower in the Diocese.

Mr. Anthony Bailey, of Erdington Abbey, and Miss Judith Walker, of Packwood, were elected full ringing members, and Mr. William Davies, of Netherton, was made a life member. The tower elections (as life members) of Mr. Denis A. Bayles, of Chester-le-Street, and Mr. Patrick I. Chapman, of Kettering, were duly ratified.

Solihull was selected for the next meeting, which will be held on July 3rd.

Alderman Paddon Smith, J.P., felt that he could not stand for re-election as Central Council representative. He had represented the Guild on the Central Council for about forty years, but realised that, owing to many other commitments, he could no longer attend the meetings with the regularity that he would like. The Alderman proposed that the Guild's hon. secretary and treasurer (Mr. G. E. Fearn) be elected in his stead. This proposition was seconded by the Master, who thanked Alderman Paddon Smith for representing the Guild for so many years.

A letter was read from Mr. F. W. Rishworth, who was unfortunately in hospital, who had been able to attend the meeting, would have proposed an alteration in the rules, to provide for the conferment of honorary membership upon ringers whose membership of the Guild was of long standing. It was pointed out that the rules were in process of revision, and the matter was left for consideration at the next meeting.

The question of the suggested alteration in the title page of 'The Ringing World' was discussed, and the members were unanimous in their preference that the present style be maintained.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Veterans Honoured at Buckminster

Previous to the meeting of the Melton District, at Buckminster on April 10th, six members of the Framland Society met and rang a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor as a compliment to Mr. W. Sharpe, of Hose, who had been a member of the Society for 50 years, and also to Mr. J. Dawson, who had rung on Buckminster bells regularly for 56 years. The band consisted of C. Matthews 1, H. Clayton 2, T. Templeton 3, J. Morris 4, F. J. Williams 5, A. W. Ward (conductor) 6.

The meeting was the largest Melton District meeting ever held. Altogether 72 ringers and friends were present from a very wide area. Towers represented were: Asfordby, Bottesford, Buckminster, Eaton, Hose, Kirby-Bellars, Melton Mowbray, Old-Dalby, Somerby, Waltham, Ancaster, Ashby-Folville, Barkestone, Caythorpe, Easton, Edenham, Grantham, Hough-on-the-Hill, Leicester Cathedral, Market Overton, Nottingham and West Wickham (Kent).

At 4.30 a short service was conducted by a Guild ringer, the Rev. F. De Burne, Vicar of Old-Dalby.

J. H. C.

MAYOR UNVEILS CORONATION PEAL BOARD

Oldham's Example to the Country

Two peals were rung in Oldham for the Coronation—Grandsire Triples at St. Mark's, and Stedman Triples at St. Thomas', Moorside, the latter being rung by an all-local band. Both have been recorded on peal boards given by the town. The one at St. Mark's was dedicated last January, and the dedication of the board at St. Thomas' took place on April 10th during the meeting of the Rochdale Branch, Lancashire Association.

Once again the Mayor of Oldham (Alderman Frank Kenyon) unveiled the board and, in his speech, expressed the hope that a peal would be accomplished on the day of the Queen's return to Britain. The Vicar of Moorside (the Rev. J. Calderley) then said the dedication prayers. After a short touch of Stedman Triples the Mayor was given his second lesson on pulling a bell. He wasn't content this time with just the back stroke but kept attempting to catch the sally too!

About 30 ringers attended and the bells were kept going after tea until 9 o'clock. Apart from Branch members there were visitors from Manchester, Stoke-on-Trent (Staffs), Sowerby Bridge and Elland (Yorks). A good selection of methods was rung during the day, and immediately after tea our visiting friends delighted us with expert change ringing on handbells.

F.P.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Eastern District at Hull

The spring meeting of the Eastern District was held at Hull on April 3rd and was attended by about 40 ringers representing 18 towers. The ring of six at St. Mary's Church, Lowgate, was made good use of during the afternoon and the fine ring of ten at Holy Trinity in the evening.

The service in Holy Trinity was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. L. O. Kenyon) who gave the address.

Tea was served in the Trocadero Cafe, followed by the business meeting presided over by the vice-president (Mr. A. E. Sellers). Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. R. R. Smith and T. H. Foster. Four new members were elected, viz: Miss A. Allen and Mr. D. Johnson (Kirk Ella), Mr. R. Sharpe (Hessle) and Mr. E. Ives (Patrington). An invitation to hold the annual meeting at Bridlington was accepted. The usual votes of thanks terminated an enjoyable meeting.

GIRL GUIDE RINGERS HAVE THEIR BOOKLET

The Girl Guides' Association has issued in its series, 'Hints on Girl Guide Badges,' a booklet entitled 'Bell Ringer.' It is very well compiled and illustrated and should stimulate interest in ringing.

The name of the author is not disclosed but he, or she, has captured to the full the spirit of the Exercise as the following paragraph indicates:—

'Physically, bellringing is more knack than hard labour, so do not be put off by people who say it is too hard for women and girls. Mentally, it demands complete concentration. Its fascination is unending and the satisfaction gained from ringing successfully is enormous. It takes some time to become master of a bell and to learn the elements of change ringing, so slick ability, of which the Founder told us so often, is a very necessary characteristic of the good ringer.'

'Again, as in Guiding, there is a wonderful spirit of friendship amongst ringers, and whatever tower one visits one will find a welcome and a chance to ring.'

'Bell Ringer' is published by Brown, Son and Ferguson, Ltd., 52-58, Darnley Street, Glasgow; price 6d.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

VIEWS ON 'RINGING WORLD'

FINANCES

A SIXPENNY 'RINGING WORLD'

Dear Sir,—Most of your readers must know by now that the finances of their paper are in a far from happy state. The situation demands drastic action. The first step, if I may suggest it, is to raise the price immediately to 6d. a copy. After all, to take one item, newsprint has jumped in price from £10 per ton pre-war to £50 per ton to-day. In the same time 'The Ringing World' has increased by one penny.

