

No. 1,514. Vol. XXXV.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29th, 1940.

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#### A NEW DEPARTURE.

A class in campanology, as part of the organised programme in connection with London County Council evening institutes, is a departure which should be welcomed. Such a class was organised last December, and little has been heard about it until now, but it has gone on with such success that the students have reached the practical stage of their training. The innovation in the London County Council programme came about in this way. The silence of the bells at St. John's, Waterloo Road, once a centre of great change ringing activity, was keenly felt by some of the parochial organisations, and particularly by the members of the Mothers' (now the Women's) Fellowship of St. John's. They determined that the bells should be rung again, and through the Waterloo Women's Institute the L.C.C. was approached with a view to establishing a campanology class so that they might learn something of the subject. The Council claims that every one of its evening institute classes is the result of a spontaneous request on the part of a group of students, and whenever there is such a request every effort is made to provide accommodation and facilities.—In this case the accommodation and the facilities—St. John's belfry and the bells—were awaiting them, and with one of London's best-known lady ringers, Mrs. J. E. Davis, as instructor, the class was established and proved an immediate success. The class has a membership of eighteen and an average attendance of about fifteen, but its influence has gone outside the actual members, and the enthusiasm of the mothers who initiated the class has, we understand, in some cases already infected their husbands and children.

What a great opportunity seems here to open up for recruiting the belfries at a time when it will be specially difficult to keep them manned. If, in London, mothers can be found sufficiently interested to initiate such a course of study without any previous acquaintance with the many-sided attraction of 'campanology,' and to become enthusiastic in it, there ought surely to be a big field throughout the country for opening up similar classes. It may not be possible, of course, to get all of them recognised by the education authorities, but there are parochial organisations which should be able to provide the material, and there are the belfries already equipped. The essential feature of this sort of instructional class, however, is important. It is no casual effort to bring in new ringers, beginning with an individual invitation to the belfry. The class is an organised unit, with a definite curriculum and syllabus. The first lesson is not at the (Continued on page 146.)

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end of a rope; there is class instruction and paper work to be done; the pupils have to receive enlightenment on the principles of change ringing before they begin its practice, and the course has to pursue from stage to stage a carefully prepared plan. It does not follow that, in every tower where a class might be possible, there is a ready-made instructor, and nothing would be more fatal to success than an incompetent teacher-however good a ringer he may be-in charge of such a class. Instructors, however, could be found, and in these days there are many men trained in the teaching profession who could be employed. It is a direction in which the associations might profitably lend a hand by encouraging the formation of classes and helping to provide the best instructors. We are quite sure that the outline of the work at Waterloo Road would be willingly passed on, but the initiative must come from the parishes, where the help of the most suitable existing organisation should be sought.

#### TEN BELL PEAL.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

In Saturday, March 16, 1940, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

 JOHN LLOYD ...
 ...
 ...
 ...
 ...
 ...
 6

 CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ...
 ...
 2
 HAROLD SHUCK ...
 ...
 7

 JOHN GOODMAN ...
 ...
 3
 BERNARD ASHFORD ...
 8

 CHARLES W. COOPER ...
 4
 NORMAN LEECH ...
 ...
 9

 HENRY GOODMAN ...
 ...
 5
 BENJAMIN FULLWOOD ...
 ...
 ...

Composed by W. MICKLEWRIGHT. Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN.
Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Herbert Sheppard, secretary of the above Guild for 27 years.

#### EIGHT BELL PEALS.

GRESFORD, DENBIGHSHIRE. THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

O. Saturday, March 16, 1940, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

#### A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

First peal of Cambridge Surprise Major as conductor.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 16, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

#### A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

\*ALLAN WITHNELL ... ... Treble | John H. C. Massey ... ... 5
GEORGE STAFF ... ... 2 | STEPBEN LL. PARRY ... ... 6
DENNIS HOLLOS... ... 3 | HAROLD HAMER ... ... 7
SELWYN H. DEARDEN ... 4 | ALBERT BUCKLEY... ... Tenor
Conducted by HAROLD HAMER.

\* First peal in the method. First peal of Stedman by the local band.

NEWHEY, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, March 23, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes;
At the Parish Church,

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

VICARS' SIX-PART.

ALAN WITHNELL ... ... Treble | FRANK REYNOLDS ... ... 5
FRED DUNKERLEY ... ... 2
JOHN MEADOWCROFT ... ... 3
STEPHEN L. PARRY ... ... 4
Conducted by J. MEADOWCROFT, JUN.

#### WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 23, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

#### A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

#### Tenor to cwt.

ERIC B. HARTLEY	Treble	ALICK CUTLER		•••	5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	2	JAMES BENNETT.	*** ***	***	6
GEORGE M. KILBY	3	HARRY KILBY			7
RUSSELL G. SPEARS	4	WILFRID G. WIL	SON	7	Ceno1
Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE.		Conducted by W. G. WILSON.			

\* First peal in the method. Rung as a compliment to Mr. Edward C. Lankester on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Elsie Lakin, of Spalding, Lines.

#### HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 20, 1940, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes, AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,

#### A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES; Tenor size 15 in C.

101	DI DIGO	20 XII O1			
ERNEST C. S. TURNER	1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT			5-6
CHRIS, W. WOOLLEY					
Composed by LAMES HINT	Con	ducted by ERNEST C	S. T	HPNI	RR.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. On Saturday, March 23, 1940, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes. AT TRENTWOOD.

#### A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES!

MRS. R. RICHARDSON	1-2   JACK BRAY 5-6	
ROPERT RICHARDSON	3-4   *George E. Fearn 7-8	
Composed by F. A. Holden.	Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.	

Witnesses-Mrs. G. E. Fearn and Mrs. J. Bray.

\* First peal in hand.

#### HEVINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. On Saturday, March 23, 1940, in Two Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF W. C. MEDLER,

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

Being two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob.

JACK N. A. PUMPHREY ... ... 1-2 | WALTER C. MEDLER ... 3-4 ERIC DURRANT ... 5-6

Conducted by ERIC DURRANT.

First handbell peal in three methods by all and first handbell peal in three methods by the association.

#### DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING AND THE RECAST BELLS.
The annual meeting of the Doncaster and District Society was held at Doncaster on the 16th inst. Ringing began at 2 o'clock, and the service was conducted by the Vicar, Canon A. Ll. Davies, who is the

president of the society.

At the meeting after tea, the secretary reported that 11s. 9d. balance on the year's work had been placed in the bank, and Mr. Harold Walker, late of Doncaster and now at York, presented his cup to the winners, who were the Felkirk band. Mr. Dan Smith received the cup on their behalf and said he hoped that more would enter for it another year.

On the argenting of Mr. W. F. Lloyd it was agreed that members

on the suggestion of Mr. W. E. Lloyd, it was agreed that members who joined H.M. Forces should remain members without any further payment until they had left the Forces.

Canon Davies said they were grateful to the Yorkshire ringers who had contributed towards the cost of recasting the bells.

#### BEGINNERS AND RINGING TERMS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I give just one instance where confusion was caused by the misunderstanding of a term? The method was Cambridge Major, the going was getting rather rough when the conductor called one of the ringers to 'do treble work.' This, according to Snowden in his letterpress, is the 'dodge, lead, dodge' or 'dodge, lie dodge.' This the ringer very dutifully did and came away, with disastrous results to the Cambridge.

