



No. 379. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21st, 1918.

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

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

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

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

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

Yours faithfully, F. T. BROOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

BELGIUM'S LOST BELLS.

The decision of the Central Council to inaugurate a fund among the ringers and bell-loving public of Britain to assist in the restoration of some of the bells lost to Belgium through the war was, it seems to us, a natural one for a body which professes to represent the interests of those most intimately associated with bells in this 'Ringing Isle.' If something substantial can be done, such as the replacing of several bells or a whole carillon, it would be a graceful tribute to a nation which has made sacrifices as heroic and complete as any in the war; and few, we believe, among the Exercise will object in principle to the proposal. The question raised an interesting discussion at the Council meeting, and opinion was overwhelmingly in favour of going ahead, although there were divergent views as to the method of procedure, and as to how far the Council ought to go before the various associations had been consulted.

The one point upon which there seemed likely to be serious opposition was as to whether any step at all would be premature for the present; but those who peruse the report of the debate will, we believe, find convincing argument in what was said by Mr. E. H. Lewis, who represents the Cambridge University Guild on the Council, and who was responsible for the proposal to inaugurate the fund. To his contention that such a fund is likely to be more successful if raised while the war is in progress, and that while we should be providing for a gift in the future we should also be helping on the war if the money were invested in War Bonds until the time is ripe for using it, might be added the strong argument that in any matter which it undertakes the Council, of necessity, has to move slowly. Meeting as it does only once a year, matters have a knack of getting hung up almost indefinitely, and an adjournment of the subject at the last meeting might possibly have meant that nothing whatever could have been done until the war is over, for it was quite within possibility that the Council might have determined not to meet again until after the end of the war.

The difficulties, if such they may be termed, on the question of the method of procedure were adroitly handled by Mr. Lewis, and he carried the Council with him in securing the election of a small committee, with power to add to their number, to collect information and lay definite proposals before the next Council meeting. The scheme to raise from £10,000 to £15,000 is an ambitious one, and if carried through to success will need the hearty co-operation of every ringer, not only in contributing liberally to the fund, but in enlisting the practical sympathy and help of every bell lover, and everyone who appreciates the services which Belgium has rendered to the cause for which the Allies are fighting.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

BELLS

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

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

**PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.**

FRAMES

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

Chiming Machines.

**Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed**

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.**

**MALLEABLE IRON BRACKET
BEST BELL ROPES.**

**REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.**

**BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.**

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

*Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford*

Dear Sirs,

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

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

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

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield

CHARLES C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

JOHN NICOLL,

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

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

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

Late 155, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

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

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

BOLTON, BRADFORD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 15, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE.

A PEAL OF GRANBSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

MISS POLLIE GILL Treble	JOSEPH E. SYKES 5
FIRTH HOPWOOD 2	ARTHUR GILL 6
JAMES H. MAWSON 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
JOHN PALFRAMAN 4	SAM PALFRAMAN Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER and Conducted by FRANCIS BARKER.

First peal by the ringer of the treble, and first peal by all the company with a lady ringer. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 6th.

SIX BELL PEAL.

HEMINGBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 2, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 10½ cwt.

MATTHEW SUNE Treble	SERG. E. MORRIS, A.S.C. 4
AUGUSTUS HATFIELD 2	THOMAS BARKER 5
GEORGE TERRY 3	EDWARD RICKITT Tenor

Conducted by SERGT. ERNEST MORRIS, A.S.C. (of Leicester).

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

MEETING AT COSELEY.

A quarterly meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at Coseley Parish Church on Saturday week, the bells being available from three o'clock until service time and again after the meeting until nine o'clock. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. A. Price, R.D., Vicar, and Vice-President of the Guild. A very interesting address was given by the Rev. W. J. Lamplugh (curate) from Psalm 50, 1, the speaker applying the words of his text to the patriotism, zeal, and endurance of our soldiers and sailors, and appealing to his hearers to do their duty also as churchworkers, remembering their sacred position, and using that privilege to God's greater glory.

At the close of the service, an adjournment was made to the Schoolroom, where a bountiful tea was in readiness, and was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all. About 40 members sat down, representing Blakenhall, Bilston, Bradley, Brierley Hill, Birmingham, Coseley, Dudley, Old Hill, Tipton, West Bromwich, Oldswinford, Wolverhampton, Penn, etc.