In addition to increased subscription rates, action could be taken to cut out so many middle men. If newsagents, wholesalers, publishers and transportation fees were cut right out, the increased revenue would put the paper right on its feet.

If any readers have the complaint that it would cost a little more to have a postal copy, all I can say is that they don't deserve the service they get through it.—Yours faithfully,

M. J. BUTLER.

Southampton.

INCREASE THE PRICE

Dear Sir,—I thoroughly agree with your correspondents, Mr. Claude Rush and Mr. W. Frank Stenson; 'The Ringing World' should be entirely self-supporting, and should not depend on charity.

I suggest that the price of the paper be raised to 6d. POST FREE. This would mean an increase of only 6d. to quarterly subscribers, and 3s. 6d. to annual subscribers. At present one is urged to take the paper by post; but if one does this, it arrives too late on Friday morning to read before one goes to work (sometimes not until second post) and heavily creased. For this one pays an extra five shillings a year, and pays in advance. If the subscription were raised to 6d. post free, all would pay the same, and those who preferred the obvious advantages of dealing through a newsagent would not feel that they were failing to support the paper as they should.—Yours faithfully,

C. W. WOOLLEY.

Bushey Heath, Herts.

DO NOT RAISE THE PRICE

Dear Sir,—I note with interest the correspondence with respect to 'The Ringing World's' finances. I fully endorse the statements and suggestions made by Mr. Rush. Undoubtedly the ONLY fully effective remedy is a substantial increase in the number of postal subscribers, and every ringer who appreciates the value of our journal should make a wholehearted effort to help to attain this objective.

I regret that I am unable to accept Mr. Stenson's view that the price should be raised; this is false economy because those who, for example, rely on parental allowances until qualification or are otherwise of limited means must count carefully every item of expenditure and, particularly if they have other hobbies as well as campanology, it might be that cancellation of their order for 'The Ringing World' would be necessary if such a course were taken. This would indeed be regrettable.

With reference to the title cover design, why should we be 'old stick-in-the-muds'? Variety is the spice of life. Let us see some of the new designs, and if we STILL prefer the present heading it will still be possible to return to it. Perhaps if a few of the designs were published a postal ballot of readers could be held.—Yours, etc.,

ALAN PENDLEBURY.

Guildford, Surrey.

'THE RINGING WORLD'

Dear Sir,—There is no doubt whatever that it would be a calamity for the Exercise if 'The Ringing World' had to cease production. The time has obviously come for drastic action. I therefore make the suggestion that every Association, Guild or Society up and down the country should increase the amount of its annual subscription by the modest sum of one shilling, such increase to be paid over each year to the funds of 'The Ringing World.' From 15,000 ringers this would produce £750. I have always contended that ringers' annual subscriptions are too low and here is an opportunity for members of the Exercise to save what is after all their own newspaper.—Yours very truly,

FRED BENNETT.

Wombourn, near Wolverhampton.

KEEP THE FAMILIAR SKYLINE

Dear Sir,—I do hope the Editorial Committee won't feel bound to alter the heading of 'The Ringing World' with its familiar skyline. If it is necessary to have 2 advertisements on the front page, could they be just underneath, or at the foot, thus either shortening the leading article or pushing a little more of it overleaf? I'm not a commercial artist, but wouldn't the square of larger type and different outlay show up more and strike the eye more alongside the ordinary print than alongside the heading, which we don't READ, but like to take in at a glance? Some newspapers have little advertisements in the top corners, but does anyone ever read them?—Yours sincerely,

YVONNE, L. ELOIE, Hon. Sec.,
Salisbury Branch, S.D.G.R.

ANONYMOUS LETTERS

Sir,—Can it be that your correspondents on this subject are confusing anonymous letters with letters written above a nom-de-plume, but whose writers are known to the Editor? So far as I am aware, no reputable paper will consider publishing a really anonymous letter, and let us hope, sir, that, in the interests of our paper's status, you will continue to ban any such correspondence.—Yours faithfully,

A. R. POYNTZ.

[NOTE.—The ban applies to letters that appear in 'The Ringing World' anonymous to the reader. Correspondence without the name and address of the sender is automatically consigned to the waste paper basket.—Ed.]

ST. JOHN THE DIVINE, LEICESTER

Dear Sir,—Apropos the recent correspondence regarding the Church of St. John the Divine, Leicester, one wonders how much interest would have been taken had there been no bells in the tower.—Sincerely yours,

ERNEST J. ROWE.

Tottenham, N.15.

[NOTE.—There would have been no mention in 'The Ringing World' because it is devoted exclusively to bells, ringers and ringing. There are three Church of England newspapers and it is not our policy to compete with them in the matter of general church news. The future of St. John the Divine, Leicester, is a matter of interest to hundreds of ringers who have visited this church and rung on its bells.—Ed.]

THE ARCHBISHOP AND BELLS

Dear Sir,—I am sure all ringers who read the extracts from the April Diocesan Notes written by the Archbishop of Canterbury would feel moved that the Primate of All England had felt it worthy to pay tribute and express appreciation of the service which is given in the belfries of our land. I am glad that His Grace only feels a visit to a church is complete when he has visited the belfry. It is evident that the Archbishop considers the belfry is quite an important part of the church.

It is grand when a prominent churchman writes like this, for does it not augur the fact that the time is passing when the belfry was regarded as a water-tight compartment. How many church members or even church council members can say they have visited the local belfry or know any details about their bells. The leader of a tower and all his ringers have an obligation to the parishioners to tell or show them when possible the intricacies of bell ringing, for are not new members of a tower recruited from the parishioners themselves?

Incidentally, in this week's 'Radio Times' is a letter which reads:—

'It is very seldom that church bells can be heard on the radio, and in view of this grave omission it would indeed be pleasant if the bells could be broadcast for a few minutes before service. Let us be taken to the spire or tower before we are shown to our pew.'

I suppose the B.B.C. know what is best to precede a religious service from experience and by the advice of experts. On the other hand, however, why is a recording of Bow Bells given as the interval signal to all programmes and then when a religious service is on the air it is only rarely preceded by a peal of bells?

