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## BRISTOL—A MEMORABLE MEETING

**T**HE Central Council meeting at Bristol last Whitsuntide will go down in the history of change ringing as a big attempt by the members of the Council to get closer liaison with the rank and file of the Exercise. Previous to the meeting a tremendous amount of spade work had been done by Mr. C. Kenneth Lewis and Mr. E. A. Barnett, the hon. secretary of the Council, in revising the whole of the recommendations and decisions of the Council since its inception. As a preliminary to this, a summary of the existing rules and decisions had already been published in 'The Ringing World.' The Standing Committee gave the whole subject very detailed examination and much 'dead wood' was recommended for deletion. In the Council meeting debate was in no sense stifled, but a masterly grip of the proceedings was maintained by the President and the long agenda dealt with in a statesmanlike and dignified manner.

Previously the Council had before it some seven motions, all interconnected, dealing mainly with Bob Triples, Caters and Cinques. The proposers and seconders of these motions were called to a special meeting before the Standing Committee met, and as the result these seven motions were withdrawn in favour of a comprehensive motion. Thus when the matter came before the Council there was only one motion before the House. By a substantial majority the Council has agreed to accept and recognise Bob Triples, Caters and Cinques, but the field of recognition did not depart from its definition of a 'regular' method.

The latitude now to peal ringers is amazing. Another significant decision was to permit peals on handbells with a ringer only ringing one bell! Older generations of change ringers will stand aghast. Such a revolutionary sweep almost took one's breath away. What has brought about this change? It seems that in the first place there has been an attempt to bridge the gap between what is rung for Sunday service and practices and what is attempted in peals. The pungent critics of Central Council 'dictatorship' will for once be nonplussed. The Central Council, it should be emphatically stated, is a democratic body. When in the past a rule or decision was made it was not the outcome of a committee or coterie. The latter may have originally made the suggestion or recommendation, but the actual decision was by the representatives of the affiliated Associations. The composition of the Council is

not a body out of touch with ringing. Apart from the officers there are seven life members and a maximum of 24 honorary members; the remainder are the elected members.

Bristol will also be remembered by the decision to honour the President with a badge of office. Many of our Guilds and Societies have badges and chains of office of antiquity and dignity. Is it too much to hope that before Mr. Edwin H. Lewis finally vacates the presidential chair he shall have the privilege of wearing the presidential badge? Mr. Lewis has another Council meeting before his triennial period expires. At the next meeting there is to be a vice-chairman sitting by his side, who will be his ultimate successor. A special committee has been appointed to make a recommendation to the Council for this important office, and such an appointment will be early on the agenda for the next meeting at Leicester.

This brief commentary, which was written by the Editor owing to the non-arrival of a more authoritative message, cannot close without an expression of appreciation to the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Bristol was a happy meeting, despite the dark clouds of the railway strike. On the social side the conveniences of members and friends had been carefully studied. Ringing facilities were excellent, and the room set aside at headquarters was not only much appreciated but extensively used. It was indeed a great reunion. As usual on the final evening Mr. Harold J. Poole was master of ceremonies, and the New Zealand visitors at the hotel gained a new insight into a venerable side of English life. Venerable is a word that applies to much of Bristol. The reception given by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress at the Red Lodge took those present back to Tudor days when change ringing was in its infancy. Stedman Cinques 'in hand' from the walled-in garden was indeed sweet music. This civic hospitality was a most generous gesture.

Lastly, we are not merely ringers but church bell-ringers. The Dean of Bristol (the Very Rev. F. E. Lunt) made all who attended the Council meeting feel that they were members of the fellowship of Christ's Church. The meeting seemed to start on the right note—that of harmony with all the many different types of workers for the Church. To the four corners of the country and beyond into Eire the members departed, strengthened in the great bonds of friendship and also imbued with a new vision of the responsibilities of vocation as servants of His Church.

**TWELVE BELL PEAL**

READING, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 3 Hours and 36 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE.**A PEAL OF 5043 STEDMAN CINQUES**

Tenor 23 cwt.

RAYMOND G. BURTON .. ..	Treble	FREDERICK VICKERS .. ..	7
GILLIAN R. PARSONS .. ..	2	JOHN B. SANSON .. ..	8
JOHN CHILCOTT .. ..	3	CYRIL E. LEWINGTON .. ..	9
KATHLEEN E. WELLER .. ..	4	DAVID E. PARSONS .. ..	10
JOYCE A. ENGLAND .. ..	5	MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT .. ..	11
CYRIL J. HIBBERT .. ..	6	FRANK E. DARBY .. ..	Tenor

Composed by HENRY G. MILES. Conducted by JOHN CHILCOTT.

A 21st birthday compliment to Michael V. Chilcott (May 27th) and a birthday compliment to William Hibbert (May 28th).

**TEN BELL PEALS**

SOUTHAMPTON.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.**A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL**

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

J. MICHAEL LAKIN .. ..	Treble	*BRYAN C. STIRLAND .. ..	6
*R. GEORGE MORRIS .. ..	2	*JOHN N. DISERENS .. ..	7
GORDON P. T. PETERS .. ..	3	*RONALD F. DISERENS .. ..	8
GEOFFREY K. DODD .. ..	4	*DAVID BEACHAM .. ..	9
REGINALD W. REX .. ..	5	*NOEL J. DISERENS .. ..	Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by RONALD F. DISERENS.

\* First peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., May 30, 1955, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ALL SAINTS.**A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL**

Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in D.

SYDNEY A. CHAMBERS .. ..	Treble	*RAYMOND F. SMITH .. ..	6
*GWEN I. RUSBY .. ..	2	*GEORGE H. RANGLES .. ..	7
*GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. ..	3	JOHN WALDEN .. ..	8
†GEOFFREY PAUL .. ..	4	H. LESLIE PASK .. ..	9
*FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD .. ..	5	JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. ..	Tenor

Composed by C. KENNETH LEWIS. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

\* First peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal. † First peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal 'inside.'

Rung to celebrate the birth of a son, Andrew Thomas Ferguson, to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond F. Smith.

**EIGHT BELL PEALS**

LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thurs., May 12, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.**A PEAL OF 5152 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in E.

FRANCIS A. SEDGWICK .. ..	Treble	EDMUND MALIN .. ..	5
ANN BARR .. ..	2	RICHARD C. INGRAM .. ..	6
JOAN BERESFORD .. ..	3	PETER BERESFORD .. ..	7
J. EDWARD CAWSE .. ..	4	DENNIS BERESFORD .. ..	Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by DENNIS BERESFORD.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the ringers of the seventh and tenor.

BRIGHOUSE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 21, 1955, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

**A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FRANK POPPLEWELL .. ..	Treble	GORDON TURNER .. ..	5
*ALBERT W. BOND .. ..	2	ARTHUR HINCHCLIFFE .. ..	6
W. GEORGE TURNER .. ..	3	†WILLIAM SYKES .. ..	7
FRANK LINFOOT .. ..	4	*JOHN PEARSON .. ..	Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOHN PEARSON.

\* 25th peal together. † First peal of Major.

A farewell to Gordon Turner, who now joins H.M. Forces.