Before commencing the business meeting, the Rev. J. A. Price, who was in the chair, extended a very hearty welcome to the members of the Guild to his parish, and referred in feeling terms to the members of the Guild who were serving or had laid down their lives in this great devastating war. He offered his sympathy to all who had friends and relatives serving in H.M. Forces, and expressed the hope that they might, by God's help, be spared soon to meet again. — Mr. W. R. Small, the Guild's representative on the Central Council, gave a lengthy report of the Council meeting, and on the proposition of Mr. H. Mason, and seconded by Mr. B. Gough, the best thanks of the Guild were given to Mr. Small for his report.

Several new members were elected, including Mrs. Price, wife of the Vicar, and the Rev. W. J. Lamplugh, as honorary members.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at St. Luke's Blakenhall, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, September 7th, and it is hoped that all members will make a note of the date.

At the close of the meeting, hearty votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar of Coseley for conducting the service in church, presiding at the meeting, and for the use of the Schoolroom, tower and bells; to the Rev. W. J. Lamplugh for his address; to the organist and choir; to the donors of the tea; to the ladies presiding at the tables, and those who had prepared and served the tea and looked after the wants and comfort of the members.

The Guild also offered their best thanks to Mr. J. Price for his kind interest in the ringers and in ringing; to Mr. B. Gough and the Coseley ringers for making the necessary arrangements, and to all who in any way assisted in making the meeting a happy and enjoyable one.

The Chairman then pronounced the Benediction, and brought another successful gathering to a close.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SIX TOWERS IN ONE DAY: A BUSY WHIT-MONDAY.

A long High Street forms the main thoroughfare of Rickmansworth, and the chief house is 'Basing,' where for a time lived William Penn, the Quaker. The Parish Church of St. Mary is a building of flint, with stone dressings, and the square tower was built in 1630. It was here on Whit-Monday that no less than twenty ringers met at the appointed hour, but a service being then in progress, a time was pleasantly spent by making 'raids' on the shops for postcards, and with photography and the handbells. One of the party from London posed quite as a conjurer, for hey! presto! from out his pockets came a set of sweet-toned bells. If you would know the two initials of the said conjurer you have only to look in the alphabet just before tea (T). Upon a start being made in the tower, eight ladies rang 'rounds' on the excellent going ring of bells: Miss B. McKrell 1, Miss F. Gudgeon 2, Miss E. Fuller 3, Miss M. Bateman 4, Miss A. Cooper 5, Miss N. G. Williams 6, Mrs. F. Hairs 7, Miss G. Bateman 8. This was followed by Grand-sire Triples (some of the ladies again taking part), Stedman, Treble Bob, and Double Norwich, in which the Rev. J. F. Amies, and Messrs. J. Bruce Williamson, T. S. Smith (Slough), P. H. Smith (London), and G. Leader, took part. A clean struck course of London Surprise Major concluded the ringing here, by: W. Lawrence 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, George H. Gutteridge 3, Frank Bennett (of Brighton) 4, W. Henley 5, A. Mason 6, W. Hewett 7, R. Sanders 8.—On the 7th bell in this tower is to be found the following quaint inscription: 'In wedlock bands, all ye who join with hands, your hearts unite: So shall our tuneful tongues combine to laud the nuptial rite.'

Thanks are due to the Rev. F. Halsey (Vicar) for the use of the bells, and to Mr. T. Good for having everything ready.

Next, a short run by rail, and Watford was reached with the Parish Church as the objective. Here it was found that the long draught and the heavy going of the bells prevented first-class striking, but some touches were brought round, and everyone had a 'pull.'

About a mile distant southward, and well situated on rising ground is St. Matthew's Church, Oxhey, the spire of which contains a light peal of eight in good going order. This suited the ladies well, and, as everyone of them was a cyclist, they reached the church, and had the bells going by the time some of the sterner sex arrived. During the ringing a course of Superlative Surprise was attempted, but one of the ladies taking part found that the heat of the small ringing chamber was too oppressive, so unfortunately the course was not quite completed.

Within two hundred yards of the church is the Baker Street and Watford line, and by this means Pinner Station was reached.

On arrival at Pinner Village some difficulty was experienced in obtaining tea, and this fact coupled with the delay at the first tower, caused the scheduled time to be exceeded, but those waiting to join the party were very patient, and afterwards rang touches in several methods. They were: Messrs. F. Jelf (Chesham), Geo. Spencer, R.N., A. Beckensale, and G. M. Kilby. The last named probably did not notice the 'flight of time' on account of the good company he had with him.