I do not wish to begin a controversy on this matter, but I do feel that most ringers and many members of the public would agree that where possible a religious service should begin if only for one or two minutes by the ringing of bells. Has it not often been said by preachers and others that the music of bells, when one is going to church or when one is going to listen to a broadcast service, has the effect of placing the mind more in conformity with the things of the spirit. If this is so, and I once heard an eminent preacher say words to this effect, then bells have a unique purpose in the scheme of our national heritage.—Yours sincerely,

ELLAND, YORKS. PAUL BIRKETT.

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY AND RINGING

Dear Sir,—The Archbishop of Canterbury's generous tribute to bell ringers prompts me to mention what may not be generally known, that he himself once learned to handle a bell.

I exchanged letters with him a year ago in expectation that the Oxford University Society might claim to have taught him, especially as he was an undergraduate at Exeter College, the college of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson. But His Grace, in replying, said that he learned his ringing while a student at Wells Theological College.—Yours faithfully,

R. B. MEADOWS.

Erdington, Birmingham.

FALSE PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Dear Sir,—I wish to withdraw a peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major rung at Whittle, Essex, on Saturday, November 21st, 1953. On re-checking the figures I have found it to be false. It was given to me as a 5,088 Superlative, and to this method it is true. It was a careless oversight on my part, and I wish to tender my humble apologies to the rest of the band and the composer, especially more so as there were three 'firsts' in the peal.—Yours sincerely,

PERCY GREEN.

Chelmsford.

RINGERS' SAD MEETING AT OVERSEAL

Falling Masonry Kills Chorister

The tragedy at Overseal, which has been briefly reported in 'The Ringing World', in which a section of the parapet of the bell tower crashed through the roof of the nave and fatally injured a chorister who a few minutes before had been singing for a wedding, coincided with a meeting of the Midland Counties Guild in that tower.

The bells were ringing and the accident happened as the bridal party were posing in the church doorway to be photographed. The heavy sandstone masonry hurtled some 50ft. from the castellated parapet of the bell tower. Two gaping holes, one on each side of the roof at the west end of the nave, were torn, as masonry, slates and shattered timber crashed into the church, completely demolishing the baptismal font.

Mr. J. W. Cotton, secretary of the Midland Counties Guild, gave this account of the tragedy to the Press:—

'Members of the Guild were in the tower ringing at the time. We had just started to ring as the bridal party went out, the bells being pulled off as the bride went under the tower.'

'We had just gone into a touch of Stedman Triples when we heard a crash. We didn't know what it was, but we stopped ringing. Then we heard appeals from downstairs to stop the bells—we had already done so.'

Mr. Cotton said that no more than half a dozen changes of Stedman Triples had been rung when the accident occurred, and the whole of the ringing that had taken place that afternoon had not lasted more than about two minutes. On a Guild visit to a tower they would normally have been ringing up to 8 p.m.

In addition to members of the Overseal band there were present representatives of the Midland Guild from Burton (St. Modwen's), Ashby, Measham, Packington, Netherseal, Lullington, Coleshill, Ticknall, Repton and Yoxall towers. The ringing and meeting was cancelled. The ringers took an early tea and dispersed.

The Rector (the Rev. Dr. W. J. Beale) said the accident was no doubt due to a subsidence. Cracks had been appearing in a number of places and he supposed they had affected the tower.

'The bridegroom was an old choirboy and the choir had turned out for him. We had just finished the wedding and I was in the vestry. I was just completing the register, and closed it when I heard this awful crash.'

Services at St. Matthew's, Overseal, Church have been suspended for the time being.

The dead chorister was Mr. William Thomas Wright (42), of 19, Burton Road, Overseal. He was employed at Donisthorpe Colliery.

COAL BOARD'S DENIAL OF SUBSIDENCE

At the inquest on Mr. William Thomas Wright, the chorister who was killed by the falling masonry, the National Coal Board disputed that the accident was caused by mining subsidence. A verdict of 'Accidental death' was returned.

Mr. Lawrence Jenkins, for the Coal Board, said that minerals underneath the church had not been worked. There were recent workings within 175 yards, but a pillar of coal had been left under the church. Repairs to the church in 1948 were for damage between 1889—when coal working began—and 1912.

Dr. W. J. Beale, the Rector, told the Coroner that the church, including the tower, was completely renovated by the Coal Board. He was perfectly satisfied afterwards about its safety. Since the war bells had been rung at least twice a week.

FORTY YEARS AGO

From 'The Ringing World' of April 24th, 1914
HERE AND THERE

YOUTHFUL RINGER'S RAPID STRIDES

A peal in seven Minor methods was rung at Tunstall, Kent, on Saturday, and one of the band was Edward H. Spice, a boy of 14, who scored his first peal and achieved the honour of being the youngest ringer in the Kent Association to ring a peal of Minor in seven methods with a bob bell. He comes of a family of ringers... but, even so, Master Spice's performance is an extremely noteworthy one when it is known that he commenced change ringing only last Christmas.

LADIES ATTEMPT A PEAL

At Twyford, Berks, on Easter Monday, a peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted by members of the Ladies' Guild, but it came to an untimely end after a fourth start. Those taking part were: Mrs. Whittington 1, Miss K. Holifield (now Mrs. A. E. Lock) 2, Miss B. Stilwell 3, Miss E. Belcher 4, Miss E. Goodship (Mrs. F. M. Mitchell) 5, Miss M. E. Chillingworth 6, Miss E. K. Parker (Mrs. Fletcher) (conductor) 7, Miss E. Jones 8.

GENEROUS GIFTS

Mr. J. T. Rickman, whose generosity has placed St. Peter's Church, Brighton, in possession of a fine peal of ten bells, is an enthusiastic ringer, who has been a follower of the art for a quarter of a century or more. Among other Associations, he is a member of the Cambridge University Guild. . . . Some few years ago he and his revered mother gave two trebles to Southover Church, Lewes (where Mr. Rickman rang his first peal), and defrayed the bulk of the cost of rehanging the old eight in a new frame.