At the subsequent invest it appeared that by 'trable work.' the

At the subsequent inquest it appeared that by 'treble work' the conductor meant work with the treble or the full work. The treble work, as understood by the ringer, the conductor called 'treble boli work.'

I should like to have replied to Mr. X.Y.Z., but I have no time for those who hold views (especially on such a harmless subject) which they wish to air in the public press and for some obscure reason find

it impossible to write their name after them.

I must apologise for badly misquoting the extract from the 'Ringers and Choirmen' correspondence. It should have been 'Cease the full octave in peal.' This, a correspondent informs me, means to lower

P.S.—If Mr. Hutchison had to keep his bell up to go down and lower his bell to go up he would, I think, be in a worse confusion.

HELPFUL ADVICE.

Dear Sir,—Though a little lete, I should like to put Mr. Levett right on a few points and thus repay him for the many tips he has given me in the past. He asks 'Cannot something be done to standardise the technical terms of the Exercise?' For about 20 years the 'Glossary' was advertised weekly in 'The Ringing World' until it became defunct. In fact, so defunct that in the end the copies were given away. I had one given to me when I wasn't looking!

My own ways of finding out anything I want to know about ringing are: (a) Get one of the several publications available and study it. (b) Admit my ignorance and ask someone who does know. Among the dozens of ringers I know I have yet to meet one so discourteous as to refuse the information if available. Why worry about 'Right or Home'? Has Mr. Levett never heard of the word 'synonymous'? 'Right and Home' are synonymous, so are 'Make fourth's' and 'Make the bob' in Plain Bob, and 'Make fifth's' and 'Make the Bob' in Stedman Triples. I advance this information for Mr. Levett's edification or 'eddication.' Synonymous terms again! On the point of Stedman course ends I decline to argue. The Central Council has some weird and wonderful ways, past the understanding of mere mortals. His question about the correctness of the terms 'ring' or 'peal' of bells brings up our dear old pal 'synonymous.' I know a man who only knows one way of spelling 'cat'—K-A-T—and swears blind it is the correct way. 'Stood in with a full peal' drags up our old pal 'synonymous' again. What about 'Manned all the ropes'? When I meet Mr. Levett again with a few more of our mutual acquaintances I hope to 'stand a full round' and 'set all clappers going.' Is it all clear now, Mr. Levett?

A. H. KEMP.

UPS AND DOWNS.

Dear Sir,—The letter by Mr. C. Hutchinson is a good example of how, in these things, men make their own difficulties. Ringers as well as organists talk naturally and similarly of notes being higher or lower in pitch, and ringers just as naturally talk of hunting up and hunting down, and of one bell being above or below another in ringing. They also talk about a bell being up or down when they mean it has been raised or ceased, and they may talk about one bell being above another when the bells are hung in two tiers. No ordinary man finds any confusion in these various uses, for the context supplies the meaning.

X.Y.Z.

#### THREE GENERATIONS.

At Burton Latimer on March 7th, with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to Mr. Henry Whitney, who was one of the chief subscribers when the bells were augmented to eight nearly 20 years ago, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Parker's Twelve-Part): Miss M. J. Saddington 1, H. Turner 2, G. Lines 3, C. G. Hendry 4, T. Garley 5, J. Saddington 6, B. J. Saddington (conductor) 7, W. Shelford 8. This was the first attempt for a quarter-peal by the treble ringer, whose age is 14 years. The conductor is her father and the ringer of the 6th her grandfather. Three generations thus shared in the ringing. generations thus shared in the ringing.

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#### CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.

In the early years of the nineteenth century change ringing greatly declined in London and there were no more peals at St. Saviour's until the rise of the Society of Junior College Youths. This company was originally founded in 1820 by Henry Symondson as an auxiliary to the Society of College Youths at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. It was quite distinct from the older body, the members of which were far too exclusive to associate on terms of equality with the younger men. But death was beginning to thin their ranks and though they had astonishing vitality and most of them lived to a good old age, they had increasing difficulty in maintaining the ringing at St. Martin's. Ultimately in 1830 the two societies were formally united, though the union lasted for no more than two years.

The headquarters of the Junior College Youths were originally at a house in St. Martin's Lane, but many of them lived on the Surrey side of the river, and much of their ringing was done at Southwark and on the bells of the new churches which were built at Camberwell and Newington. One of their members was James Mash, the steeplekeeper at St. Saviour's. This office was held by himself and his descendants for many years, and since they were all strong College Youths, the belfry, which in earlier years had been practically an open one, now became a stronghold of that society.

As the older generation of College Youths died out the men who had been members of the Junior Society were admitted to the company in increasing numbers until at length they secured full control. Then they abandoned St. Martin's-in-the-Fields and The Barn and moved the headquarters to the Winchester Arms by Southwark Church, where it remained until 1892, when it was transferred to the Goose and Gridiron in St. Paul's Churchyard, a house which was pulled down in the early days of the present century.

The Junior Society of College Youths rang one peal of Grandsire Caters at Southwark in 1827, and ten years later, when John Cox was their principal conductor, they had a very skilful band, which laid the foundations of the prosperity the Ancient Society of College Youths enjoyed during the nineteenth century.

In 1836 Cox composed and conducted the first peal of Stedman Caters on the bells, and in the following year the first peal of Stedman Cinques. 'It had been for many years,' says the peal board, 'the wish to compose and call a peal in this method on the twelve bells, but the honour remains for the undermentioned persons." Edward Lansdell, who rang the eleventh, was one of a family of ringers who lived at Rolvenden in Kent, and who 'acquired their information of change ringing within twelve months solely from reading Shipway's "Campanologia." '

In 1820 four brothers rang 5040 Bob Triples with their father at the tenor. Edward Lansdell called the bobs, and after removing to London, where he was employed in the Bermondsey Hop Market, he became a leading ringer and conductor. He is said to have introduced half-muffled ringing to the Metropolis. Before then the custom was to muffle the bells on both sides.

On January 7th, 1846, the College Youths, with John Cox as conductor, rang 5088 changes of Kent Treble

Bob Maximus at Southwark, and on the board the claim is made that this was 'the first peal in the method ever rung in London on twelve bells.' The claim was, of course, made in good faith, but, as I have pointed out elsewhere in these articles, there can be little real doubt that the peal of Cumberland Treble Bob Maximus rung by the Cumberlands in 1795 was the first of Kent accomplished not only in London, but anywhere.

In 1848 William Lobb called another peal of Kent Treble Twelve with James Hewett, Henry Haley, Jeremiah Miller, and Matthew Wood in the band. This was a Cumberland peal, and six months later John Cox called 5184 changes in the same method for the Society of College Youths with William Cooter, William Banister, Robert Jameson, Robert Haworth, Edward Lansdell and James Dwight in the band. On December 19th, 1849, much the same company rang a peal of Stedman Cinques.

The other peals at Southwark in the nineteenth century are not of much interest, but mention should be made of an attempt to ring a record peal of Stedman Cinques which was lost after six hours and a half owing to the band being put out by the man who came into the belfry to light the gas.