While some were finishing tea, one of the senior members went in search of the keys, and was just in time to aid the steeplekeeper to lower the 'Union Jack' from the flagstaff on the summit of the tower, from whence a grand view may be obtained of the old-fashioned High Street, which rises by an easy gradient from the railway up to the church; a thoroughfare of good width, irregular in outline, with the gables of ancient houses, one dated 1328, and an old inn dated 1705. The church was erected in the reign of Edward III. In the churchyard, as at Watford, there is another curious tomb. In this instance it is an arched erection and at some feet above the ground contains a coffin, the ends of which project on either side; a creeper has grown over the tomb, but has not covered the ends of the coffin. At this church the organist kindly postponed a practice so that the ringers might enjoy an extension of time, and thanks are accorded to him and to the Vicar (the Rev. C. E. A. Rowlands) for their kindness.

After the ringing at Pinner, a short journey was made in a crowded train to Harrow-on-the-Hill. The old village, which traces its history back to 799, consisted simply of the street which followed the ridge of the picturesque hill, at a time when the level lands at its foot were bare of the houses which have been built within recent years. For a long time Harrow was practically a dependence of the famous school, whose red-brick Elizabethan structure crowns the hill. The church was founded by Lanfranc in the reign of William the Conqueror, and its lofty spire is a well-known landmark for many miles around. The ringing here was Grand-sire and Stedman Triples on the heavy peal, and the best thanks are due to Mr. W. H. Oram and to his band for the very kind reception given by them to the visitors, and especially to Mr. Oram for obtaining permission for the use of the bells at so late an hour in the evening.

This enjoyable trip was organised and the route planned by Mrs. Frank Hairs, ably assisted by Mr. George H. Gutteridge who arranged the details regarding the ringing.

W. L.

THE BELLES OF THE BELLS.

LADIES' GUILD MEETING AT SLOUGH.

One of our prolific writers has recently stated that the 'Women of the Allied Nations will win this war,' and certainly their efforts in every direction since the war began goes to confirm that statement, so far as Great Britain and the Dominions are concerned, and if the 'Bells of Peace' are to resound across our shores some day in the near future, then our womenfolk will be quite ready to sound them and at the same time welcome home the 'boys.'

The first official rally of the Ladies' Guild in the county of Bucks took place at Slough on Saturday, June 1st, and, favoured with a gloriously June day and a good muster of fair ones, it was voted by both organisers and visitors alike a huge success.

The tower of St. Mary's Church was opened by the steeplekeeper, with everything in feminine order at 3.30 p.m., and I was ushered into the tower with the sound of Grand-sire Triples, only to discover that a ladies' team was doing fair justice to the rope ends on a peal of bells where the tenor is 17 cwt., 2 qrs. 19 lbs. in E. Amongst the Edith's, Flora's and Elsie's, and others too numerous to mention, it was refreshing to watch their united, loving attentions to dear old 'Sally.'

Of course, mere man was allowed to be present, by kind consent, and he occasionally got on to the heavy end of the octave, or behind some backward pupil, and in sundry ways and methods made himself generally useful to the ladies. The picture in my mind's eye, on entering the doorway, formed an appropriate illustration of one of the Psalms: 'Old men and maidens, Praise the Lord.' Most of the ladies wore a very becoming white costume, which enhanced their glowing happy faces, whilst the men appeared to have mostly grown grey in the art of their grandfathers. This scene was one which the Vicar of Hampstead, or the late Rector of Farnham Royal, might have looked upon without the slightest misgiving. Eight white-robed figures, gracefully bending to their newly-found art, afforded a theme—with something more than earthly meaning—which the poet may some day eulogise in verse.

Of the actual ringing, rounds, Double Norwich, and the standard methods were enjoyed, with some fair performers each time in the gets. A peal of handbells were on loan for the afternoon, but the day was too short, or the programme too full, for much to be done with them.

The meeting was arranged by the London District of the Ladies' Guild. At the service appropriate hymns were sung, Mr. Alfred Blanchet, presiding at the organ. The Rector (Canon Eliot, R.D.) spoke on the lines in hymn 550, 'Craftsman's art and music's measure for Thy pleasure all combine.'