[The old eight, tenor 10½ cwt., on which much ringing history had been made, were replaced by a peal of ten with a 25½ cwt. tenor.]

5,248 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT

BOB MAJOR

By A. F. LEWRY					
2 3 4 5 6	1	4	5	6	
3 4 2 5 6					—
3 6 2 4 5	—	—			—
6 2 3 4 5					—
2 3 6 4 5					—
4 6 3 2 5	—				—
6 3 4 2 5					—
2 4 3 6 5	—				—
4 3 2 6 5					—
3 2 4 6 5					—
6 2 5 3 4	—	—			—
2 5 6 3 4					—
5 6 2 3 4					—
3 2 6 5 4	—				—
2 6 3 5 4					—
6 3 2 5 4					—
5 2 3 6 4	—				—
2 3 5 6 4					—
5 2 4 3 6	—				—
2 4 5 3 6					—
4 5 2 3 6					—
3 2 5 4 6	—				—
2 5 3 4 6					—
5 3 2 4 6					—
3 2 4 5 6	S				—

Once repeated. Omit bracketed bobs at 6 in one half for 5,024 changes.

OBITUARY

MR. E. DYSON

Formerly of Ashford, Mr. Edward Dyson, who died recently at Torquay, aged 80, was an Ashford Parish Church choirboy, and later joined the bell ringers.

He was on the bank staff of Pomfret Burra and Co. (now Lloyds Bank), and in 1910 went to Worthing to become a bank under-manager. He retired 20 years ago as a bank manager.

Mr. George H. Head writes:—
Ted, as we knew him, with his brother Jim, was a member of a young band formed at Ashford about 60 years ago. They were both fine choirmen and good ringers, and both held good positions in their occupations. I am not sure that Ted rang any peals, but I have records of 720's of Minor that were rung at that time, also a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples by the following: F. Chapman 1, E. Dyson 2, H. N. Horton 3, F. Phillpot 4, G. Head 5, T. Tabrett 6, A. J. Dyson (first quarter as conductor) 7, W. Ansell 8. First quarter by all except 6 and 7.

Your correspondent has grateful memories of the help received from these two fine men. Jim was also a fine cricketer and, I believe, is still living at Maidstone.

MR. VICTOR JARRETT

Mr. N. F. Moxon, president of the Barnsley and District Society, writes:—

The church bell ringers at Cawthorne were very shocked to hear of the death of Mr. Vic Jarratt. During the latter part of the war he worked in the R.E. camp at Cawthorne and always attended our ringing practices. Vic had a charming personality and was a true gentleman. He was a good musician and I shall always be impressed by an incident during his stay at Cawthorne. After a walk one evening Vic joined us in a bite of supper, and in the course of conversation stated he had heard a church clock striking the hour on a bell with a pitch of B flat and inquired the name of the church. I was taken aback for the moment, but on consulting the Yorkshire Annual Report found he was perfectly correct and he had been near to Hoylandswaine Church, the tenor of which is in B flat!

Although Vic quickly joined in with our selection of Minor methods (regular and irregular), he never mastered our close leads.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Two school peals have been rung. One past and four present members of Bedford Modern School rang a peal of Doubles at Oakley, and a band composed of two members of Dame Alice Harpur School for Girls and four of Bedford Modern School rang a peal of Minor at Sharnbrook. This was the first combined school peal to be rung for the Bedfordshire Association.

Mr. A. E. Hall, who has for many years been verger of Peckleton, celebrated his golden wedding on April 4th. Owing to transport difficulties it was not possible to ring a peal at Peckleton, but an excellent one was rung at Croft. Mr. Hall is a member of the Vergers' Guild, and three fellow members of the Guild took part. It was also a birthday peal for Mr. George A. Charlton.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations towards the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Peals.—Doncaster 4s., Southover 5s., Campsall 4s.

Quarter peals.—Seend 2s. 6d., Stanmore 2s., Walford 4s., Honiton Clyst 2s., Ossett 2s. 6d., Bledlow 2s. 6d., Preston, Dorset 2s. 6d., Walthamstow 2s., Easton-in-Gordano 2s. 6d., Marston Bigot 3s., Fulham 2s. 6d., Clerkenwell 3s.

THE SILENT BELLS OF YORK

By HAROLD WALKER

At one time York could truly have been described as a city of bells, for within the confines of the old city it had the ring of twelve at the Minster, one ring of eight, and five rings of six. Now only the Minster bells can be rung and two sixes chimed.

Soon, however, one of the now silent sixes will be moved to one of the suburbs and will again be hung for ringing. Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. have recently removed the old six from the derelict church of St. Mary, Bishophill Senior, and are to rehang them in a new frame, with new fittings, at the Parish Church of St. Stephen, Acomb.

St. Mary's bells date from 1770 and each is inscribed:—

'Pack & Chapman, of London, Fecit. 1771.'

The recorded weights and diameters are:—

Treble.—5 cwt. 27 lb. 27 inches.
2nd.—5 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb. 30 inches.
3rd.—6 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. 32 inches.
4th.—7 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb. 34 inches.
5th.—8 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. 37 inches.
Tenor.—11 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb. 41 inches.

At present there are three bells in the tower at Acomb, but they are of indifferent tone. The oldest is to be retained and the other two disposed of. The inscriptions are:—

'Recast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1882.'

'Jesus Be Our Speed.'

'Jesus Be Our Speed. 1633. W.O.'

Recast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1885.'

'Venite Exultemus Domino. SS Ebor. 1662.'

Given by M. A. Hale.

R. P. T. Tennent, Vicar.'

The first was originally cast by James Smith, who, at that time, had the York foundry in partnership with Abraham Smith and William Curedon. The second is by William Oldfield and the third originally by Samuel Smith.

ST. MARTIN-LE-GRAND

So at last a start has been made to get some of the long silent bells ringing again. It is hoped that very soon plans will be formulated to restore the eight at the church of St. Martin-le-Grand, Coney Street. This church was burned by fire bombs during a serious air raid on the city on April 29th, 1942. The nave and tower were gutted and only the south aisle was saved. Three of the bells were broken and the others damaged; all need recasting.