About forty years ago St. Saviour's bells were restored by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who recast the tenor, and since then many peals have been rung on them in several methods. The Middlesex Association rang the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus on February 18th, 1922, the first peal of Superlative Surprise Maximus on January 19th, 1929, the first peal of spliced Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Maximus on January 11th, 1930, and the first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus on January 31st, 1931. Except for the Cambridge these peals were the first in the methods in London. William Pye rang the tenor and called them all.

A very fine heavy bell feat was performed on

February 9th, 1924, when a band of College Youths, with Mr. Henry R. Newton at the tenor, rang a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major on the back eight.

The most notable performance in the steeple of recent years unfortunately was not a peal. On May 29th, 1923, a band of College Youths, with Mr. Herbert Langdon as conductor, and Mr. Alfred B. Peck as tenor man, rang 12,675 changes of Stedman Cinques in nine hours and 47 minutes. By the unanimous testimony of the many persons who heard it, the ringing was exceedingly fine, but some years afterwards it was discovered that the composition was false in one six only. A false peal is, of course, no peal at all, but in most ways the merits of the performance are not diminished, and there are many people who are inclined to think that it was a pity the falseness was ever discovered.

#### WEDDING PRESENTATION AT SPALDING.

At SS. Mary and Nicholas' Church, Spalding, on Sunday evening, March 17th, the Vicar (Canon Nicholas), on behalf of the ringers, presented Miss Elsie Lakin with a set of fish carvers and servers on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. E. C. Lankester, of Willesden.

The Vicar said how sorry they were at Spalding to lose Miss Lakin's services, and he acknowledged the large amount of voluntary work all his ringers did for the church. He wished Miss Lakin a happy time in the future.

Mr. A. J. Farr captain of the local band, endorsed what the Vicar

Mr. A. J. Farr, captain of the local band, endorsed what the Vicar had said and remarked that he knew Miss Lakin had enjoyed her ringing at Spalding. He also knew they were going to miss her from

the beffry.

The wedding of Mr. Lankester and Miss Lakin took place on Saturday at Wigtoft.

#### NEW BELLS AT STAFFORDSHIRE CHURCH.

DRAYCOTT INCREASED TO EIGHT.

The Bishop of Stafford, on March 10th, dedicated two new bells, to complete the octave, at St. Margaret's Church, Draycott, Staffs. Formerly there were in the tower five bells, all cast in the seventeenth century, the oldest dating from 1607. They were retuned and relung in 1933 and then, in commemoration of the silver jubilee of King

in 1935 and then, in commemoration of the silver jubilee of King George V. and Queen Mary, a treble was added to make a ring of six in 1935.

The bells now dedicated are the gifts of Mr. Edward Steele, of Caverswall, in memory of his wife, the late Mrs. Beatrice Steele, and of the Shelley family, in memory of the late Mrs. and Mrs. William Shelley, of Draycott. Both Mr. Steele and Mr. W. Shelley, who is people's warden at Draycott, are members of the North Staffordshire Association. Association.

The Rector of Draycott (the Rev. A. Stanley), Mr. A. Hough (Rector's warden), Mr. W. Shelley (people's warden) and Mr. E. Steele took part in the dedication of the bells.

Steele took part in the dedication of the bells.

The following members of the North Staffordshire Association were present: Messrs. A. D. Steele, C. H. Page, Bass and N. Holland (of Stoke); E. Steele (Langton), J. Cartlidge (Cheadle), A. W. Hall (Cheadle), W. Carnwell (Kingsley), W. P. Deane (Leek), and the Draycott ringers. After the service touches in the standard methods were rung on the bells.

Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. have carried out the augmentation as they have done all the previous work, and Draycott now has a delightful ring of bells.

#### VETERAN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED.

VETERAN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED.

At the age of 85 years, Mr. F. L. Bumpstead took part in a quarterpeal of Bob Major (1,280 changes) rung at St. Peter's, Colchester, on Sunday, March 17th, to celebrate his birthday. He received the congratulations and good wishes of the band. The quarter-peal was also a compliment to two other of the ringers, Messrs. G. N. Rashbrook and V. Kerridge, whose birthdays occurred during the following week, and to Mr. W. Keeble, whose birthday is to-day (March 29th). The ringers were G. Burch 1, H. T. Pye 2, G. N. Rashbrook 3, F. L. Bumpstead 4, C.Q.M.S. R. W. Pye 5, R. Cadamy 6, W. Chalk (conductor) 7, V. Kerridge 8.

#### TREBLE BOB COMPOSITION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you please publish the following correction: In reference to the 5,248 of Treble Bob rung at Penwortham on March 9th, Mr. G. Lewis has established the first claim to the composition. Preston.

E. R. MARTIN.

#### ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

RETIREMENT OF DISTRICT SECRETARY.

On Saturday week a meeting of the North-Eastern Division of the Essex Association took place at St. Edmund's, Tendring, 23 ringers attending from 12 different towers. Ringing commenced at 2.30 p.m., but a well-known personality from Swindon was in readiness by 1.30 for the opening of the tower.

The Rector (the Rev. P. M. MacCready) conducted the service and gave the ringers a hearty welcome and a very inspiring address.

Tea was served in the Rectory and was kindly provided by the Rector.

The Master read a letter from the secretary (Mr. J. R. Sparling) tendering his resignation from office owing to war work and pressure of business.

On the motion of Mr. E. E. Davey, Mr. L. Wright (assistant scere-tary) was appointed district secretary until the end of the year. Five new ringing members were elected, viz., Mr. J. Stone and Master Geoffrey Andrews from Thorington, Mr. G. E. Russell and Mr. C. Steele from Kirby-le-Soken, and Mr. Roy Duesbury from St. Osyth.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Sparling for his past work as district secretary.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Kirby-le-Soken (8 bells)

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Kirby-le-Soken (8 bells) towards the middle of May.

The Master proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector, the organist and all the members of the choir for their services.

Those taking part in the ringing during the day were members from Tendring, Ipswich (8t. Mathew's), Mistley, Thorington, Kirby-le-Soken, Little Clacton, Thorpe-le-Soken, Great Bentley, St. Osyth, Great Holland, Swindon and Dedham. The ringing included London, Cambridge and Ipswich Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, with rounds and Grandsire leads for the learners.

#### FOUR IN-HAND.

AN EXTRAORDINARY PERFORMANCE.

Mr. Joseph Slade, of Calne, Wilts, celebrated his sixty-sixth birthday on Sunday, March 17th, by ringing four handbells to a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles. Mr. Slade rang 1-2-3-4 and called the 120's, and Horace Hillier scored his first quarter-peal by ringing 5-6. Mr. Slade's performance was an extraordinary one, and Mr. Hillier must also be congratulated, for those who have tried to ring double-handed while someone else rings four will realise that, for a first quarter-peal, it was no mean task to ring 5-6.

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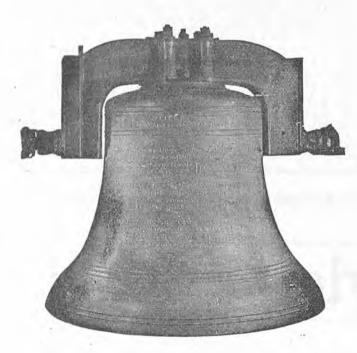
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#### BELFRY GOSSIP.