LONG SUTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 21, 1955, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.**A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES C. RAWDING .. ..	Treble	NORMAN V. HARDING .. ..	5
BERNARD H. DALTON .. ..	2	WILLIAM ROSE .. ..	6
GEORGE R. G. BUTLER .. ..	3	W. ALLAN RICHARDSON .. ..	7
THOMAS H. CHARLTON .. ..	4	C. HAROLD WHITTON .. ..	Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. O. M. Whitton, wife of the conductor.

WELFORD, NORTHANTS.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 21, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.**A PEAL OF 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HAROLD KILBY .. ..	Treble	*BRIAN CHAPMAN .. ..	5
ERNEST MORRIS .. ..	2	*SAMUEL HAYNES .. ..	6
*PETER R. JOHNSON .. ..	3	WILLIAM THORNLEY .. ..	7
*JOHN M. JELLEY .. ..	4	*ERNEST J. JELLEY .. ..	Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by WILLIAM THORNLEY.

\* First peal in the method.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., May 24, 1955, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS.**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES**

Dexter's Variation of Thurstan's Four-part.

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in F.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. ..	Treble	ERNEST J. JELLEY .. ..	5
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. ..	2	ERNEST MORRIS .. ..	6
JOHN M. JELLEY .. ..	3	PETER J. STANFORTH .. ..	7
MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. ..	4	BRIAN S. CHAPMAN .. ..	Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

Rung half muffled in memorial Paul Swainbank, aged 10, a chorister at St. Thomas', who died suddenly on May 20th, following an accident. He had his first lesson in bell ringing the previous Tuesday.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD SOCIETY.

On Fri., May 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE.**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

*JAMES L. EATON .. ..	Treble	PETER R. SANDERS .. ..	5
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS .. ..	2	EDWIN G. MOORE .. ..	6
A. JAMES ADAMS .. ..	3	DONALD H. NIBLETT .. ..	7
DAVID HODGSON .. ..	4	GRAHAM WEBB .. ..	Tenor

Conducted by DONALD H. NIBLETT.

\* First peal of Triples.

CASTLE CARY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. ..	Treble	HERBERT W. PEARCE .. ..	5
ANTHONY J. SANGER .. ..	2	PATRICIA N. BOURN .. ..	6
PERCY SPARKS .. ..	3	H. E. GEORGE JEANES .. ..	7
*JOHN R. BADMAN .. ..	4	WILLIAM E. TURNER .. ..	Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

\* First peal of Major.

A wedding anniversary compliment to the ringer of the seventh.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.**A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR**

Middleton's.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN AMBLER .. ..	Treble	GORDON BENFIELD .. ..	5
WILLIAM BARTON .. ..	2	ALEXANDER E. MARSH .. ..	6
GEOFFREY INGHAM .. ..	3	JOHN W. GIBSON .. ..	7
MRS. A. E. MARSH .. ..	4	ROY BETTLEY-COOKE .. ..	Tenor

Conducted by GORDON BENFIELD.

## SEVENOAKS, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

## A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt.

RAYMOND OVERY .. .. Treble	GEOFFREY PEARSON .. .. 5
REGINALD E. LAMBERT .. .. 2	*ROBERT COLLINS .. .. 6
WALTER H. DOBBIE .. .. 3	BENJAMIN F. BAKER .. .. 7
THOMAS E. SONE .. .. 4	ROBERT T. LAMBERT .. Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER.

Conducted by RAYMOND OVERY.

\* 200th peal.

## SOUTHAM, WARWICKSHIRE.

## THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

## A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb.

*GEORGE RATHBONE .. .. Treble	VICTOR A. PERRY .. .. 5
*DOROTHY M. PALMER .. .. 2	DOUGLAS HARRISON .. .. 6
HAROLD HAYNES .. .. 3	WILLIAM A. YATES .. .. 7
A. JOHN HOBLEY .. .. 4	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by GEORGE W. HOLLAND.

\* First peal of Major. First peal on the bells since the rehanging.

## WOBURN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

## A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Comprising 1,600 Rutland, 1,280 London, 960 Yorkshire, 640 Bristol, 320 Superlative, and 320 Cambridge, with 129 changes of method.

Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. in D.

C. HENRY HARDING .. .. Treble	*DENNIS KNOX .. .. 5
LEONARD H. BOWLER .. .. 2	†ALICK CUTLER .. .. 6
RONALD J. SHARP .. .. 3	JOHN R. MAYNE .. .. 7
GEORGE W. MASSEY .. .. 4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

\* First peal of six spliced. † 300th peal.

Rung in honour of the 38th birthday of the Duke of Bedford.

## BALDOCK, HERTS.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., May 30, 1955, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.

## A PEAL OF 5008 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 26½ cwt.

*PETER STACEY .. .. Treble	COLIN HARWOOD .. .. 5
†RICHARD J. CASTLEDINE .. .. 2	JACK S. DEAR .. .. 6
†K. PATRICIA HUTTON .. .. 3	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM .. .. 7
REX DIXON .. .. 4	THOMAS J. SOUTHAM .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by G. W. DEBENHAM.

\* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method.

## CALNE, WILTSHIRE.

## THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., May 30, 1955, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.

## A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

LEONARD STILWELL .. .. Treble	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. .. 5
THOMAS J. LOCK .. .. 2	PAT I. CHAPMAN .. .. 6
THOMAS E. SONE .. .. 3	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. .. 7
J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. .. 4	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by THOMAS J. LOCK.

The first peal of Yorkshire on the bells, and first Major since 1935.  
 Rung in honour of the Calne millennium as a borough. The Mayor and Mayoress of Calne, Councillor D. Elliott and Mrs. Elliott, welcomed the band in the belfry before starting.

## MARSHFIELD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

## THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., June 1, 1955, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.

## A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

*LEONARD STILWELL .. .. Treble	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. .. 5
WILFRED WILLIAMS .. .. 2	WILFRID F. MORETON .. .. 6
ARTHUR MASON .. .. 3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. .. 7
FRANK E. HAYNES .. .. 4	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES.

\* 500th peal. First peal of Cambridge on the bells.

Rung as a farewell compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. W. H. O. Moss, who was inducted Vicar of St. Luke's, Brislington, on June 4th.

## FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

## ABERGELE, DENBIGHSHIRE.

## THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 21, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents (called differently).

Tenor 8 cwt.

*STANLEY WILLIAMS .. Treble	JOSEPH P. GRIFFITHS .. .. 4
LEWIS S. GRIFFITHS .. .. 2	ANDREW J. SALISBURY .. .. 5
L. JOHN EVANS .. .. 3	CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON .. Tenor

Conducted by CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON.

\* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells.

## GOODRICH, HEREFORDSHIRE.

## THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 21, 1955, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Court, and three extents each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

*LEONARD F. MORGAN (14) Treble	MOLLIE TILBURY .. .. 4
JOSEPHINE GREEN .. .. 2	CHARLES G. JONES .. .. 5
PHILIP G. MORGAN .. .. 3	REGINALD T. JONES .. Tenor

Conducted by PHILIP G. MORGAN.

\* First peal. First peal of Minor as conductor.

## SAPCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., May 25, 1955, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb. in A flat.

JOHN VERNON .. .. Treble	MICHAEL VERNON .. .. 4
MICHAEL E. BROWN .. .. 2	C. ROGER HAYWARD .. .. 5
*ERNEST MORRIS .. .. 3	JOHN A. SMITH .. .. Tenor

Conducted by MICHAEL E. BROWN.

\* 450th peal for the Guild.

## ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 11 cwt.

*RODERICK V. WALLIS .. Treble	WILLIAM WENBAN .. .. 4
*JOYCE M. SEABROOK .. .. 2	KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. .. 5
†GEOFFREY S. DUNCAN .. .. 3	D. KAY ADKINS .. .. Tenor

Conducted by D. KAY ADKINS.

\* First peal. † First peal of Plain Bob Minor.



## CHURCH &amp; TURRET CLOCKS

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# COCKERHAM, LANCASHIRE. THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Lancaster Branch.)

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

MRS. DOROTHY ECCLES .. Treble	JAMES METCALFE .. 4
HERBERT RAINFORD .. 2	GEORGE BRAITHWAITE .. 5
STANLEY ANDERTON .. 3	ROLAND F. ECCLES .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE BRAITHWAITE.

Rung as a compliment and farewell peal to the Vicar, Rev. Basil Higginson, who has accepted a living at Bradford, Manchester.

## EATON-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, four of Kent Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob (seven callings).

DENIS A. FRITH .. Treble	*BRIAN HUNT .. 4
FREDK. W. PINCHBECK .. 2	*BRIAN BUTTERRY .. 5
*RUSSELL READ .. 3	H. REGINALD WOODS .. Tenor

Conducted by DENIS A. FRITH.

\* First peal.

GREAT DODDINGTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.  
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being six extents each of All Saints, Southrepps Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Old Bob, Kennington, and April Day.

*SHIRLEY A. POWELL .. Treble	IVOR J. DICKIN .. 3
GEORGE F. ROOME .. 2	†ALLAN R. JONES (14) .. 4
ALAN C. COZENS .. Tenor	

Conducted by ALAN C. COZENS.

\* First peal. † First peal of Doubles.

Rung in memoriam Alfred Beckworth, of Holy Sepulchre, Northampton.

## HINXWORTH, HERTFORDSHIRE.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents.

*PETER JACKSON .. Treble	ALAN JACKSON .. 4
DEREK P. JONES .. 2	MICHAEL ORME .. 5
RICHARD E. CASTLEDINE .. 3	PHILIP MEHEW .. Tenor

Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

\* First peal and first attempt, age 13.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. I. M. Jones, Mrs. C. Orme, Miss C. Orme, and the treble ringer.

## HANDBELL PEAL

## DONCASTER, YORKSHIRE.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., May 26, 1955, in 1 Hour and 57 Minutes,

AT 38, CASTLE HILLS ROAD, SCAWTHORPE,

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 73 methods: (1) Plain, Double, Reverse, Canterbury, Fulbeck, Double Oxford, Thelwall, London, Lytham, St. Clement's, Childwall, College, Wavertree College, Windermere, Frodsham, Horsmonden, Killarney, Cumberland, and Ennerdale, (2) Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby, Clarence, Elston, Humber, Taxal, Marple, Braintree Delight, and Morning Star Treble Bob, (3) Oxford, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Capel, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury and Ockley Treble Bob, and Carisbrooke, Donottar, Wath and Pontefract Delight, (4) Blaxhall, Bramfield, Buxton, Ellacombe, Harmondsworth, Hayes, Iver, Lamberhurst, Mitcham, Ringstead, Sharnbrook, Stanhoe, Stonehouse, Stratton and Wordsley Alliance, and Little Bob, (5) Walsingham, Cromer, Olney, Tibenham, Lammas, Stevenston, Fulmer and Chalfont Alliance, and Crayford Little Court, (6) Kent Treble Bob, (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor size 8 in F sharp.

HOWARD SCOTT .. 1-2	WILFRID F. MORETON .. 3-4
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 5-6	

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

The conductor's 100th peal on handbells. The most methods rung to a peal by the Association.

## QUARTER PEALS

**ADLINGTON, LANC.**—On May 28th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: D. Sheffield 1, Margaret E. Openshaw 2, J. Blackburn 3, E. Baldwin 4, J. Cunliffe 5, A. Rigby 6, F. Brownlow 7, F. Stead (cond.) 8. A wedding compliment to Donald R. Snape (organist at Adlington) and Margaret J. Taylor.

**APPLEDORE, KENT.**—On May 25th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. S. Humphrey 1, A. J. Hicks (first in method) 2, Miss M. Vantom 3, Miss O. M. Boulden 4, R. A. Hodgson (first of Major) 5, G. Pearson (first of Major as cond.) 6, J. R. Cooper 7, R. Swift 8.

**BELGRAVE, LEICS.**—On May 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Pole 1, G. Castleman 2, J. Kesterton 3, D. Burnett 4, A. Bradshaw 5, R. Barrow 6, C. Linch (cond.) 7, E. Esmond 8. Rung for the wedding of Peter Wells and Jean Marjorie Reeve.

**BOSTON, Lincs.**—On May 23rd, at St. Botolph's, 1,260 Bob Royal: D. Lyman 1, W. E. Clarke 2, F. Davey 3, S. Jessop 4, R. Brown 5, F. Leggott 6, D. Brown 7, T. Freeston 8, J. Petch 9, Rev. G. G. Graham (cond.) 10. Specially rung as a greeting to the new Mayor, Councillor E. A. Arnold, and to the conductor, who hails from Bakewell, Derbyshire.

**BURNHAM, BUCKS.**—On Empire Day, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Gilbert (cond.) 1, W. Birmingham 2, Freda Murkitt 3, G. Lister 4, E. E. Gosling 5, G. W. Limmer 6, Miss D. Hague 7, J. D. Norsworthy 8. Rung for Confirmation by the Bishop of Buckingham.

**CHELSFIELD, KENT.**—On May 22nd, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob and 780 Grandsire): Miss M. Barker 1, J. Pannell 2, D. Manger 3, J. Salmon (first quarter) 4, J. Parker (cond.) 5, A. Smith 6. First quarter of Doubles by all. Rung for Confirmation by Assistant Bishop Mann.

**CHORLEY, LANC.**—On May 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: N. Kitchen (first of Grandsire) 1, P. Dunderdale (first of Grandsire) 2, T. Barker 3, A. A. Rigby 4, L. Walmsley 5, E. F. Stead (first in method as cond.) 6, J. Blackburn 7, J. Smith 8. Rung as a welcome to the Rector of Chorley, the Rev. A. J. G. Anderson, who was inducted to the benefice on the previous Monday.

**DEAL, KENT.**—On May 23rd, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Miss M. Hawkins (first of Treble Bob) 1, Miss A. Vine 2, Mrs. F. W. Lawrence 3, F. W. Lawrence 4, P. J. Rye (cond.) 5, J. M. Stephens 6. Rung as a first wedding anniversary compliment to the ringers of the 3rd and 4th.