The committee appointed by the Archbishop to inquire into the future of the church has recommended the south aisle, together with the tower and bells, be restored as a City War Memorial. The War Damage Commission has agreed, in principle, to the recommendation.

It is to be regretted the bells had not been in a ringable condition for some fifty years before the fire. The inscriptions are:—

Treble.—'E Dono Amicorum Societatis Campanistarum Ebor 1730.' (Given by friends of the York Society of Bellringers.)

Second.—'E Dono Societatis Campanistarum Ebor 1730.' (Given by the York Society of Bellringers.)

Third.—'Invoca Deum 1729.' (Call upon God.)

Fourth.—'Te Deum Laudamus. 1729.' (We praise Thee O God.)

Fifth.—'Vos Jubilate Deo. 1729.' (Let us sing unto the Lord.)

Sixth.—'Gloria in Altissimis Deo. 1729.' (Glory to God in the Highest.)

Seventh.—'Hoc Campanarum Conventio E Dono Gulielmi Thompson Hujus Parochiae. William Dobson, Esquire, Lord Mayor. Henry Baynes, Esquire. Alderman. John Marsden, Samuel Waud, Commissioners. John Mayor.

Samuel Waugh, Churchwardens. 1729.' (These five bells were given by William Thompson of this Parish.)

Tenor.—'Sonitu Rescipiscite Moesto Ante Jacetis Humo.' Richard Warneford, Vicar. John Mayor, Sen., John Busfield, Churchwardens. 1730.'

On each bell: 'E. Seller, Ebor.'

Prior to 1729 there was only one bell in the tower, this being the present tenor, the Latin inscription on which was reproduced on the recast bell of 1730. This inscription is fairly common, as is also its English equivalent:—

'All men who hear my mournful sound Repent before you lie in ground.'

YORK SOCIETY OF BELLRINGERS

In 1729 five bells were presented by a Mr. William Thompson, described as a 'Prothonotary,' to make a ring of six, and as such they were rung for the first time on Ascension Day (May 15th), 1729, and:—

'were judged by most competent Gentlemen of Music in the City, and hereabout, and approved by them to be tunable and very fine notes.'

In spite of this approval however, the old bell had to be recast in the following year at the same time as the two trebles were cast at the expense of the York Society of Bellringers and friends to complete the octave. The cost of the work was £59 10s.

At this time bellringing was practised by gentlemen as a recreation and fashionable sport, and the bells would make a handy alternative to the much heavier Minster bells. In 1733 the same Society made a generous contribution to the cost of rehangng the Minster bells.

Peals of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells in 1830, 1849, 1850, and in 1852 both 'amateurs' and presumably 'professionals' took part in a peal, as witness the following:—

Easier Sunday morning, 11th April, 1852.
5,040 Grandsire Triples, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

An Amateur	Treble
R. Howard	2nd
Jas. Emmerson	3rd
John Precious	4th
?	5th
Thos. Cooper	6th
M. West, Conductor	7th
J. Wadsworth	Tenor

194 Bobs and 46 Singles.

Wm. Harrison, Referee.

The first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major by local ringers was rung on these bells in 1862, and the last peal on the bells was rung by the York Minster Society. This was on the 9th October, 1888, and was also of Kent Treble Bob.

The above mentioned Archbishop's committee has stated that the restored ring would make a useful practice ring for the Minster ringers. Never were truer words spoken, and the York ringers are looking forward to the day when the scheme is brought to fruition.

ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST

Another silent ring of six is at the church of St. John-the-Evangelist, Micklegate. Several in this ring are Pre-Reformation bells. The inscriptions are:—

Treble.—'Sancte.' Also upon it is a shield, with three helms.

Second.—'Maria Come Propicia Sis (illegible) Virgo Maria, A.D. Mccccviii.'

Third.—'S. Nichila-us Ad Loca Sancte Trahe Betris Ros Sc Nicholae.'

Fourth.—'I H C' is surmounted by a crown. The rest of the inscription is illegible. The foundry mark is a shield containing a cross crowned.

Fifth.—'Jesus Be Our Speed. 1633.'

Tenor.—No inscription.

The second is one of the very few mediæval bells to bear a date.

The fifth was cast locally by William Oldfield.

Three of these bells came from the church of St. Nicholas-without-Walmgate Bar, which was destroyed during the siege of the city in 1644. The bells were taken down by the Parliamentary soldiers with intent to recast them into cannon, but Lord Fairfax prevented this being done. The church was not rebuilt as the parish was joined to that of St. Lawrence's, whose church had also been seriously damaged. The bells were hung in St. John's tower in 1653 and, with the bells already there, formed the first chime of six to be hung in any of the city parish churches.

For many years the church has been disused and it is now closed. It was handed over to the City Corporation in 1939 with the intention it be pulled down. Fortunately, however, it has now been taken over by the York Civic Trust, which body has undertaken emergency repairs to preserve it for future use. It has been suggested it would house an ecclesiastical museum.

The three bells from the church of St. Nicholas have been offered by the Archbishop to the parish of St. Lawrence-with-St. Nicholas and New Fulford. It was hoped they would form part of a ring of six at the modern church of St. Lawrence, which is the largest parish church in the city. At present the heavy cost involved weighs heavily against the transfer being made.

THE CHURCH AT KING'S COURT

An interesting ring of six which will be heard no more in York is that which was at the church of Holy Trinity or Christ Church, King's Court, which church was pulled down in 1937. The inscriptions are:—

Treble.—'Te Deum Laudamus. 1693. SS Ebor.' (We praise Thee O God.)

Second.—'Jubilate Domino. 1681. SS Ebor.' (Sing joyfully to the Lord.)

Third.—'Laudate Iah Quie Bonum Et Amoenum Est Psallire Deo Nostro. 1659.' (Praise the Lord, for it is a good and pleasant thing to sing praises unto our God.)