Still hale and hearty, Mr. George Henry Coombes, who lives at 25, Swanmore Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, celebrated his 97th birthday yesterday. Although he cannot now take part in the ringing, he is still one of the ringers at Ryde and a member of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild. He attended the annual meeting when it was held at Ryde last July. Ringers everywhere will extend to him their heartiest greetings and good wishes.

There are more survivors of the first peal of Bristol Surprise than There are more survivors of the first peal of Bristol Surprise than was indicated in our paragraph last week reminding our readers of this noteworthy performance in 1901. In addition to Messrs. Williams, Baker and Bennett, Messrs. A. A. Fuller, G. Smart and G. A. King are, happily, still in the land of the living. The last named, however, has been for many years in Canada, but we learn that he is very well. His old friends in Sussex will congratulate him upon having four great-grandchildren.

four great-grandchildren.

The other members of the Bristol Surprise band were G. F. Attree and R. J. Dawe. The former died in Canada some years ago.

'The Easter Bells of Moscow' was the subject of an interesting B.B.C. talk on Sunday morning by M. Paul Shishkoff, who vividly described his boyhood's impressions of Easter in the Russian capital, before the Revolution, in which the bells of the churches, booming and clanging, played an important part. He expressed the opinion that Russia was more bell-minded than any other country. Alas, those days seem to have departed days seem to have departed.

days seem to have departed.

In regard to our note on Mr. Groombridge, jun., being the eighth person to ring 100 peals at Crayford, an Ipswich correspondent says that, without digging into records, he can say for certain that six members of the society have rung 100 peals on twelve bells at St. Mary-le-Tower, and others of the same society may have rung 100 including all numbers. He suggests, too, that several of the Birmingham men must have rung 100 at St. Martin's. Moreover, he believes that several of the Leiston and Helmingham bands have rung that number at their respective towers, and has recollections of Charles Bailey conducting 100 consecutive Surprise peals at Leiston, a record which will take some beating.

On March 27th, 1784, the Cumberlands rang their famous record peal of 12,000 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch, and on the same date in 1827 the Wakefield men rang 5,400 changes of Superlative Royal. The extension from Superlative Surprise Major was by Shipway and the peal composition by Joseph Tebbs. William Woodhead was the conductor.

Some years ago the late Henry Law James tried to revive Shipway's

Some years ago the late Henry Law James tried to revive Shipway's Superlative Royal, but actually it is very poor stuff for ten-bell ringing. On March 28th, 1750, George Partrick called, at Shoreditch, a peai of New Bob Triples for the Cumberlands. It is the only peal as yet rung in the method, which is well worth practising.

The band of ringers at Wye in Kent, on March 29th, 1736, rang a peal of 'Grandsire Tripples in 3 hours and a half, being ye first set that ever rang it in the county, without the assistance of Londoners or others.'

The first ten thousand of Grandsire Caters by ten men only was rung at All Saints', Fulham, on March 29th, 1762, by the ancient Society of College Youths, and the first ten thousand in any method was rung at St. Michael's, Coslany, Norwich, by the Norwich Scholars on April 1st, 1727. The method was Oxford Treble Bob Major and the composition, which most likely was by John Garthon, was probably true.

The ringer of the tenor to the peal at Deane, Hants, on March 9th, was Ernest J. Gower, not Gover as printed.

A decree has been signed by Field Marshal Goering ordering that all church bells in Germany shall be surrendered to the government to form a reserve of metal for the purposes of munitions. A promise is made that compensation will be granted—after the war.

#### BEGINNING YOUNG.

PROGRESS OF ISLEWORTH BAND. To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—After reading the articles on 'Beginning Young' in recent issues of 'The Ringing World,' I think it would be of interest to readers to know a few facts about some young members of the All Saints', Isleworth, band.

Among the junior members of this band are eight ringers with ages ranging from 9 to 15 years. Their progress has been very rapid; they are all now able to ring a pair of handbells to Grandsire Triples or Caters.

The band which won the London County Association handbell cup was picked from these eight young people, their average age being 14½ years.

They are equally competent in their handling of the tower bells, all being able to strike the bells very well, and they are also making good progress in change ringing.

I would add that at this tower the ten bells are rung regularly

twice each Sunday. These facts give a good idea of the spadework put in by the Master

H. W. ROGERS, S./Sgt., R.A.O.C.

#### HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SECRETARY'S FIFTY YEARS IN OFFICE.

Mr. C. W. Cartmel's Creat Record.

Five years ago the Hertford County Association reached its jubilee; last Monday, on the occasion of its annual meeting, Mr. G. W. Cartmel, the hon. secretary, completed 50 continuous years of service. It is a remarkable record. For the first 14 years he was assistant secretary, and since 1904 has discharged the duties of hon. secretary. Mr. Cartmel, who is now 75 years of age, began his ringing career in the autumn of 1883 and became a member of St. Albans Cathedral Society in January, 1884—before there was any change ringing in the city. Indeed, Bennington and Hertford were the only towers in the county where the art was regularly practised. But the Cathedral band imbued with new blood then took up change ringing in earnest, and

county where the art was regularly practised. But the Cathedral band imbued with new blood then took up change ringing in earnest, and by August, 1885, some of them, Mr. Cartmel among their number, had rung their first peal. And then, in the following January, Mr. Cartmel took part on the Cathedral bells in the first peal by an entirely local band for upwards of 120 years and the first 'local' peal in St. Albans since 1810.



MR. G. W. CARTMEL.

By this time several of the St. Albans company had taken up handbell ringing very seriously, and made rapid progress with the help of the late Mr. Challis Winney. Mr. Cartmel rang 7-8 to the first double-handed handbell peal by the Herts Association, in April, 1886, and later became the first ringer to call Holt's Original from each

pair of bells.

pair of bells.

In 1899 Mr. Cartmel was appointed conductor of St. Albans Cathedral Society, which office he held for five years, resigning after a prolonged illness. In recognition of his services he was elected a life member of the society. Under medical orders he abstained from ringing for some few years, during which he took up church work in other directions. He is a lay reader in the diocese and a prominent temperance worker. He never again resumed peal ringing seriously, but his interest in the work of the Hertford Association has never flagged. For 50 years he has held office, first as assistant secretary to his old friend, the late Mr. E. P. Debenham. He was appointed in 1890, and, when Mr. Debenham retired in 1904, Mr. Cartmel was the obvious choice as his successor. For 36 years now he has held the secretarial reins, and has guided the association with tact and skill throughout this long period. In the Hertford County Association the office of president is an honour which is passed round year by year, and in 1928-29 Mr. Cartmel filled the position in addition to the secretaryship. secretaryship.

The meeting at St. Albans was well attended and the only disappointment was that the ten bells of St. Peter's had to remain

silent owing to illness near the church. But the visitors found plenty of ringing in the other towers in the city, and the twelve at the ancient Abbey were in great demand. To ring on them well repays the long climb of about 150 steps to the ringing chamber.

Service was held in the choir of the Abbey, conducted by the Sub-Dean (Canon Beaufort). The lessons were read by the Dean (Dr. Thicknesse), and the address given by the Rev. A. M. Fergusson (Vicar of St. Peter's).