**DONINGTON, Lincs.**—On May 24th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: D. Woods 1, S. V. Woods 2, E. Staples 3, G. Short 4, G. Pearson 5, A. E. Woods 6, C. Wander (cond.) 7, A. H. Bennett 8. First on eight by 1, 2, 3, 5, 6. First quarter of Major on the bells. Rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to Mr. P. Moore, a church worker for over 50 years.

**DUNKERTON, SOMERSET.**—On May 28th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: V. J. Jones 1, D. Keighton 2, B. W. S. Angell 3, D. B. L. Pennal 4, A. R. Wright (first of Minor as cond.) 5, Miss E. A. G. Grime 6. Rung for the Whitsun festival.

**ELTHAM, KENT.**—On May 19th, 1,316 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original): Miss B. Slark (first quarter) 1, B. Aldridge 2, E. Coode 3, I. Oram 4, F. Hurrell 5, E. B. Crowder (cond.) 6, J. Hurrell 7, J. Sims 8. Rung for Ascension Day.—Also on May 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original): Miss B. Slark 1, F. Hurrell 2, E. Coode 3, G. Hurrell 4, F. Richardson (cond.) 5, E. B. Crowder 6, J. Hurrell 7, K. Small 8. Rung for evensong. Also a welcome to the Rev. John Gurney, of Buxted, Sussex.

**GRANTHAM, Lincs.**—On May 14th, at the Church of St. Wulfrum (on the 'back six'), 1,440 Minor (720 Cambridge Surprise and 720 Plain Bob): J. R. Ketteringham 1, F. Reed 2, O. A. Needham 3, G. Paul 4, D. Mottershead 5, J. E. Cook (cond.) 6.

**HENFIELD, SUSSEX.**—On May 14th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: G. Apps 1, G. A. Packham 2, R. V. Johnson 3, E. R. Rapley 4, E. F. Packham 5, R. Langridge 6, F. Godsmark (cond.) 7, A. L. Ryman 8. Rung for the wedding of Miss F. M. Howell to Mr. Basil W. White, both members of the local band.—Also on May 15th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: D. J. Parsons 1, C. M. Jupp (first 'inside') 2, C. A. Crutenden 3, E. F. Packham 4, F. W. Parsons 5, R. Langridge 6, F. Godsmark (cond.) 7, A. L. Ryman 8. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, the Rev. P. Barry, on the eve of his departure for Tangiers.

**HENLEY-ON-THAMES, OXON.**—On May 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Jemmett 1, H. Hatto 2, C. Tigwell 3, J. Eymore 4, A. Street (cond.) 5, J. Smith 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam F. Goodall, senior sidesman at this church, who was laid to rest on this day.

**HONITON, DEVON.**—On May 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Barbara J. Stevens 1, C. Manley 2, Pamela M. Stevens (cond.) 3, A. Hodge 4, C. J. Stevens 5, J. Real 6. Rung for the Mayor's civic service. This was the 50th quarter peal for Mr. A. Hodge.

**LEIGHTON BROMSWOLD, HUNTS.**—On May 25th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each Stedman, St. Simon's, Canterbury, Plain Bob and 300 Grandsire): W. J. Whitmore 1, D. W. James 2, B. Hendry 3, P. I. Chapman 4, B. S. Cope (cond.) 5. Rung in honour of the feast of St. Aldhelm, B.C., first Bishop of Sherborne, 705 A.D.

## QUARTER PEALS

**KEYMER, SUSSEX.**—On May 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Backshall, jun. 1, C. W. Linington 2, S. W. Brown 3, H. Richardson 4, H. W. Brown (cond.) 5, F. Cox 6. Rung for the wedding of Miss L. J. Hayman to Mr. D. A. Trinick.

**LAMBETH, LONDON.**—On May 29th, at the Church of St. Mary, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Corney (first in method) 1, T. H. Taffender 2, L. W. Bullock 3, L. Batley 4, Dr. D. G. Hollis 5, J. Barrance 6, W. D. Grainger 7, N. G. Hollingsworth (cond.) 8. Rung for evensong.

**LOCKING, SOMERSET.**—On May 22nd, 1,260 Doubles (780 Grandsire and 480 Plain Bob): Marjorie Legg 1, June Legg (first as cond., aged 15) 2, D. Cox 3, Rosemary Hutchings 4, Muriel Legg 5, F. Millier 6. Rung before Youth Sunday service.

**LYDD, KENT.**—On May 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Anne Boulden 1, G. Pearson 2, Olive Boulden 3, Maisie Vantom (first as cond.) 4, R. Swift 5, S. Boulden 6, J. R. Cooper 7, L. Terry 8. A birthday compliment to L. Terry and Kathleen Cooper.

**MARGATE, KENT.**—On May 22nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Nugent 1, Mrs. N. Bridges 2, P. Page 3, G. Daynes 4, L. Twyman 5, P. Dadds 6, F. Gadsden (cond.) 7, R. G. Dadds 8. Rung as a compliment to visiting ringer.

**MARLOW, BUCKS.**—On May 19th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Miss J. Cook (first of Major) 1, Miss H. Bonner (first of Major) 2, Mrs. E. D. Poole 3, J. T. Clay 4, Miss E. Gibson 5, E. D. Poole 6, L. J. Young (cond.) 7, R. E. Dean 8. Rung for evensong on Ascension Day.—Also on May 22nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. D. Poole 1, Doreen Coker 2, R. E. Dean 3, W. Avery 4, E. Gibson 5, A. E. Cox 6, L. J. Young (cond.) 7, E. Silvey 8. Rung for Confirmation service.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At the Church of St. Edmund, on May 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. G. F. Roome 1, W. H. Ashby 2, R. Finch 3, T. Jennings 4, G. F. Roome (cond.) 5, B. Linnell 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. A. Beckwith, for 50 years or more a ringer of St. Sepulchre's, Northampton.

**NORTON SUBCOURSE, NORFOLK.**—On May 29th, 1,440 Surprise Minor (720 Norwich and 720 Cambridge): A. Walpole 1, B. Barber 2, J. Forder 3, G. Walpole (cond.) 4, E. Long 5, D. Long 6. Rung for evening service.

**OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.**—On May 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss S. E. Atkins (first of Triples) 1, C. Watson 2, W. Welling 3, A. H. Bates 4, A. Cross 5, D. W. Stone (cond.) 6, G. Coussins 7, J. Coombes 8. Rung for evensong.

**SILSOE, BEDS.**—On May 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss E. Oakeshott (first quarter) 1, T. P. Harris (cond.) 2, Miss J. Godfrey 3, S. J. Ivin 4, P. J. Lawton 5, Miss S. J. Devereux 6. Rung after evensong for St. Philip and St. James' day.—Also on May 19th, 1,260 Doubles (two extents each of Reverse St. Bartholomew, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, April Day and Plain Bob and 300 of Grandsire): Miss S. J. Devereux (first away from tenor) 1, D. R. Brazier (cond.) 2, P. J. Lawton 3, J. F. Olney 4, T. P. Harris 5, Miss J. Godfrey 6. First for all in five methods. The ringer of the 3rd has now 'circled' the tower with quarter peals. Rung for the feast of the Ascension.—Also on Whit Sunday, 720 Oxford Bob, 540 Plain Bob Minor: Janet Godfrey 1, D. R. Brazier 2, T. P. Harris 3, J. F. Olney 4, P. J. Lawton 5, S. J. Ivin 6. First quarter in two Minor methods for 1, 4 and 5.