Fourth.—'Johannes Eternis Annis Resonet Domino.' (Oh! that John may chime the Lord's praises to the end of time.)

Fifth.—'Sit Nomen Domino Benedictum.' (Blessed be the name of the Lord.)

Tenor.—'Santa Margareta Ora Pro Nobis.' (Saint Margaret pray for us.)

The first two were cast by Samuel Smith at his foundry on Toft Green, York.

The third bears a shield containing a cross with a bell on either side. This was the foundry mark of William Cureton, who was in partnership with Abraham Smith on Toft Green. The Rev. C. B. Norcliffe, in his 'Account of Holy Trinity, King's Square,' states:—

'A.D. 1659. September 26th, a new bell being made out of the two lesser belonging to the church of St. Lawrence, without Walmgate Bar, was hung up in the steeple of Christ Church, being the least of four there, It weighs 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs., and was cast on Toft Green, by one William Cureton, at the procurement of Abraham Smith, who had 20s. per cwt. for casting the same, the parish finding the metal. Thomas Ragge, of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, made the bell frame, the timber of which was bought at (Continued on page 270.)

The Silent Bells of York—Cont.

Healaugh. Leonard Thompson, the Lord Mayor, gave a piece of timber out of the Minster for a bell yoke. The total cost of the bell and frame was £40 8s. 3d.

The other three are Pre-Reformation bells and were, apparently, all cast at the same time. Upon each is a shield—the keys of St. Peter in saltire—above a dolphin, below a laver, on the right a garb or cornsheaf, on the left a bell. This was the foundry mark of Henry Jordan, 1450-1470, who had his foundry in London. It seems strange that bells for York had to be cast by an outside founder when, at that time, the city was the centre of bellfounding in the north. The tenor has a diameter of 3ft. 5½in., and weighs about 12 cwt.

BELLS EARMARKED FOR MIDDLESBROUGH

The above mentioned church of St. Lawrence was almost destroyed in the siege of the city in 1644, and it remained in a state of ruin until 1669, when the work of re-erection was begun. So the parish would have no use for its bells and, no doubt, disposed of some in order to add to its restoration funds.

Extracts from the churchwardens' account:—

1665. July 4. Pd. for ringing for ye Dutch victory. 3s. August 5. Pd. for ringing when the Duke of York came in. 2s.

1666. June 9. Pd. for ringing for the victory over the Dutch. 8d.

1677. Dec. 6. Pd. the ringers at Prince of Orange marriage. 4s.

1681. A new bell to be treble to the rest that are there provided.

1684. Mr. Samuel Smith shall be paid the money owing him by the parish out of the first collection of the assessment.

1688. Feb. 17. Pd. for ringing when King William and Queen Mary were proclaimed. 5s.

1689. April 11. Pd. on the Coronation Day for ringing. 5s.

1690. July 19. for ringing for news of ye conquest of ye Boyn. 5s.

1691. Pd. for ringers at ye taking of Limerick. 5s.

1692. For ringing upon ye first report of beating ye French. 1s.

1696. Sep. 8. Pd. ye ringers when mint began to coyne. 1s.

In 1861 the church, which stood at one end of The Shambles, was taken down and rebuilt, and in 1885 the parish was united with that of St. Sampson's, but from that time the church was unused and uncared for. Finally it was decided to demolish and so improve the congestion and appearance of King's Square. The work was carried out in 1937, when the site was paved over and preserved as an open space.

The fate of the bells was decided at a Consistory Court held in York Minster in 1936. Turning down several applications for single bells to be given to various parishes the Chancellor directed the bells to be preserved as a ring of six and, until such time as a home could be found for them, they be stored in the custody of the Dean and Chapter of York Minster. Finally, they were given to the parish of St. Barnabas, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, where a new church had been built and sufficient money was in hand to build a suitable tower.

The advent of the second World War prevented the tower being built, but as the bells had been sent to Loughborough work on them had to be stopped and they were put in store; Messrs. Taylor and Co. have had custody of them ever since. It is not known when the scheme to build the tower will be started again, but it is obvious a considerable sum of money will be required in addition to that raised before the war.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 2s. 6d. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

DEATH

DOWNES. — On April 11th, 1954, Joseph William Downes, of Roundway Cottage, Southbank Road, Hereford. Hon. Secretary, Hereford District of Hereford Diocesan Guild. 4296

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

One set of 12 handbells, pre-war, in good condition, used twice only since being overhauled. £40 or nearest offer.—M. Reynolds, 7, Miller Close, Elstow Road, Bedford, Beds. 4279

SITUATION VACANT

MITTON.—Verger for the Church and Caretaker for the Institute. Duties to commence July 1st, 1954. House available, rent free. Applications in writing to Canon Calderbank, The Vicarage, Mitton, Whalley, near Blackburn. 4278

MISCELLANEOUS

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

EXTRA COPIES. — It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals is submitted.

MEETINGS

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery.—Quarterly meeting, Puckington, Saturday, April 24th. Usual arrangements. Notify for tea.—J. T. Locke, Hon. Sec., School Street, Langport. 4244

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Meeting at Burbage, Buxton, April 24th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—C. K. Lewis. 4274

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Coventry on Saturday, April 24th. Bells of St. Michael's, Stoke (8), and All Saints' (8), available 3-4 and after the meeting. Service Holy Trinity Church, Broadgate, 4.30. Tea 5 in Council House, followed by business meeting. 4249

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, April 24th. Committee meeting, Diocesan House, 3.30 p.m. Service, Cathedral, 4.30 p.m. Tea, Diocesan House, 5 p.m. Annual meeting, Diocesan House, 5.45 p.m. Ringing arrangements: St. Andrew's (10) 10.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.; St. Peter's (8) 3 p.m.-4.15 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Cathedral (10) 3 p.m.-4.25 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.-8 p.m.—A. B. Cooper. 4213

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at Great Staughton (6) Saturday, April 24th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 4254

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Watlington, Saturday, April 24th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 4267

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—Meeting at Elmdon (6), near Saffron Walden, on Saturday, April 24th, at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea. Names, please, to G. Blake, Dis. Sec., Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow, Essex. 4201