Tea was provided at the Church Institute in Herschel Street. The Rector presided, and there were present: Dr. J. H. Williamson, Major J. H. B. Hesse (Teddington), the Rev. G. S. Deacon (Windsor), the Rev. J. F. Amies (Chalfont St. Peter), Mr. W. H. Fussell (secretary of the South Bucks and East Berks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), Mr. and Mrs. Leader, Miss Leader, Mr. and Mrs. W. Shepherd (Hersham), Mr. J. J. Parker (Farnham Royal), Mr. E. A. Allen (Rochester), Mr. A. Hughes (the Whitechapel Bell Foundry), Mr. W. A. Alps, the Misses Gladys Bateman (Stoke Poges), Winnie Cooper, Florrie Gudgeon (Fulmer), B. K. McKell (Gerrards Cross), Nora G. Williams, M. F. Carrick, E. A. Gorham, Miss A. Arnold (Rochester), H. M. Honor, Dora G. Feltham (Hillingdon), Ethel F. Dance, Helena Roe (Windsor), Edith Jones (West Ealing), Kate Smith (Maidenhead), Stella Davis (Buckbury), Mrs. E. L. Hairs (Willesden Green), Misses S. T. Barnes, W. E. Spain (Oatlands Park), E. K. Parker, S. Johnson (Edmonton), J. Woodrow (Hersham), Messrs. Shreeve, Bateman, Henley, Smith, Hewitt (Camberwell), W. Lawrence (Ealing), E. M. Atkins, W. Fuller (Wargrave), O. W. Lang (Swindon), G. Bedford, J. Waghorne, W. G. Good, H. Woodrow, G. Kilby, of Willesden and E. Morris.

The Chairman announced that Miss Edith Parker, of Edmonton, the honorary secretary, wished him to inform them that there was really no actual business to do that day because that was only a district meeting, but there were one or two new members to be proposed.

These having been elected, Miss Parker proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector, the organist, Mr. G. T. Leader (the steeplekeeper of St. Mary's Church), and the local ringers, and the ladies who had arranged the tea (Miss Leader and Miss Gudgeon).

The Rector acknowledged the compliment, and said that if on any future occasion the lady bell ringers visited St. Mary's belfry, all who lived in Slough would be only too pleased to extend to them a most hearty welcome (applause). Mr. Fussell had placed in his hands the supplement to that day's 'Slough, Eton and Windsor Observer,' which contained an article entitled 'The Bells of Belgium.'

The reading of this by the Rector was listened to with rapt attention, and it created a profound impression.

The company then returned to the church and rang further touches until 9 o'clock.

W. H. F.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.



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

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehänging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

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

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from Page 190.)

DIFFICULTIES IN REACHING THE CLERGY.

In continuing the discussion on the paper read by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. P. Burton said the Literature Committee had been generally most barren with regard to the work it had done, was doing, and was likely to do. He felt it was not sufficient for the Council to claim to be an advisory committee simply, or just to suggest to secretaries of associations that they should print some of their deliberations in their annual reports. If those reports were to be of any value they must bear the imprimatur and authority of the Council. Why could they not lay hands on this Literature Committee, drag them out, and make them do some work? (laughter).

Mr. E. Barnett said that whatever was put into the reports should be brought before the clergy in the various parishes by the individual ringers.

The Hon. Secretary said if they relied upon the secretaries of associations they would have to stir them up to a little more activity than they had been able to do in the past, otherwise they would be relying on a rather broken reed.

Mr. J. W. Taylor asked if the Council thought the clergy were going to wade through an association report to find the objects and decisions of the Council? He thought, unless they were ringers, the reports would go straight into the waste-paper basket.

Mr. T. Faulkner and Mr. W. E. White having also spoken.

The Chairman said he was sure they would all tender their hearty thanks to the hon. secretary for bringing the matter forward in the admirable paper he had written for their instruction. There was food in that paper for much thought. There were many different points which wanted to be looked at from various sides, and he hoped that all the members would thoroughly study the paper and make their conclusions known to their friends. Above all, he trusted they would see it was the duty of the Associations and Guilds to circulate among every one of their members everything that emanated from that Council. If that were done they would get into better touch than they had been in the past, perhaps, between the Central Council and the different County and Diocesan Associations. He had heard a good deal, he added, about the clergy taking no notice of reports that were sent them. Speaking as a clergyman, he must say he never dreamed of reading all the things that were sent him. He had not got the time to do it, and he could put himself into the boots of the non-ringing parson, and could quite understand what he did. The more the paper was thought over and the more it was discussed, the better decisions they would come to to make the Council more useful than it had been, although he for one did not agree for one instant in saying that the Council had done no good in the past. He did not know where the Exercise would have been without it, and without its head, Sir Arthur Heywood.