**STONE, KENT.**—On May 5th, 1,272 Minor (552 Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Plain Bob): Miss O. Boulden 1, Miss M. Vantom 2, A. Hicks 3, R. Hodgson 4, J. R. Cooper 5, R. Swift (cond.) 6.

**SUNNINGWELL, BERKS.**—On May 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss D. Honey 1, Miss J. Jones 2, Miss M. P. Sparks 3, J. Honey (first quarter of Minor) 4, W. G. Cudd 5, A. R. Pink (cond.) 6. Rung on the occasion of the institution and induction of the Rev. S. J. G. Brunning as Rector.

**WESTON FAVELL, NORTHANTS.**—On May 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. Rollings 1, Miss G. Ashby 2, F. Attewell 3, W. Gammage 4, P. Amos (cond.) 5. Rung half muffled in memoriam Alfred Beckwith, a frequent helpful visitor to this belfry, who died May 20th.

**WESTON-ON-THE-GREEN, OXON.**—On May 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Woodward (first quarter) 1, Christine Woodward 2, R. Jones 3, M. Journeaux (first 'inside') 4, C. Holloway (first as cond.) 5.

**WEST WICKHAM, KENT.**—On May 21st, 1,440 Minor (one extent each of Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob): A. S. Richards (cond.) 1, M. F. Oakshett 2, Ian Oram 3, J. E. Cannell 4, J. L. Morris 5, J. H. Knight 6. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. J. B. Shortt, M.A., who was instituted Rector of West Wickham on May 18th, and Mrs. Shortt.

**WIVELSFIELD, SUSSEX.**—On May 15th, 1,260 Spliced Doubles (480 Grandsire, 180 each of Stedman, April Day and Reverse St. Bartholomew, and 120 each of Plain Bob and Reverse Canterbury): Stella M. Wickens (cond.) 1, Agnes F. Millam 2, Peter C. Hollingdale 3, Edna M. Everest 4, Kenneth C. Knight 5, Michael G. Truran 6. First quarter Spliced Doubles by all. Rung for Rogation Sunday.

**WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.**—On May 29th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: G. Balls 1, E. Leggett (cond.) 2, B. Gibbons 3, F. Clarke 4, W/O V. B. Leggett, R.A.F. 5, J. Balls 6. Rung for the baptism of the baby daughter of the 5th ringer, which took place at the church this day.



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# THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

## A CRITICAL ANNUAL REPORT

The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Association took place at Selby Abbey on May 7th, favoured by excellent weather, which, added to the fact that Selby possesses a very fine ring of ten bells, attracted an excellent gathering representative of each of the four Districts. The bells were going early to Stedman Caters and Cambridge Royal and continued in a variety of methods until a halt was made for the service.

An excellent tea followed in the Hawdon Institute after which the general meeting took place, presided over by the president, the Ven. C. O. Ellison, Archdeacon of Leeds. Apologies for absence were received from Miss D. M. Killingley and Messrs. P. Birkett and J. Ambler.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Selby, the Abbey authorities and the organist was ably moved by Mr. H. Walker, seconded by Mr. A. Johnson, and carried. A similar vote of thanks to the local company for their excellent arrangements was moved by Mr. I. Slack, seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson, and carried with applause. Mr. T. H. Foster, in reply, said how pleased the Abbey ringers were to entertain again the Association, and if all had been satisfactory the local ringers were amply repaid.

The report of the committee, presented by the president, stated that after allowing for the lapsing of a number of members and for the loss of eight members through death, there were now 1,620 members as against 1,606 a year ago. This total includes a large proportion of 'out county' members, as those who had paid their current subscription was 762.

The Northern District had lost two old ringers—Mr. Fred Tingle and Mr. Richard Duffell. The former had been connected with the Ripon Cathedral company for nearly 50 years and the latter for 35 years. Other deaths were Mr. Fred Hutchinson, St. Chad's, Headingley, a former secretary of the Western District, and Mr. C. G. Constable, of Beverley Minster.

The report offered congratulations to the York Minster Society and the success of the annual Snowdon Dinner at Doncaster, which resulted in a profit of £2 1s. 3d.

### SUNDAY SERVICE RINGING

The peal secretary's analysis for 1954 showed an increase in the number of those who had rung a peal for the first time, and a large increase in first peals in particular methods. 'All this is very satisfactory and a matter on which a number of individual ringers may well congratulate themselves. But your committee is deeply concerned about the general position regarding ringing for Sunday services. Far too many towers have difficulty in raising a full band of ringers on Sundays, far too many promising recruits fall by the wayside for lack of proper tuition, and in far too many towers the bells are silent and fail to fulfil their proper purpose of summoning the people to worship.'

'Bells have been hung in our church towers for one reason only, and if their main purpose is not being carried out we must not delude ourselves for one moment that a record number of peals rung in a year, or a record membership of our Association, will avail to prove that all is well.'

'The first essential is the basis of all church work, a lively faith in God and desire to be His witnesses. Next, we must look upon our

ringing activities as a branch of church work which will remain undone unless we do it. Next, we must be missionary-minded with regard to change ringing; in other words, always seeking for converts, willing to give up time for their training when they are found, and pleased to welcome them on Sundays as well as on practice nights. If all these conditions are fulfilled, we can confidently hope for better things.'

### THREE RECORD PEALS

The peal secretary's report showed the number of peals rung as 96, at 54 different churches and three handbell centres. Twenty-seven members rang their first peal. The peals of 36, 42 and 48 Spliced Surprise Major were all three records for the number of Surprise Major methods rung to a peal, the former breaking the record set up by the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the latter being the present record.

The leaders in numbers of peals rung and conducted were: Mr. W. E. Critchley 34 (conducted 16), Mr. W. F. Moreton 22 (9). Two centuries had been reached—the 100th peal at Guiseley and the 100th peal for the Association by Mr. J. F. Milner, of Kirklington, Notts.

The accounts showed a balance on the capital account of £254 13s. 6d., and on the yearly account of £77 2s. 2d. The Bell Repair Fund had a balance of £61 17s., four grants of £5 having been made during the year.

Mr. G. Benfield was re-elected hon. treasurer, and Mr. W. E. Critchley hon. peal secretary.

The general secretary (Mr. Leslie W. G. Morris) read an invitation from Marsden to hold the next meeting there on either September 3rd or 10th. The meeting decided to accept the invitation for September 10th if local arrangements could be made.

The president announced that consequent upon his removing to a smaller house in Leeds he had reported to the committee that he found he had not sufficient storage space to house the stocks of previous issues of the Association's annual reports, and Mr. Bert Sutton, of 12, Highfield, Scarborough, had kindly offered to take over the entire stock. The committee were quite in favour of this, but had decided to bring the matter before this meeting. Mr. J. H. Kirby moved, and Mr. E. Hudson seconded, that approval of the meeting be given. This was carried, and Mr. Sutton thanked for his kind offer.