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Meeting at Merrow, April 24th. Bells 3-9. Tea and meeting 5 in Church Room. Service 7. 4216

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Meeting at Ash (6) on Saturday, April 24th, from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.15. Tea at 4.45. 4238

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Salehurst (8), Saturday, April 24th. Bells 2.30 p.m. 4230

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Hemel Hempstead on Saturday, April 24th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Reports and booklets available. Ringing at Redbourn (6) 10.30-3.30; King's Langley (8) 10.30-12; Apsley End (6) 12 noon-1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m. also 7-8 p.m.; Great Berkhamsted (8) 1.30-3.30 p.m.; Hemel Hempstead (8) 1.30-4.30 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. Lunch (2s. 6d.) at The Salmon, Apsley 1 p.m. Names, early, to R. Shutter, Church House, Apsley. Tea (2s. 6d.) at St. Mary's Hall, Hemel Hempstead.—H. V. Frost, Hon. Gen. Sec. 4240

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Clerkenwell on Saturday, April 24th. Bells available: Holloway 2-4 p.m.; Clerkenwell 3-4.30 p.m.; Bishopsgate in evening. Service, Clerkenwell, 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. 4215

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Quarterly at Somerton (6) April 24th. Service 4. Tea 5. Deddington (8) evening. Please notify for tea.—E. C. Pearson, Adderbury West, Oxon. 4205

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Annual meeting, Cookham, Saturday, April 24th, 3 p.m.—Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 4214

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—Meeting at South Perrott, April 24th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m.—Barrett, Proutbridge, Beaminster. 4248

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Monthly meeting, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Saturday, April 24th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Please provide own food. Cups of tea only available.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 4277

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Nottingham, Saturday, April 24th. St. Mary's bells (10) 2.30. Service 4.30. Please note following amendment: Tea will be provided at 1s. 6d. per head at 5 p.m. in Church Institute, Barkergate. Business meeting in same room after tea. 4207

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury-Lavenham District.—Meeting, Clare (8), Saturday, April 24th. Names for tea to Mr. S. Twitchett, Station Road, Clare, Sudbury, Suffolk. 4245

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Meeting, Brandon, April 24th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—E. M. Peckett, Hon. Dis. Sec. 4266

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting, Wonston, April 24th. Bells (6) 2. Service 4.15. Tea 5, Swan Inn, Sutton Scotney. 4217

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—Quarterly meeting, Baughurst, April 24th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. 4256

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD.—Next meeting at Shelley (6) on Saturday, May 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Cups of tea at small cost at 5 p.m. Please bring own sandwiches. Business meeting to follow and bells afterwards. Good bus service. 4281

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—Annual meeting at St. Michael's on Saturday, May 1st, 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. Bells 13. All welcome.—E. Walker, Hon. Sec. 4290

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bridgewater Branch.—Quarterly meeting, West Huntspill, May 1st, 3 p.m. Recently rehung. Names for tea.—R. Short, Chilton Trinity. 4287

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Clutton, Saturday, May 1st. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—E. Chivers, Chilcompton. 4283

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Sharnbrook (6) on Saturday, May 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5. Special method: St. James' Youths Exercise. All ringers welcome.—Bryan Pattison. 4300

COVENTRY GUILD.—Combined meeting at Salford Priors, Saturday, May 1st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. All welcome.—R. J. E. 4292

DEVON GUILD.—South-West Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Lamerton, May 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by April 26th, to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth. 4233

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Ely and Cambridge Districts.—Joint meeting, Histon (6), May 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—Miss M. Grain, Ely Dis. Sec. 4289

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Crusader meeting, Rayleigh, Saturday, May 1st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea at nearby cafe 5 p.m. Specially requested—names for tea to Mr. E. J. Blower, 37, Highfield Crescent, Rayleigh. Special facilities for Kent Major. 4235

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—Meeting at Great Totham (6), Saturday, May 1st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Numbers for tea to A. Everett, 24, The Chase, Boreham. 4285

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Monthly meeting, Winterbourne, Saturday, May 1st. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.30 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, April 27th, to W. F. Scudamore, County Police Station, Winterbourne, near Bristol. 4294

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bromyard District.—The postponed meeting will be held at Bromyard on Saturday, May 1st. Bells (6) 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please send number for tea by April 29th.—A. S. Tomkins, Harp Cottage, Bredenbury, Bromyard, Herefordshire. 4295

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Aspenden, May 1st, 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. Special method: Lincolnshire Surprise.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 4282

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, May 1st, Langleybury (6), 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Names, please.—R. G. Bell, 131, Hamper Mill Lane, Watford. Tel. Watford 7936. 4299

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Great Amwell on Saturday, May 1st. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. These bells have now been augmented to a ring of six. 4288

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION and SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting will be held at Edenbridge on May 1st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Individual names for tea, please, to Mr. E. C. Leigh, Holmesdale, Station Road, Edenbridge. 4265

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District.—Meeting at Sutton-on-Trent, Notts, Saturday, May 1st. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, not later than Tuesday, April 27th, to Miss G. Burchnell, Pembroke House, Sutton-on-Trent, Newark-on-Trent. 4262

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LADIES' GUILD.—North-Eastern District.—Meeting at Morpeth Watch Tower on Saturday, May 1st. Names for tea, by Friday, April 30th, to Mr. A. H. Pegg, 19, Mitford Road, Morpeth. All ringers welcome. 4234

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at St. Philip's, Nelson, May 1st. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 4291

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Emmanuel Church, Southport, on Saturday, May 1st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to be sent to Miss D. Dutton, 1, Cockle Dick Lane, Southport, Lancs.—W. O. Farrimond, Branch Sec. 4304

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—Spring meeting at Banham (6), Saturday, May 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15; preacher Canon R. W. Longley. Tea 5 in the Church Hall for those who notify, by Tuesday, April 27th, Mr. W. G. Saunders, New Buckenham, Norwich. Quidenham (8 bells) after meeting.—A. G. Harrison, Hon. Sec. 4263