The subject was then adjourned until the next meeting.

BELGIUM'S BELLS.

Mr. E. H. Lewis next introduced the motion standing in his name, with regard to raising a fund in England to assist in the restoration of the bells in Belgium after the war. He did not think it was necessary, he said, to enlarge on the fact that a large number of bells in Belgium had been destroyed, and that others had been removed from the belfries to be melted for war purposes by the Germans. He understood from a Belgian friend that they had not up to that time touched the carillons at Bruges, at Brussels, or at Antwerp, but the carillon at Malines had gone, and so had many of the bells near the fighting line. He brought forward the matter to see whether it was possible for the ringers of England, in gratitude for the way in which their bells had been untouched, to do something towards replacing some of the bells of Belgium. It was rather a large matter to tackle if they were to do anything really effective. His first idea was to suggest that the ringers should provide one good bell to go into one of the churches of Belgium, but after talking the matter over it seemed to him that it might be quite possible for ringers, if they got the sympathetic interest of their friends, to replace far more than one bell—possibly such a carillon as that of Malines. The cost would be pretty large, and he was going to give them a high figure which he would like them to aim at. The weight of the bells at Malines was, he believed, about 34 tons. The price of tin was quite prohibitive, and the same might almost be said of copper; but after the war, when freights became a little easier, and the metals were not required for some of the purposes for which they were now being used, it might be possible to replace such a carillon at from £10,000 to £15,000. What he would suggest was that the top figure should be taken as an estimate, and he would like to consult the Council as to whether it was not possible to take the lead in this matter, and put forward an appeal from the ringers to the general public, more particularly to the church-going public in this country, and see whether some such sum could not be raised. With regard to the effects of the destruction, he had been given by the Belgian Government a set of photographs of some of the ruined churches, and they had lent him the corresponding lantern slides, to make any use he liked of in order to emphasise the appeal. The question arose as to the best method to

which such an appeal should be made, but it would, perhaps, first be well for the Council to express an opinion as to whether such an appeal should be made.

Mr. J. W. Taylor said he believed it was a fact that very few, if any, of the carillons of Belgium belonged to the church. They were usually placed in secular buildings. At Malines the carillon was in the Cathedral, but the Cathedral itself belonged to the Corporation. At Alost, the belfry was a secular building; at Ypres the belfry was at the Cloth Hall; and many others were in buildings belonging to the Corporations. Therefore, in giving bells, the ringers would be giving to the various Corporations. The bells used at the Church of Malines were three or four in a separate part of the building altogether.

IS IT PREMATURE?

Mr. G. P. Burton was sorry to have to object to the resolution; he thought it was altogether premature. They did not yet know what the end of the war was going to be. They did not even know whether by some turn of fortune they might not find the Belgians fighting against them. The Allies' war aims were changing daily, and different coalitions might be formed before the war was over. It was premature, therefore, to talk about helping the Belgians. Further, they would not be helping the church in Belgium, they would be helping the secular authority. Besides, were not the Germans going to pay? They had been told in season and out of season that the Germans were going to pay, and if so, why were the poor ringers to be asked to pay? They had just been told that the Council had no power to deal with matters of this kind; how could they, then, suggest that ringers should put their hands into their pockets, and pay money for Belgium—a country whose good faith they knew nothing about?

The Rev. H. J. Elsee said he hoped they would not wind up on this last note. He did not agree at all with what Mr. Burton had said. With regard to bells being in secular hands, he supposed that if such a project as this was taken up, their idea would not be to express their sympathy with the Church in Belgium, for which they might and did sympathise, but rather with the Belgian people as a whole. Belgium was more associated with the idea of its bells than any country in the world, not even excepting England. Whatever might be said about Belgium, whatever Belgium might do in the future no one doubted this, that by its heroic stand in the early days of the war Belgium went a very long way towards saving England (hear, hear), and in our gratitude for that, and to express our sympathy with what was, he hoped, a very heroic State, this scheme would be a most touching expression of sympathy, not only from English ringers, though he supposed it would be largely engineered and worked by the ringers, but from the bell-loving public of England (hear, hear).

The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore asked if it was not rather premature. They might sympathise with Belgium, but they had their own business in the matter of the war. Afterwards, perhaps, they might do something with regard to Belgian bells, but they would have in each of their associations war memorials for which they must appeal to their members first of all.

BELLS THAT BELONG TO THE WORLD.