(Vicar of St. Peter's).

Tea was served at the Waterend Barn, a sixteenth century building, which has been carefully removed from its original site near Wheathampstead and skilfully re-erected in the city as an annex to a popular restaurant. At the business meeting that followed tea, the president (Mr. A. Day, of Harpenden) presided, supported by the Dean, the Sub-Dean, the Rev. A. M. Fergusson, the hon. secretary (Mr. Cartmel), the hon. treasurer (Mr. G. E. Debenham) and the district secretaries. About 75 members and friends were present.

The President, in velcoming the members, said at the outbreak of

district secretaries. About 75 members and friends were present. The President, in welcoming the members, said at the outbreak of war ringing throughout the country received a great shock and the activities of ringers almost entirely ceased. Then, as the war did not develop as was anticipated, ringing was resumed, an Order in Council permitted church bells to be rung without interruption, and service ringing and practices were resumed and meetings held as far as circumstances allowed. He hoped ringing would continue so that when war was over it would quickly recover from the shock that it received. It had been a great pleasure to him, he added, to serve the association during the last year, and he would look back upon it with proud recollections. He had hoped to visit all the districts in the course of the year, but he had to apologise to the Eastern District for not having been able to visit that area.

IMPROVED FINANCIAL POSITION.

The Hon. Treasurer, in presenting the statement of accounts, said

around recollections. He had hoped to wisit all the districts in the course of the year had to appoigs to the fastern District for not having been able to had to appoigs to the Eastern District for not having been able to had to appoigs to the Eastern District for not having been able to the had to appoig the the association and the was the first year in which they saw the result of the increase of this was the first year in which they saw the result of the increase of this was the first year in which they saw the result of the increase of the increase of the increase of almost exactly 50 per cent. It proved that the "Dismal Jimmies" who prophesied that, it bliev put up the subscription, the membership would go down, were wrong—as he knew they would be. The balance had gene up from 22 18s. 10d. to 213 %s. 1d., an increase of £10 %s. 3d. (applause). He was personally very much happier to have a more substantial balance at the back of him. He would know how to spend it when this me came (laughter).

The balance sheet was adopted, as were also the accounts of the Benevolent Fund and Voluntary Bell Fund.

With regard to the Benevolent Fund, Mr. Debenham said it showed an income of £4 45s. 2d. during the year and the balance now stood at £28 15s. 3d. The income was received from ten towers and various individuals. Three applications were made for grants from the fund, two were granted and a total of £4 expended. The help was very welcome to the recipients. The third application was also a very welcome to the recipients. The third application was also a very welcome to the recipients of the fund was that they had had to the fund. Under the rules, therefore, they could not make a grant. The moral to be drawn from that was that every tower in the association should support the fund, and he hoped the day was not far distant when they would do so (hear, her). The voluntary Bell Fund had not received very nucle support, the income having been only £2 15s. 9d. and there was actually a deficit of 17s. 3d. on the year, as th

#### HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous page.)
APPEAL FOR BENEVOLENT FUND
The peals were rung in 13 different towers, 26 having been accomplished in the Watford and Western districts. This was the outcome of gifted and energetic leadership, backed up by men who, having seized their opportunities, had gone on to success. Congratulations were offered to all who took part. Mr. Harold G. Cashmore conducted 21 of the peals.

were offered to all who took part. Mr. Harold G. Cashmore conducted 21 of the peals.

The report went on to say that at the meeting of the General Committee at St. Albans on February 10th, Rule 10, relating to the payment of 1d. per head per member, for peals, was fully discussed, and in view of the forgetfulness of some conductors to collect the needful money (every penny of which is spent on entries in the peal book), the secretary was instructed to stress the point in the annual report. Unless the money is forthcoming, it becomes a heavy charge upon the finances of the association.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

It was agreed to keep a roil of blonour of all members serving in His Majesty's Forces, and at the suggestion of Mr. Ayre all conductors of towers are asked to send in names and designation of regiment to the general secretary, when they will be entered as an Appendix to the Peal Book.

Support of the Veluntary Bell Fund continued and the balance sheet of the treasurer sufficed to show the present position.

The report went on to commend the Benevolent Fund to each individual member, and asked that someone in each tower would make himself responsible for collecting something during the current year. Whilst grateful for the support already received, it was felt much more could be accomplished if the treasurer had the funds. It would be out of place to mention where gifts had been made, but if members knew the cheer and help it had given to the recipients they would not hesitate to earmark the price of even one packet of cigarettes for a very human cause.

The hon, secretary offered congratulations to the Editor and pro-

not hesitate to carmark the price of even one packet of cigarettes for a very human cause.

The hon. secretary offered congratulations to the Editor and proprietor of 'The Ringing World' on the occasion of the issue of the 1,500th number of the ringers' journal. He, said, 'May I remind you of the immense value the paper has been, and still is, to ringing, without which I am sure change ringing would not have reached its present high position. War conditions will make difficulties in production, and I ask for your loyal support of Mr. Goldsmith's effort to keep going a paper which is of such value to bellringing in general. Each week we are given a most interesting production, and its correspondence columns are open to you to inform the ringing fraternity of its shortcomings (including the Editor), and if you want a grouse, you can have it for a three-halfpenny stamp, paper and envelope, without fear of being cited for libel. The Editor is a broadminded individual and accepts your written matter quite regardless of his own personal safety. So place a standing order with your newsagent at once, and if the expense is too much, share with another. By these means I believe the circulation could be increased.'

AN APPEAL TO MEMBERS.

The work of the district secretaries had been carried on as usual,

The work of the district secretaries had been carried on as usual, proceeded the report. Their work was indispensable for the welfare of the association, and the secretary asked all members to support them by attendance at district meetings, whenever possible, and by paying their subscriptions promptly on becoming due. The members' practical interest not only cheered them in their labours, but to them was a recognition that their services were appreciated.

With the advect of way bertilities means toward toward double.

them was a recognition that their services were appreciated. With the advent of war hostilities many towers had suffered depletion of its younger and most useful members, and if the bells were to be rung these displacements must be made good. To the village band it was a serious problem, but he was sure they would tackle their difficulties in the spirit that brought success. In the town areas with larger populations, it was somewhat easier, especially if the effort of recruiting of either sex was backed by the whole band, and not left to the conductor to carry the entire load. St. Peter's, St. Albans, had already set a good example in securing new members Albans, had already set a good example in securing new members of both sexes.

Thanks were tendered to all incumbents for the use of their bells for district meetings, and for their kindly interest in the association; to the honorary members for their subscriptions, and to all other known or unknown persons who had furthered the interests of change known or unknown persons who had furthered the interests of change ringing. For the future, it was up to each one of them to do their best during the disturbed war period (and after) to keep the bells ringing for the Sunday services and practices, and to fill up the gaps in the ranks that must inevitably come. Let them think of the bells as a national possession, and not merely within the limits of parochialism, for ere long they prayed that the bells would ring out not only the joys of this nation, but the joys of the civilised world. 'So,' said the secretary, 'keep the ranks full with men and women of the younger generation, initiate them into the intricacies of change ringing, and by so doing you may enable them to share with you in a definite church work.' The report was adopted.