Mr. A. E. Marsh reported on behalf of the Leeds sub-committee in charge of the pending Snowdon Dinner, due to be held in Leeds on October 15th. Arrangements were well advanced and the Lord Mayor-elect, Alderman Sir James Croysdale, had kindly consented to be present. It was hoped that the members would rally round to ensure the continuity of the success the gathering had enjoyed on the last two occasions. Members were urged to book the date and to back the event by giving it full support.

Miss Margaret Wilkinson (York), A. Williams, M. K. Duxbury, J. Cartwright and P. Wheatley were elected members. Mr. A. E. Marsh reported that an order had been placed for a further supply of badges and brooches, and he hoped they would be delivered in time for the next District meetings.

The president announced that he was to be inducted as Vicar of St. John's, Briggate, Leeds, on Thursday, July 21st, and that the service would take place at 8 p.m. This concluded the business and members were able to enjoy further ringing until 9 p.m.

# SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

## Dinner Loss Provokes Criticism

Over 90 ringers and friends attended the 70th annual meeting of the Sussex County Association held in the Church Hall of the Good Shepherd, Brighton, on May 7th. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. J. Hills, who also gave the address.

The business meeting followed tea in the Church Hall. The chair was taken by the Master, Mr. S. E. Armstrong. Apologies were received from the treasurer, Mr. R. G. Blackman, Messrs. Laker and Dallaway.

The Master's report and balance sheet and the Divisional report were carried unanimously. The peal secretary's report showed that 65 peals were rung during the year with 30 conductors, and 126 ringers rang their first peal.

In the absence of the treasurer, Mr. Weller gave details on his behalf of the Division levies for 1955. These were approximately 90 per cent. of the year's income owing to a loss of £17 on the 70th anniversary dinner.

Mr. Downing criticised the committee over the arrangements for the 70th birthday dinner, stating that they should have covered themselves by the charge made for the tickets. He proposed that the loss should be met out of the General Fund and not taken from Divisional funds. This was seconded by Mr. Rogers.

The secretary then gave a full report of the committee's planning of the dinner, stating that the cost had been kept down to enable all to come, and only increased the original cost by 1s. per ticket.

### DIVISIONS TO MEET LOSS

Mr. Wood reminded those present that they were all members of the Association and should do their best to help one another. Any money in the Divisional funds was there for the benefit of the Association as a whole. Mr. Weller then submitted an amendment:—'That the loss be borne by the Divisions, as the General Fund was earning 2½ per cent. interest, whereas the Divisional funds earned nothing.' This was seconded by Mr. Honeby. The amendment was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr. M. Crackell, of Crawley, was elected a new member.

The president and vice-presidents were re-elected en bloc and the Master, Mr. S. E. Armstrong, was also unanimously re-elected, as were all the other officers of the Association.

The secretary gave details for the printing of the report for 1954. It was agreed to include the Divisional reports at a cost of approximately £37.

The secretary gave details and cost of the proposed badges for the Association. It was agreed to place an order for diecast badges in blue and silver at a cost of 5s. 6d. each.

The printing of new certificates was held over for the time being to enable the secretary to make further inquiries. Mr. North, of Brighton, offered assistance in obtaining a further estimate.

Mr. R. Overy spoke of the controversy over the acceptance of Bob Triples by the Central Council; he was supported by Mr. Frank Bennett. It was proposed by Mr. Overy, and seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the meeting support the motion for the acceptance of Bob Triples and that the Association's representatives to the Central Council should vote accordingly. This was carried.

Mr. S. Brown proposed a vote of thanks to all those who took part in the 70th birthday arrangements. This was carried unanimously.

The secretary stated that he hoped it would be possible to print the 1955 report before the annual general meeting.

## ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY

### A Visit to Rugeley

When the Society last visited Rugeley, in 1951, the wish was expressed that it would not be too long before another meeting was held there. On the invitation of Mr. J. H. Joyner and the local band at St. Augustine's Parish Church, the spring meeting of the Society was held at Rugeley on May 21st and was favoured with fine weather.

It was particularly gratifying to see the younger generation well represented in the attendance of 66. The fact that over a third of this number would be under 25 years of age is an answer to those critics who claim that ringing is a dying art.

The ring of six bells was kept busy during the afternoon and evening. The service was conducted and the address given by the curate, the Rev. Mr. Pattenden. Mr. J. H. Joyner read the lesson and St. Augustine's organist, Mrs. Buckingham, very kindly officiated. The choir boys were also in attendance and their assistance in leading the singing was much appreciated.

Tea was served in the Old Grammar School, after which thanks were expressed to Mr. Pattenden, Mr. J. H. Joyner for his assistance in arranging the meeting, and Mrs. Joyner and her lady helpers for providing tea.

Mavesyn Ridware bells were available during the evening and many of those present at Rugeley took advantage of this facility for further ringing.

The next meeting of the Society will be the 'annual' at Lichfield on June 18th.

## NORWICH ASSOCIATION Mayor of Lowestoft's Welcome

For their meeting on May 21st the Eastern Branch visited Pakefield, where the easternmost ring of eight in the country is situated. The service, fully choral, was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. K. Wilkinson Riddle), who also preached.

The company of 50 sat down to tea in the schoolroom, where, waiting to welcome them, were the Mayor and Mayoress of Lowestoft, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Lang, who are parishioners of Pakefield. A vote of thanks was moved by the Branch chairman (Mr. E. R. Goate) to the Mayor and his lady for their gracious gesture.

The meeting proceeded under the chairmanship of Mr. E. R. Goate, supported by the Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Barrett, and committee members.

New members elected were B. Willgress, M. Dingle, M. Hodds, D. Le Grice, of Acle, and M. Solly, of Pakefield. The re-election of Mr. Edward T. Chapman, after a long absence from the district, was also carried.

The next meeting, at Winterton on July 16th, subject to permission, was agreed to.

A collection for the Association's Bell Fund realised £1 2s. 3d., and it was further announced that an anticipated profit on the tea would be devoted to the Mayor of Lowestoft's Distress fund for the dependants of the crew of the drifter 'Playmates,' lost with all hands earlier in the year.

The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the Rector, organist, choir, Mr. Peter Kindred, of the local band, and the many willing lady helpers who officiated at the tea.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION

### Visit to Bishopwearmouth

In spite of the pouring rain and the fact that ten ringers were 'peal grabbing' at Newcastle Cathedral, there was a good turn out for the meeting of the Eastern District of the Durham and Newcastle Association at St. Michael and All Angels', Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland, on May 21st. Ringing commenced shortly after 3 p.m., and during the afternoon we were visited by 'the strong arm of the law,' who assured us that they were just curious and wished to watch bell-ringers in action and did not intend arresting anyone!

The bells are considered by most to be the finest in the county, and while the standard of ringing left much to be desired in the afternoon, it certainly improved after the sumptuous tea in the Church Hall. Mr. K. Lawson, acting vice-president, was in the chair. A vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens was proposed by Mr. W. Maughan and a vote of thanks by Mr. S. Thompson to the ladies for preparing the tea.