Mr. E. H. Lewis said he thought in writing to the 'Ringing World' he had made it quite clear that nothing whatever could be done until after the war. His idea in bringing it before the public now was that it would be easier to collect the money at the present time rather than later on. With regard to the Germans paying, they all expected Germany to make reparation, but nothing but the necessities could come first. The Belgians must have bread first, they must then have the means of restoring their industries, and it might be many years before the Germans were able to replace what might be regarded more or less as luxuries. Even if the Germans were to be made to restore the value of the bells he did not see why they should not in this country make the Belgians a gift of one or more bells, or a carillon as a mark of gratitude for the stand they made, and which undoubtedly did save us from a great deal of suffering, if not from something worse. He did not mind whether the gift was made to the Belgian Church or the Belgian State. He did not look upon the bells of Belgium as belonging to either. He regarded them as belonging to the world, just as famous pictures were of international value and belonged to mankind as a whole, and not to the particular nation in whose custody they might happen to be. The bells of Belgium were there a very long time before Belgium was an independent State. It had been said that the idea of the restoration of some of these bells had already been taken up in America, and he thought it would be a pity if we as a country, who loved bells more than anyone else, with the exception of Belgium, fell behind the Americans. He thought he had made it clear he would have nothing to do with the scheme except on condition that every penny should be invested in war bonds, and not touched until the war had finished. They would then be securing a double object, helping on the war and, when the war was over, being in a position to make this gift.

Mr. Burton proposed, and Mr. R. Narborough seconded, that the question be adjourned, but this amendment, on being put, was lost.

Mr. Lewis moved, and Mr. E. A. Young seconded, that the scheme should be proceeded with.

The Hon. Secretary said they would remember he had been very careful to say that he would consider it a great pity if at any time the Council undertook the management of any funds other than its

own, and he felt very strongly on that point. He was entirely in sympathy with Mr. Lewis's proposal, that England should help Belgium, and he hoped they would be able to do something quite material in restoring either some individual bells or a whole carillon when the proper time came. He was also strongly in favour of the Council giving its blessing to the scheme, but he should vote against the Council making itself a treasurer of the funds in any way. If they wanted to do anything of that sort, let them appoint a committee to manage the funds which should not be answerable to the Council, but to the public at large. Whatever they did, his strong advice was, not to render themselves as a Council liable for the management and dispensation of the money. Let them elect a committee, but do not let the fund be in the hands of the Council. He was sure the Exercise would look with respect on any committee that the Council elected.

The motion to proceed was carried by a large majority.

(To be continued).

NOTICE TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS

Owing to the renewed illness of the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' who has been ordered away by his medical adviser for special treatment, the responsibility for the publication of 'The Ringing World' for the next few weeks has been kindly undertaken by other hands, and in view of the difficulties which this may occasion the indulgence of all our friends is asked for. Correspondents who make themselves responsible for reports of meetings are asked to assist the acting editor by sending on their 'copy' early. It is particularly requested that all communications shall be addressed to 'The Ringing World,' and not personally to the Editor, otherwise delay may arise.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE VETERAN OF ST. ANDREW'S, HOLBORN.

The members of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild held a very successful meeting at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on Saturday week. There was an attendance of about 40, including Messrs. W. and G. R. Pye, E. J. Butler, C. Dean, H. E. Wills, W. S. Wise, C. T. Clayton, A. Hubbard, W. Hewett, R. Sanders, G. Kilby, O. L. Twist, etc. After one or two slight mishaps at the start, some good touches were rung in methods, comprising Grandtreble and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major.

Tea was taken at the Court House, presided over by the Rector (the Rev. E. C. Bedford), who at the conclusion read the lines given below, composed by himself, and supposed to be a conversation by Mr. J. Raynor, the veteran steepkeeeper, which were received with applause.

The handbells were then brought into use to the tune of Stedman Cinques, and were much appreciated by the Rector's wife and friends.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by the Rector.—Two new members were elected, and a vote of condolence passed with the relatives of the late Mr. J. Barry.

The subject of a county memorial to those who have fallen in the war was discussed, several members expressing their views, and it was suggested that the matter be talked over at the next S. and W. district meeting, in order that something definite may be ready for the next annual meeting.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for kindly allowing the members to visit St. Andrew's that day, to which the Rector very suitably replied.

Mr. Alps then moved a resolution of hearty congratulation to Mr. Joseph Raynor on the condition of his health, and for the loyal way he had always acted towards the Association, adding a wish that he may be spared to ring for the victory and lasting peace.