The following new members were elected: A. L. Waldron, Oxhey; G. French. Luton; A. Hattor, St. Albans: W. Easey, Watford; L. Coborn, Harpenden; A. Dore and Miss K. West, St. Peter's, St. Albans:

On the motion of Mr. W. Ayre, resolutions were passed that all members of the association serving in H.M. Forces be kept in mem(Continued in next column.)

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT WITLEY.

A successful meeting of the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild was held at Witley on Saturday week. The ringing was supervised by Mr. C. E. Smith (District Ringing Master), and progress in the standard methods was made by many who have recently taken up change ringing, including several attached to the local tower.

local tower.

Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. P. G. Holden), who is himself a ringer, and special prayers were said for ringers who are serving in the Forces. The Vicar based his address on the text, 'See that ye do all to the glory of God.'

Tea was served in the Parish Hut, a company numbering 35 sitting down to a splendid repast, following which the Vicar was voted to the chair for the business meeting. Three new members were elected, viz., Mr. A. Edwards (Godalming), Mr. W. Bicknell (Bramley) and Mrs. B. Cope (Guildford).

The district secretary, Mr. W. F. J. Cope, said he had received a letter from Mr. R. Whittington, of Cranleigh, expressing regret at being unable to continue to support to the full the Guild meetings. He now had to supervise his business, as his son had been called up for service.

for service.

Mr. Cope expressed thanks and best wishes to Mr. Whittington for the loyal support he had given the Guild and the Guildford district

the loyal support he had given the Guild and the Guildred district in particular.

Mr. C. W. Denyer (Aldershot) voiced thanks to the Vicar; to the organist, Mr. Baker; to Mr. Hagley and his ringers for making the arrangements and to the caterers.

Mr. C. E. Smith associated himself with the vote of thanks and expressed gratitude for the enthusiasm shown by the local ringers. They were an excellent company, he said, and he wished them every

The motion was received by acclamation.

The Vicar, responding, said the credit was due in the main to Mr.

F. C. Hagley, who had recently been elevated to the office of captain to act in place of Mr. David Ayling, who had retired after 47 years as captain and 52 years' service as a ringer at Witley. He was sure they all knew this to be a wonderful record of service and they thanked Mr. Ayling for what he had done in the past (applause). As captain emeritus it was hoped that Mr. Ayling would be present on many future occasions. many future occasions.

Thanks were also extended to Mr. Martin (Bramley) for arranging

combined practices.

It was announced by the secretary, in reply to a question, that meetings would be arranged in future as in the past, circumstances permitting, and a fixture card would shortly be issued to each member.

#### SERVING MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTIONS,

(Continued from previous column.)
bership during the period of the war, and that payment of subscriptions by them should be optional: Also that a hearty welcome be given to all members of other ringing associations to come into the county while serving in H.M. Forces, and any persons taking part in a peal might be elected members on payment of one subscription of 1s. 6d. for the period of the war.

The Hon. Secretary, who seconded, said the latter resolution was put forward as the result of a circular he had received from the Lancashire Association asking other associations their opinion on the question.

question.

Mr. C. H. Horton was installed as the new president of the association, Mr. G. E. Debenham was re-elected hon treasurer, Mr. G. W. Cartmel hon secretary, and Mr. H. V. Frost librarian. Mr. H. Hole was appointed hon auditor.

was appointed hon. auditor.

Mr. Horton, in acknowledging his election, appealed to the members to give bigger support to the Benevolent Fund.

Thanks were accorded to the preacher (the Rev. A. M. Fergusson), to the Dean, the Vicars of St. Peter's, St. Michael's and St. Stephen's, and to the steeplekeepers for their services.

The Dean, in reply, said they owed grateful thanks to the Hertford County Association and all ringers who were keeping the bells of England ringing through war time. Specially he wanted to say 'Thank you' to the ringers of St. Albans Abbey.

'I have not a very great deal of respect,' continued the Dean, 'for political or theological brains, but I nave enormous respect for change ringers. I simply do not know how it is done (laughter). It leaves

political or theological brains, but I have enormous respect for change ringers. I simply do not know how it is done (laughter). It leaves me staggering every time I see or hear them doing it, rolling out of their heads stuff that leaves me giddy '(laughter).

The Dean added that it was a great pleasure to be present that day with the ringers, and he joined in the congratulations and thanks to Mr. Cartmel upon completing 50 years of service to the association (appliance)

(applause).

Mr. Cartmel thanked the members for having again elected him to Mr. Cartmel thanked the members for having again elected him to the office of secretary. He had had a long innings and he was glad to say he was 'not out' (applause). He would continue to do his best for the association, for he liked those gatherings and he had found a great fellowship and friendship among ringers. Some of them were the best friends he had ever met. He asked the members all to do their best to see the association through the difficult days that lie

A vote of thanks to the organist and choir terminated the meeting and afterwards there was further ringing at the Abbey.

#### BIRMINGHAM'S LATEST RING.

THE BELLS OF ST. CHAD'S CATHEDRAL.

St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral bells spoke with a new voice on the occasion of the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner on March 2nd,

St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral bells spoke with a new voice on the occasion of the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner on March 2nd, when they were rung for the first time after restoration at the Loughborough Bell Foundry.

For some little time the old bells had been in poor condition, while ringing had become 'horse work' on account of the dilapidated state of the frame. Now, however, that is all changed and St. Chad's possesses a glorious ring with a tenor 15 cwt. 3 cr. 6 lb. in F, a credit both to the Cathedral and the bell foundry.

It may be of interest to some ringers to relate the story of these bells upon which so many peals have been rung and which have the closest connections with Birmingham ringers of the old school.

In 1687 a company of Franciscan Friars ventured back to Birmingham and built, in what is now 'Mass-House Lane,' a substantial church and convent, to which James II. gave timber valued at £180. This church was destroyed by a mob in 1688, and as the Penal Laws were again in force, the Fathers retired to Edgbaston. In 1786 they again returned to Birmingham and built St. Peter's Church, Broad Street (which is still standing). This church, small in size, became rapidly inadequate for the growing number of Catholics in the town so that, in 1806, a warehouse in Water Street was acquired. Two years later this, in its turn, was superseded by 'Old St. Chad's' on the site of the present Cathedral in Bath Street. The existing building was consecrated on June 22nd, 1841, thirteen Bishops being present. The Cathedral, which is of red brick with stone facings and dressings, has two towers with spires, one at the north-west and the other at the south-west angle of the church. In the north-west and the other at the south-west angle of the church. In the north-west tower hang the bells.

the bells.

#### A CENTURY OF BELLS.

A CENTURY OF BELLS.

The earliest mention of bells in this church is in 1840, when the Catholic Friendly Society presented a large bell of some 17 to 20 cwt. to the Cathedral. This hung in the south-west tower. Eight years later a ring of five bells was cast by Mears, of London, the single bell being removed to provide metal for the new ring. These bells were supplied to the order of Mr. John Hardman as a memorial of Dr. Moore, the then administrator, on his being appointed president of Oscott College. The ring of five bells (tenor of which was 13 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.) cost £269 0s. 11d.; five clappers, £5; headstocks, ironwork, wheels, pulleys, bearings, etc., £25; making and fixing bell frame, £30; total £329 0s. 11d.