At the request of the Rector, the ringing ceased at 7 p.m. while Evensong was sung. Several of the ringers attended this service, which was sung unaccompanied in unison. After Evensong ringing was resumed until about 9 p.m.

J. B. S.

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

At a recent service held at St. Paul's Cathedral for the Friends of St. Paul's the Queen Mother, who attended, was heard to remark as she left the Cathedral, 'How lovely the bells sound.' They were actually being rung to an excellent touch of Stedman Cinques, conducted by Mr. H. Langdon.

## BELFRY GOSSIP

Another good handbell performance comes from Doncaster with a peal of Minor in 73 methods. This number is the most methods rung to a peal by the Yorkshire Association.

While a peal was in progress at a Somerset tower on the Saturday following the General Election a lady commented to a ringer who was listening: 'Are the bells ringing for the General Election? I don't think it is right, although I am a Conservative.'

When a party attending the Central Council meeting at Bristol went to Calne on Whit Monday to attempt a peal of Yorkshire Surprise they had the unusual experience of being welcomed in the belfry by the Mayor and Mayoress. The peal was rung in honour of the millennium of Calne as a borough.

There were two unfortunate typographical errors in the report of the Clerical Guild's ringing week in Devon. Tavistock appeared as Tavistock, and Selworthy as Sehoorthy. Some members of the Guild rang on the Thursday evening at Arlington (6) and the seldom-rung four at East Down. The errors are regretted.

'The state of health of the ringing Exercise should be measured not by long lists of peals rung as birthday compliments or for any other reason, but by the number of towers in which ringers assemble regularly week by week to ring the bells to the glory of God and the advantage of His Church.'—Committee's report, Yorkshire Association.

Mr. Jack Thomas hopes to attempt his 1,000th peal at St. Stephen's, Bristol, on June 18th, the tower in which he learned to ring.

Errata.—Peal Double Oxford Major, Loughborough Bell Foundry (page 323): Read Harold Taylor 2, Derek P. Jones 4.

Was the peal of Plain Bob Minor at Abergele on May 21st the first of Minor in Denbighshire? Older ringers consulted cannot remember one.

North Lincolnshire handbell ringers are practising for a handbell peal in 106 Minor methods. The maximum number of Minor methods recognised before the Council meeting is 112.

Mr. John Chilcott, immediate Past-Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths, is acting as instructor to the band at Holy Trinity, Wandsworth. The first practice was on Thursday, May 26th. The company have vacancies.

A kindly gesture at the quarterly meeting of the Rochester District in Frindsbury on May 21st was the signing by all the members present of a 'get well quick' card which was sent to Mr. 'Gus' Hewitt, a member of the local band, who is in Dartford Hospital.

Getting home from Bristol presented a problem to many who had travelled to the Central Council meeting by train. When the Council opened, the president (Mr. E. H. Lewis) made an appeal for vacancies in cars. A number of offers were forthcoming, which facilitated the journey home.

Will correspondents during the strike period send communications, and especially notices, as early as possible. Many notices of meetings, some posted on Saturday, did not reach us until Wednesday, 24 hours after we had gone to press. Urgent communications can be telephoned to Guildford 5028.

# THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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# CENTRAL COUNCIL MEET AT BRISTOL

A GREAT WELCOME FROM CATHEDRAL AND CITY — 'THE RINGING WORLD': INDIVIDUAL GENEROSITY PRODUCES SURPLUS OF £362 OVER THREE YEARS — BIOGRAPHIES COMMITTEE AND A LASTING MEMORIAL — TOWERS AND BELFRIES COMMITTEE'S BUSY YEAR — UNRINGABLE BELLS AND ARCHDEACONS

THERE is a saying in Bristol, 'Ship shape and Bristol fashion.' This in a sense exemplifies the success that attended the second session of the 27th Council (58th annual meeting) held in the Chapter House, Bristol, on Whit-Tuesday. With its wealth of bells there was a big programme of ringing extending from the Friday to the Tuesday, and after the Council meeting a civic reception was given to the members of the Council and their ladies by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Ald. Harry Crook and Mrs. Crook) at the Elizabethan house, Red Lodge, with its wealth of treasures.

Proceedings on the Tuesday started with Holy Communion at Bristol Cathedral at which the Dean (the Very Rev. F. E. Lunt) was the celebrant.

The Council meeting opened with a welcome from the Dean and from Mr. Cyril R. Harding, Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

## FROM OXFORD TO BRISTOL

The Dean said it was both a pleasure and a privilege to say a word of welcome to the Council, not only to the Cathedral but, in the absence of the Bishop, to the Diocese. The Bishop had asked him to express his regrets at not being present but sent his warmest wishes for the success of the meeting.

In welcoming them to the Cathedral his mind went back to the time when he was an incumbent and had bells in his church, and had a happy relationship with those who came week by week to ring them. That was in Oxford and because of the proximity of the Colleges they had to limit ringing, therefore he was not always as popular as he might have been with the ringers.

'I welcome the work that is being done by your Associations and I think it makes a big difference if what goes on in the belfry is in real fellowship and harmony with the rest of the Church. I often think you have a very great influence and opportunity of bringing young people into the closer fellowship of Christ's Church: they get interested in ringing and realise what ringing stands for—in summoning people to God and the fellowship of His Church.'

The president (Mr. E. H. Lewis) in thanking the Dean for his kind welcome said the Council was very pleased to come to Bristol, which he believed was a return visit. It was a delightful place to come with its wealth of towers: with the exception of Oxford he was sure there were more bells per head of population than any other city. He also thanked the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association for all he and his committee had done to make them welcome.

Mr. Cyril R. Harding, Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, in a message of welcome said they very much appreciated the work of the Central Council. They would realise, however, that the majority of their towers were in agricultural districts where the work of the Central Council had not been heard of. They did try when they went into these country villages to get the ringers to conform to the rules of the Central Council.

'I am perfectly satisfied that the ringing that has been carried on in the precincts of the city of Bristol has upheld the prestige and standard of ringing which was one of the objects of the Council. I hope your deliberations will be

successful and that you will return to your homes with an everlasting memory of your visit to our ancient city of Bristol.'

## THE ATTENDANCE

The president took the chair supported by the librarian (Mr. F. Sharpe), the hon. secretary and treasurer (Mr. E. A. Barnett) and the assistant hon. secretary (Mrs. Barnett). Those present were:—

Life members: Mr. E. H. Lewis, Mr. E. A. Barnett, Mr. F. Sharpe, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher.

Honorary members: Mrs. E. A. Barnett, Messrs. J. T. Dyke, F. I. Hairs, A. A. Hughes, D. Hughes, C. K. Lewis, W. Osborn, Mrs. C. C. Marshall, Messrs. E. C. Shepherd, P. L. Taylor, W. H. Viggers.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association: Messrs. S. G. Coles, R. O. Fry, H. J. Sanger, Miss N. G. Williams.

Cambridge University Guild: Messrs. P. A. F. Chalk, B. D. Threlfall.

Chester Diocesan Guild: Messrs. J. W. Clarke, R. G. Corby.

Coventry Diocesan Guild: Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Mr. F. W. Perrens.

Derbyshire Association: Messrs. A. Mould, W. Robinson.