The meeting over, the tower was again visited until 9 p.m.

HOLBORN ST. ANDREW'S BELLS.

The old steepkeeeper, Mr. J. Raynor, aged 83, speaks:—

St. Andrew's bells I've tended thee these five and fifty year,
But getting on for eighty-four, I soon must stop, I fear.
It grieves me sore, I'll tread no more the narrow old stone stair
And set the tune, and pull my rope, up in the belfry there.

There's just two peals in London town, which can compare with ours
(Not counting the Cathedral with its great dome and towers).
Time was I rang the tenor bell, when these old arms were strong,
But I can ring the treble yet with the other men along.

Week in, week out, each Sabbath day, I'm always in my place,
Calling the folks to worship, and to seek the throne of grace,
I've rung at scores of weddings, at funerals I've tolled,
But I must soon lay down my task, for I am growing old.

But ere I pass, and men for me ring out the muffled peal,
There's something that I'd like to do, and surely shall I feel
It is that I—before I die—and ere my duties cease
May join the ring which tells the news of Victory and Peace!

June, 1918.

EDWIN C. BEDFORD.

NOTICES.

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

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual Guild festival will be held at Winchester on Saturday, June 22nd. The Cathedral bells will be available from 11 a.m.; annual meeting, 2.15 p.m., at St. Maurice's Hall; service at Cathedral 4 p.m.; tea 5 p.m. Half rail fares and half cost of tea allowed for those attending annual meeting.—George Williams, Hon. General Sec., West End, near Southampton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Northowram on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until 9; tea at 5.30 p.m., members to bring their own rations, cups of tea will be provided; business meeting immediately after. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. District Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the South-Eastern Division will be held at Boreham on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells available from 6 o'clock till 9; business meeting during the evening.—F. W. Edwards, Writtle.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells ready at 4; service at 5.30; meeting at 6.—Rev. E. E. Collier and Walter Hughes, Hon. Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wollaston (Stourbridge) on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m.; service in the Church at 5; business meeting in the School after the service.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, St. Edward's Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bury, on Saturday, June 22nd, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.30. A good attendance is earnestly requested.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Arundel on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells available from 4 o'clock till 9. Tea 1/- each, to all who let me know by June 19th.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—A meeting will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on June 27th for handbell practice at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY—(Estab. 1623).—The 295th anniversary of this Society will be held on June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors will be welcome.—R. A. Strong, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Penkridge on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available at 3; service in church, with address by Rev. J. A. Burton, at 4.45; tea and general meeting at "Littleton Arms" Hotel at 5.30. Tickets for tea will be 1/- for fully-paid members who send names by Tuesday, 25th inst., to others 1/6.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—A friendly gathering of the members of the E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch will take place at St. Michael's Church, Warfield, Berks, on Saturday, June 29th, at 6 o'clock. Friends and neighbours welcome.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Appledore on Saturday, June 29th. Bells (8) available from 5 o'clock.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Kettering District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kettering on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m., to be followed by business meeting.—Walter T. Wilson, Hon. Sec., The Pines, Isham, near Kettering.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Borden on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. District Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Quorn on Saturday, June 29th. Bells available from 2 o'clock; committee meeting at 4.30; tea (1/- each) at 5 o'clock, followed by general meeting in the National Schools. It is important that those who intend being present for tea should notify Mr. A. Burrows, Cotesdale, Quorn, not later than the previous Thursday morning.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Denton on Saturday, June 29th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Taunton on Saturday, July 6th. Particulars to follow.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, July 6th, 1918. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of the Western District will be held at Paulton on Saturday, July 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; service at 4 p.m.; tea and meeting at the Vicarage at 4.30 p.m. Members and friends cordially invited. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than July 2nd.—N. Gillingham, Portishead, Somerset.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Calverley on Saturday, July 6th. The bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m., and the business meeting will be held in the "Thornhill Arms" (near the church) at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, July 6th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; business meeting at 6 o'clock. All ringers and friends welcome.—S. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—W. Watts has removed from Mont House Cottage, Stanstead, Essex, to Watlands, Scayne's Hill, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

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

THE WINCHESTER GUILD.**SUCCESSFUL MEETING OF THE GUILDFORD DISTRICT.**

Quite the most successful meeting of the Guildford District, in recent years, was held at Worplesdon on Saturday week. It was attended by between 40 and 50 ringers, of whom half were ladies. Service was held in the Parish Church at five o'clock, and before commencing his address, the Rector (the Rev. J. C. G. Bruce) explained how sorry he was not to be able to welcome the ringers to the Rectory, but owing to the sudden death of his aunt, who was only on a short visit to them, he was quite sure the members would see it was impossible for him to do so, much as he wished to have them there. (Mrs. Bruce is a ringing member of the district.) He had, however, spoken to Mr. and Mrs. Arbuthnot, of Merrist Wood, who at once most kindly invited them there.