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Stony Stratford, Saturday, May 1st. Bells (8) at 5.15 p.m. All welcome.—R. H. Howson. 4298

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Arborfield on May 1st. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea in Village Hall 6 p.m. Names for tea by April 27th to B. C. Castle, The Briars, Westfield Road, Winnersh, Wokingham. 4280

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Gulbrough Branch.—Meeting at Long Buckby, May 1st. Names for tea to M. Amos, 48, High Street, Long Buckby, Rugby, before April 27th, please.—E. Orland, Hon. Sec. 4302

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—Meeting, Kings Cliffe, May 1st. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5. Names for tea must be sent by Tuesday, April 27th, to G. Bush, 18, Princes Street, Peterborough. 4284

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, May 1st, Broadchalke. Bells 2.15. Service 4. Tea at Queen's Head 4.45. Bells at Coombe Bissett from 6.30. Names for tea by April 27th, please.—Miss Eloie, 7, Victoria Road, Salisbury. 4261

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Ruddington (8), Saturday, May 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. for those notifying, by Wednesday, April 28th, Mr. R. A. Bartlam, 38, Kirk Lane, Ruddington, Notts. 4253

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Brighton, Saturday, May 1st. Bells available: St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' from 2.30 p.m. Service St. Nicholas' 4.15 p.m. Tea Union Church Hall 5 p.m. (3s. per head) Names for tea by April 28th.—R. Percy, Esperance, Oldfield Road, Willington, Eastbourne. 4237

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Quarterly meeting, Arreton, May 1st. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—A. M. Guy, Hon. Sec. 4301

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held jointly with the **SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY** at Doncaster on May 1st. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea (2s. 6d.) 5 p.m. in Memorial Hall, followed by meeting. Names, by April 28th, to D. A. Chapman, 31, Firbeck Road, Doncaster. Subscriptions now due and reports for 1953 will be available. A large and representative attendance is desired.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford 9. 4271

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Leicester, May 8th, by invitation. Train, 8.10 St. Pancras. Ringing: St. John-the-Divine 11 to 12; Cathedral 2 to 3 p.m.; St. Margaret's 3 to 4 p.m. Meeting 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Ringing St. Mary-de-Castro 6 to 7 p.m. Names for tea, by May 1st, please, to Mr. H. J. Poole, 150, Narborough Road South, Leicester. Phone Leicester 33140. 4269

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Llandaff Branch.—Meeting, Bridgend, Saturday, May 8th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow.—R. E. Coles, Sec. 4283

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—Meeting at Winterton, May 8th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by May 1st to Mr. E. Brumpton, 24, West Street, Winterton, Scunthorpe. 4293

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, May 8th, at Norwich. Bells available: Mancroft (12) 3.15-4; St. Giles' (8), St. Mile's (8), St. John de Sepuchre (8) and St. George Colegate (6) 1.30-4; all bells after business meeting. Service, Mancroft, 4; preacher the Rev. J. L. Turney, Rector of Sculthorpe. Tea (with ham, etc.) Mancroft Parish Hall, 4.45 (3s. 9d. each). Tea only for those notifying general secretary by May 1st. Business meeting 5.30. Now, make this new Saturday annual meeting the best ever! People who do not attend the tea are equally welcome to the business meeting.—A. G. G. Thurlow, Gen. Sec., 67a, The Close, Norwich. 4196

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—City Branch.—Half-yearly meeting, Marston, Saturday, May 8th. Bells (5) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Names for tea by May 3rd to Mr. T. S. Bowles, 6, Kempson Crescent, Littlemore, Oxford. 4231

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on May 8th. Ringing: St. James' Constitution Street (8) 11-12.45; Cathedral (10) 2-4 and from 6; St. Cuthbert's in evening if wanted. Service, tea and meeting from 4 p.m. Numbers for tea by Thursday previous to Miss Kate Branson, 91, Mayfield Road, Edinburgh.—Rognvald Wilson, Secretary. 4276

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Halesworth District.—Meeting at Blythburgh (6), Saturday, May 8th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to Mr. R. S. Payne, 21, Hotston Road, Southwold, by May 5th. 4297

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Stowmarket District.—A meeting will be held at Cotton (8) on Saturday, May 8th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify for tea by May 4th. All ringers welcome.—B. Chilvers. 4303

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD (Melton District) and **SOUTHWELL GUILD** (Nottingham District).—Preliminary notice.—Joint meeting at Bottesford on May 22nd.—J. H. Cook, C. Glenn, Joint Secs. 4276

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual dinner will take place on Saturday, October 2nd, at the Old Bell, Holborn. Tickets, price 13s., now available from the undersigned. Please apply early.—Peter N. Bond, Gaywood, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent. 4243

Mr. J. K. Wagstaff's 100 Peals

Mr. J. K. Wagstaff, of Nottingham, who started peal ringing on February 7th, 1946, rang his 100th peal on March 31st. Most of his peals have been rung for the Southwell Diocesan Guild.

The peal Mr. Wagstaff will always remember is the 800th of the late Mr. Thomas Groombridge, sen., which was rung on the latter's 80th birthday and composed and conducted by his son, the late Mr. Tom Groombridge. Mr. Wagstaff's list of peals is appended:—

On tower bells:—

Minor.—Plain Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 1, Oxford Treble Bob 1, Spliced 2.

Triples.—Grandsire 7 (1), College 1, Stedman 18, St. Clement's 2.

Major.—Plain Bob 6 (1), Little Bob 3, Double Norwich Court Bob 1, St. Clement's Spliced Plain and Little Bob 1, Spliced Plain and Kent Treble Bob 1, Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob 1, Granta Variation 1, Kent Treble Bob 2.

Caters.—Stedman 3, Grandsire 17. Royal.—Plain Bob 3, Little Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 4, Granta Variation 1.

In hand:—Doubles.—Grandsire 4 (1), Grandsire and Plain Bob Mixed 1, Plain Bob Minor 4, Grandsire Triples 5, Plain Bob Major 7.

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