These bells were opened in August, 1849, by William Chattell and his band from St. Philip's Church. In 1851 they were rehung in the north-west tower.

the north-west tower.

Some 25 years later (in 1876-7) a movement was set on foot to augment the peal to eight, subscriptions were raised (one bell was given by a private donor), and on Easter Sunday, April 1st, 1877, three trebles cast by William Blews were blessed and the new ring of eight were rung for the first time.

At least one Birmingham ringer still living was present on that

of eight were rung for the first time.

At least one Birmingham ringer, still living, was present on that occasion, Mr. Tom Miller, who was a regular ringer at St. Chad's for 56 years. 'Tom' incidentally took part in the first and last peals on the old bells, the former on February 20th, 1878, the latter (in honour of his 80th birthday) on July 6th, 1938.

The trebles supplied by Blews were hung in the upper tier of the frame, which was extended to receive them. The first peal was rung on February 20th, 1878, the method was Grandsire Triples and the ringers William Saniger treble, Thomas Miller 2, Robert H. McDonald 3, Samuel Jarman 4, Henry Jones 5, Charles Standbridge 6, Freeman Ball (conductor) 7, Anthony Druce tenor.

Many subsequent peals were rung here, including several 'firsts,' and this tower was a favourite resort of Birmingham ringers of former days. Many good stories are told of the old stalwarts of St. Chad's band, and Henry Johnson rang one peal there, the first of Stedman on the bells.

on the bells.

About 12 months ago, the condition of the bells having become extremely bad, it was decided to take the matter of restoration in hand, and after discussions between the local band and the Cathedral authorities and officers of the St. Martin's Guild, Messrs. Taylor and Co. were commissioned to recast the old bells and rehang them with all new fittings in a new frame.

THE FIRST TOUCH.

THE FIRST TOUCH.

The bells were solemnly blessed by Dr. Griffin, Bishop Auxiliary, on February 14th, according to the ancient rites of the Church.

On Saturday, March 2nd, a large number of ringers assembled at the Cathedral to try the bells. After a 504 of Stedman Triples as the opening touch had been rung, the new bells showed all their good qualities in touches in various methods. As their glorious tones floated over the roof tops of the city, those present were loud in their praises of the bells, and Messrs. Taylor, the founders, came in for many congratulations.

for many congratulations.

The new bells are an excellent job, tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in F, and are in every way worthy of the Cathedral. The tone and 'go'

and are in every way worthly of the Cachedan.

are perfection.

The first touch on the bells was rung by F. E. Pervin 1, A. Walker (conductor) 2, Mrs. A. Richardson 3, J. W. Jones 4, D. Clift 5, W. Viggers 6, R. Richardson 7, G. E. Fearn 8.

Regular ringing began on Easter Day and will take place on Sundays at 10.30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

W. E. B.

#### A YORKSHIRE WORTHY.

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES PRATT, OF CALVERLEY.
The Yorkshire Association has lost an old and valued member by
the death of Charles Pratt, of Calverley, who passed away on March 13th in his 80th year.

Although illness and advanced years had prevented Mr. Pratt from taking an active part in ringing during the closing months of his life, taking an active part in ringing during the closing months of his life, his interest and enthusiasm were sustained to the last. A man of genial but outspoken disposition, he was respected by all who knew him. He gave praise where praise was due, but did not hesitate to voice his opinion on any matter which did not please him. A good ringer himself, he never lost an opportunity of urging young ringers to improve their striking and to practice more advanced methods.

to improve their striking and to practice more advanced methods.

'Charlie,' as he was affectionately known, joined the Yorkshire Association 53 years ago, and his first two peals for the association were in methods very little known and very rarely practised in these days—Prince Albert Major and London Treble Bob Major. Cambridge was his favourite method, however, and he rang in the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Major by the Yorkshire Association. His last peal, rung in April, 1933, was also one of Cambridge Surprise Major. Altogether he rang 77 peals for the Yorkshire Association, nine of which he conducted, but he had rung others of which there is no record no record.

He was one of the foundation members of the Leeds and District

Society and was secretary for many years.

Mr. Pratt will be remembered by many members of the Central Council as one of the party which the late Mr. Thomas Maude used to organise to visit the venue of the Council meetings. Charlic loved to talk of the good times he had had on those outings.

Mr. Pratt was one of the outstanding characters in the village of Calverley, where he lived, and he took a lively interest in public affairs. He was a member of the Calverley District Council for many years and was chairman of that body for two or three periods. He was also a member of the Horsforth Pensions Committee and the Public Assistance Committee and was a former manager of the Public Assistance Committee, and was a former manager of the church day schools at Calverley.

church day schools at Calverley.

The funeral took place on the Saturday following his death, and he was laid to rest in the churchyard of his native village. A large and representative assembly of ringers and members of the various bodies with which he had been connected gathered at the church to pay homage to his memory. The bells were rung deeply muffled as the cortege approached the church and again as the coffin was carried from the church to the grave.

At the conclusion of the committal service the plaintive music of the handbells rose on the still afternoon air as a course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the graveside by J. Thackray, P. J. Johnson, W. Barton and J. Ambler.

Afterwards a muffled touch of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung on

Afterwards a muffled touch of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung on the tower bells by P. J. Johnson, H. Davison, J. Ambler, F. Davison, R. Myers, W. Barton, C. Scott and W. Lee.

And so another man of sterling quality has passed away. Ever ready to serve, he will be missed but not forgotten by those who know him well.

knew him well.

#### KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TONBRIDGE DISTRICT MEETING.
The first meeting this year of the Tonbridge District of the Kent The first meeting this year of the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association was held on Saturday, March 16th, at Tonbridge, and proved most successful. The district towers were well represented, members attending from Benenden, Brasted, Chiddingstone, Horsmonden, Leigh, East Peckham, Penshurst, Sevenoaks, Shipbourne, Tunbridge Wells and the local tower. During the afternoon the bells were put to good use in the standard methods.

Service was conducted by the Rev. Canon F. Child (Vicar).

At the business meeting Mr. T. Saunders presided, and a report of the last year's progress, together with a statement of accounts, was adopted. The latter showed that the receipts were £18 0s. 6d., plus 14s. for the Benevolent Fund. The expenditure was £3 17s. 11d., the total balance remitted to the general secretary in November last being £14 16s. 7d.

Letters of 'goodwill' and apologies for absence were read from Mr. F. M. Mitchell (hon. secretary of the association) and Mr. E. H. Lewis (vice-president).

Mr. F. M. Mitchell (hon. secretary of the association) and Mr. E. H. Lewis (vice-president).

Mr. T. Saunders gave an account of the business transacted at the committee meeting held at Maidstone in November of last year.

Mr. A. Richardson was re-elected secretary, Messrs. T. Saunders and J. Medhurst representatives, and Mr. E. J. Ladd District Master. Miss C. Richardson, Mr. F. W. Garner, of Brasted, and Mr. G. Turner, of Tunbridge Wells, were elected as practising members.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Chiddingstone on May 4th.

May 4th.