It might be added that, in addition to the Rector's very practical address, the number of ladies made the beautiful special service even more attractive and hearty than usual.

On arrival in the beautiful grounds of Merrist Wood, the ringers received a hearty welcome from Mr. and Mrs. Arbuthnot, who had kindly supplemented the rations brought by the ringers with tea, cakes, and garden produce. Those who were privileged to be present will long remember the outdoor tea, on the beautiful lawn, amidst some of the fairest scenery in Surrey.

The well-tuned peal of six bells in the Parish Church were kept going afternoon and evening by members from Cranleigh, Dorking, Aldershot, Guildford, Shalford, Ewhurst, etc.; also by visitors from Hersham, Weybridge, etc.

The business included the election of twelve new members (seven of whom were ladies), and the selection of the place of next meeting, for which Cobham was decided upon on July 13th.

A vote of thanks from the chair was gracefully acknowledged by Mrs. Arbuthnot, who said she hoped to see them all again when the rationing was over and done with.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last a very successful and representative meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Flixton, members attending from Ashton-under-Lyne, Birch, Barlow Moor, Eccles, Hyde, Oldham, Prestwich, Pendleton. Mr. Wm. Bibby, of Frodsham, Chester, was also present. Lady ringers attended from Prestwich, the Misses Ada and Alice Roberts, and Miss Annie Foster, from Miles Platting; Misses A. Simpson and M. Simpson, Miss E. Tongue, and Mrs. Wolstencroft, from Ashton-under-Lyne. Mr. W. E. Ryder presided over the business meeting, and gave a hearty welcome to the visitors on behalf of the Flixton company. A vote of condolence was passed to the widow and family of the late James Henry Ridyard, of Worsley, and was carried by the members standing in silence. Prestwich was decided upon as the next meeting-place, and the Association Committee Meeting will also be held there on July 20th.

Ringings were indulged in in various methods, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector and local ringers for their welcome to Flixton.

MEETING AT GREAT TEY.

The beautiful weather on Bank Holiday was a great help to the success of a friendly meeting of ringers held at the quaint old Parish Church of St. Barnabas, in the village of Great Tey. Ringing on the musical peal in the grand old Norman tower commenced about three o'clock, touches of Superlative and Cambridge Surprise, Double Norwich, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, being brought round. An adjournment was made for tea at the Chequers Inn, after which more ringing took place till eight o'clock. The ringers present included Messrs. F. Claydon, J. French, J. and R. Fleuty, W. Burst, and W. Sillitoe, from Earls Colne; H. Cooper, Yeldham; L. Wiseman and B. Pettitt, Hedingham; J. Sadler, W. Howell, and E. W. Beckwith, Coggeshall; J. Newman, Feering; A. Shuffelbotham, Braintree; W. Elliott, Kelvedon; and last, but certainly not least, Corpl. Buesden, from Canterbury, who is on duty in the neighbourhood.

THE LATE BROTHERS RIDYARD.

At the Parish Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, June 8th a muffled peal of Grandsire Cinques was attempted, but unfortunately a change course brought it to a close after two hours. It was rung as a mark of respect to the memory of Brothers Joseph Ridyard and James H. Ridyard, of Worsley, those taking part being: Edwin S. Morgan 1, Robert Davies 2, Thos. Jakeman 3, Thos. B. Worsley 4, Joseph Lowe 5, Joseph Mellor 6, Harry Chapman 7, John Leigh 8, Titus Barlow 9, Albert Adams 10, Samuel Wood (composer and conductor) 11, Amos Trippier 12.

PENTRE RHONDDA.—Llandaff Association.—On April 21st, at St. Peter's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1220 changes), in 50 mins.: G. Cross 1, H. Page (conductor) 2, F. Wines 3, F. Lasbury 4, T. Hamlin 5, J. Cross 6, T. Pages 7, W. Page 8. Rung as a farewell to F. Wines before joining the army.

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