#### A GOOD FRIDAY QUARTER-PEAL.

At Coalbrookdale on Good Friday, with bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes from J. E. Groves' Transposi-tion of Parker's Twelve-Part): Stanley Cooper 1, William Saunders 2, Robert Evans 3, Arthur Pritchard 4, Joseph Hanley 5, E. Dennis Poole 6, Alfred S. Bayley (conductor) 7, Alastair C. Maclean 8.

#### NOTICES.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — E. Bucks and S. Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Amersham (6 bells) on Saturday, March 30th, at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 1s. 3d. per head .- A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. -The next meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, March 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Ringing after. Everybody welcome. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD .- V.W.H. Branch .-The spring meeting will be held at Stanford-in-the-Vale on Saturday, March 30th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Service 4.30.—R. Gilling, Fernham, Faringdon, Berks.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A special meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, March 30th, to instal society's jug and case at headquarters (Royal Hotel). Bells (8) available 2.30 until 5.30 p.m. Service in church 5.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged at Royal Hotel at 6 p.m., followed by social evening. All are welcome. - D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.— The annual meeting will be held at Boston on Saturday, March 30th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in Memorial Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.-W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec.,

Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs. OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch. — A ringing meeting will be held at Newton Longville, on Saturday, March 30th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Bus leaves Bletchley about 3.15 p.m., returns 8.15 p.m. A good attendance required for a good practice. — Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District. — Next meeting, Bolsover, March 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short meeting in belfry dur-Owing to prevailing circumstances, reing afternoon. freshments cannot be provided. Why not bring a bit with you? Remember, Bolsover always makes you welcome.—Sam Scattergood, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next meeting of the Lincoln District will be held at Harmston (8 bells, tenor 14 cwt.) to-morrow (Saturday, March 30th). Bells available from 2 p.m. to black-out. Short service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. —Kenneth W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch. —A ringing meeting will be held at Helmshore to-morrow (Saturday, March 30th). Bells available from 3 until 8 p.m. A good attendance requested. All will be welcome.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION .- South-Eastern District. -There will be a practice on Saturday next, March 30th, at Writtle, at 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon, Dis. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAF-FORD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Willenhall on Saturday, April 6th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. A. F. Sargent. Tea (15.) at 5.30. Please send word by Tuesday, April 2nd. -H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Aston Parish Church on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (12) available at 3 p.m. Short service in church at 4.30. Tea in the Parish Hall at 5.15. Business meeting to follow. Owing to food rationing, all intending to take tea must notify Mr. W. Davies, 99, Rosary Road, Erdington, Birmingham, not later than Thursday, April 4th.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next meeting will be held at Great Baddow on Saturday, April 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Will all those who require tea please let me know by Wednesday, April 3rd, so that the necessary catering arrangements can be made.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 48, Arbour

Lane, Chelmsford.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division. —The annual meeting will be held at Queensbury on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 to 9 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d.) at Co-op Café, High Street, 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting in Schools-election of officers, etc. Names for tea to C. Ellison, 9, Hazeldene, Queensbury, by April 1st.—Frank Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION .- South-Western Division .-The next meeting will be held at Epping on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. and after the meeting. Service at 4.45 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting in the Church Hall. It is hoped as many as can will avail themselves of the opportunity of ringing on this fine peal. Kindly note; it is essential I have numbers for tea by first post Tuesday, April 2nd, at the latest. scriptions for 1940 are now due.—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Topsham on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (6) at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m., free to members. Those requiring tea please notify me by Monday, April 1st .-R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Rutland Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Uppingham on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available 3 p.m.—S. Towell, Hon. Sec., 27, West Road, Oakham.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. Baldock, April 6th. Bells available 3 to 8 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, only for those who let me know. Don't forget postcard.—R. Thomas Newman, Dis. Sec.,

Salisbury Road, Baldock.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.— A combined meeting of the Wirral Branch and the Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association will be held at Christ Church, Port Sunlight, on Saturday, April 6th. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tower open at 3 o'clock. A plain tea, for which a small charge will be made. Please let me know if you intend to be present.-Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Practice at St. Clement Danes, Strand, W.C.1, on Saturday, April 6th, at 3.30 p.m., followed by quarterly business meeting. Also ringing at the above tower on Sunday, April 7th, at 10 a.m.-O. L. Ashbrook, Assist. Sec., 17, Harvard

Road, Isleworth, Middlesex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION .- Furness and Lake District Branch.—A practice meeting will be held at Cartmel Priory Church on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m.-N. M. Newby, Sec., Furness and Lake District.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at the Sacred Heart (R.C.) Church, Blackpool, on Saturday, April 6th. Bells at liberty for ringing from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. only Business meeting after ringing.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 35, Berwick

Road, Blackpool, S.S.

STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A NORTH meeting will be held at Norton, on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. until dusk. Tea in the Church Room at 5 p.m. sharp. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. W. Carfield, The Fields, Leek Road, Norton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than April 3rd?

Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD .- Winchester District .- Quarterly meeting at Hursley on Saturday, April 6th next. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, to be followed by tea and business meeting in the Club Room. Those requiring tea must please notify me not later than Wednesday, April 3rd.—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.— The spring meeting will be held at Beedon on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m., to be given by Mrs. Stewart Menzies, of Beedon House. Intending visitors for tea please notify Mr. Tom Curtis, World's End, Beedon, near Newbury, by Wednesday, April 3rd.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec.,

Manor Lane, Newbury.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Next meeting at Stoney Stanton on Saturday, April 6th. Bells from 3.30. Tea arranged for those who notify me not later than Friday, April 5th. Please bring your own sugar. Reports ready.-W. A. Wood, Fosse-

way, Croft, near Leicester.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.— Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Nunney (6 bells) on Saturday, April 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Whatley (6 bells) will be available after the meeting. Butter for those who advise for tea, margarine for

others.—E. H. Nash, The Talbot, Mells.
SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow (10 bells), on Saturday, April 6th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting.—Charles

R. Raine, 21, Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh.
SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting will be held at Wellington on Saturday, April 6th. Usual arrangements as far as possible. Tea will be provided if arrangements can be made, but cafes available.-W. A. Farmer, 14, Swan Hill, Shrewsbury.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. - Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Tempsford on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All will be welcome. We shall be pleased to meet you. What about it ?-C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy,

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch. -A meeting will be held at Bowdon on Saturday, April 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. please advise Mr. Alan J. Brown, 15, Priory Road, Bowdon. All welcome.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.-Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held (p.v.) at Ecton (6 bells) on Saturday, April 6th. Service at 4.30. Please send card if you require tea.—A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS .-The next meeting will be held at headquarters on Tuesday, April 9th, at 7.45 p.m.-A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.— The annual branch meeting will be held at Broughton Parish Church, on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available

from 3 p.m.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch, Rusholme, on Saturday, April 13th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited. Reports ready.-loseph H. Ridyard, Branch Secretary.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cullompton on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (10) from 2 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. It is necessary that those wishing to attend should inform me by Monday, April 8th.-R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Rolleston-on-Dove on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. It is hoped to arrange light refreshment at 4.45 for those who notify me by Wednesday, April 10th. Meeting to follow. Hearty invitation to North Staffs friends and Derby District members. Subscriptions now due, and reports ready.-J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

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