Devon Guild: Messrs. J. E. Lilley, T. G. Myers, Rev. J. G. M. Scott.

Dudley and District Guild: Mr. H. J. Shuck.

Ely Diocesan Guild: Messrs. P. Border, F. W. Lack, H. S. Peacock.

Essex Association: Messrs. J. H. Crampion, F. B. Luffkin, Miss H. G. Snowden.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association: Messrs. A. L. Barry, T. Borcham, W. B. Kynaston, F. Skidmore.

Guildford Diocesan Guild: Mr. A. C. Hazelden.

Hereford Diocesan Guild: Messrs. G. L. Lewis, W. F. Moreton, G. E. Oliver, J. J. Webb.

Hertford County Association: Messrs. W. Ayre, R. G. Bell, E. Edmondson, C. W. Woolley.

Irish Association: Messrs. F. E. Dukes, J. T. Dunwoody, Miss J. Stewart.

Kent County Association: Mr. T. Cullingworth, Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Messrs. T. E. Stone, J. Willis.

Ladies' Guild: Miss D. E. Colgate, Mrs. A. Richardson.

Lancashire Association: Mr. J. Ridyard, Rev. R. D. St. J. Smith, Mr. A. Tomlinson.

Leicester Diocesan Guild: Messrs. S. Burton, P. A. Corby, H. J. Poole, A. E. Rowley.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild: Messrs. J. Bray, G. E. Feirn, J. Freeman, J. A. Freeman.

Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association: Miss J. S. Evans, Mr. T. M. Roderick.

London County Association: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Rogers, Mr. W. G. Wilson.

Middlesex County Association: Messrs. F. W. Goodfellow, T. J. Lock, R. F. B. Speed, E. C. S. Turner.

Midland Counties Guild: Mr. J. W. Cotton.

North Staffordshire Association: Mr. R. S. Anderson.

Norwich Diocesan Guild: Messrs. H. W. Barrett, F. N. Golden, N. V. Harding, Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow.

Oxford Diocesan Guild: Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Barker, Mr. A. E. Lock.

Oxford University Society: Miss K. Higgins, Mr. R. B. Meadows.

Peterborough Diocesan Guild: Messrs. P. I. Chapman, G. W. Jeffs, E. Nobles, W. Rose.

St. David's Diocesan Guild: Mr. J. A. Hoare.

St. Martin's Guild (Birmingham): Mr. F. E. Haynes.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild: Rev. F. L. Edwards, Messrs. G. H. Harding, W. C. West.

Sheffield and District: Mr. N. Chaddock.

Society of Royal Cumberland Youths: Messrs. P. N. Bond, F. E. Hawthorne.

Southwell Diocesan Guild: Messrs. C. Glenn, J. Segar.

Stafford Archdeaconry Society: Mr. B. G. Key.

Suffolk Guild: Mr. C. W. Pipe.

Surrey Association: Messrs. F. E. Collins, W. F. Oatway, H. N. Pitstow.

Sussex County Association: Messrs. R. G. Blackman, F. H. Dallaway, H. Stalham, L. Stilwell.

Swansea and Brecon Guild: Mr. G. I. Lewis.

Truro Diocesan Guild: Mr. D. Burnett, Miss M. Lidgey, Mr. H. Miles.

Universities Association: Miss M. R. Cross.

Winchester and Portsmouth Guild: Rev. K. W. H. Felstead, Messrs. C. H. Kippin, G. Pullinger, F. W. Rogers.

Worcestershire and Districts Association: Messrs. B. C. Ashford, W. B. Cartwright.

Yorkshire Association: Messrs. W. G. Critchley, L. W. G. Morris.

## SUMMARY

	Associations	Present	Absent
Wholly represented ..	26	72	—
Partially represented ..	18	38	24
Not represented ..	10	—	15
	54	110	39
Life members ..	5	2	
Honorary members ..	11	8	
	126	49	

The hon. secretary reported that there were 54 Associations affiliated to the Council with 150 members: there were also 24 honorary members and 7 life members, making a total of 181. There was one vacancy among representative members and 5 among honorary members. All subscriptions had been paid with the exception of the North Wales Association.

## APOLOGIES

The secretary read apologies from the following members: Mr. F. Ainsley, Miss P. J. Ayris, Messrs. C. A. Bassett, H. D. Borcham, T. R. Butler, F. Dunkerley, J. P. Fidler, S. Foskett, T. H. Francis, A. Harman, J. E. Hobbs, Rev. J. Kingdon, Messrs. E. G. Fenn, H. J. Mansfield, A. H. Pulling, F. Precy, W. N. Park, J. W. Rathby, C. W. Roberts, Rev. A. S. Roberts, Messrs. C. J. Sedgley, B. F. Simms, J. F. Smallwood, Miss M. E. Snowden, Mrs. P. J. Staniforth, Messrs. G. E. Symonds, T. H. Taffender, A. Walker, R. St. C. Wilson, J. R. Worrall, E. A. Young, E. W. Biffen, G. H. Cross, C. Wallater.

## PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

The following new members were presented: Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher (Kent), Miss M. Lidgey (Truro), Mr. A. L. Barry (Gloucester and Bristol), Mr. H. W. Barrett (Norwich), Mr. D. Hughes (Hon. Member), Miss K. Higgins (Oxford University), Mr. R. O. Fry (Bath and Wells), Rev. R. D. St. J. Smith (Lancashire), Mr. P. Border (Ely).

## CENTRAL COUNCIL—Cont.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. YOUNG

The president announced that a telegram was sent to Mr. E. Alex Young, a former hon. secretary of the Council, on his birthday on May 20th: 'On behalf of all members of the Central Council may I offer you the good wishes and congratulations of the members of the Council on your 90th birthday.—Barnett.'

Mr Young had sent a reply.

### ELECTION OF HON. MEMBERS

The secretary reported that there were five vacancies for hon. members. Mr. Rowe retired and was eligible for re-election. The Standing Committee had not made a recommendation. The recommendation was adopted.

### LOSS BY DEATH

The company stood while the members remembered Mr. F. Warrington, a member of the Council from 1936-47, representing the Ely Diocesan Association, who had died since the last meeting.

### MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting, published in 'The Ringing World' of April 8th, were adopted subject to the following amendment: the name of Mr. J. Seager being substituted for Mr. C. Glenn.

### HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT

One important matter decided during the year was the Council's liability for Income Tax. This matter was taken up with the Inland Revenue authorities by the auditors of the accounts of 'The Ringing World' and the following points established:—

(1) Any excess of affiliation fees over expenses of the Council itself is not taxable, based on the principle that mutual trading exists.

(2) Profits from the sale of publications and 'The Ringing World' are taxable only so far as they arise from persons who are not members of the Council or the affiliated societies.

(3) Income tax would be payable under Schedule 'A' on any real estate owned by the Council or under Schedule 'D' on any income from investments not already taxed at source.

Members will note that the interest on 3½ per cent Defence Bonds invested from the funds of 'The Ringing World' comes under (3). With regard to (2), the Inspector of Taxes accepted the computations of assessable profits based on my estimate of such sales as one per cent, and as the amounts involved were very small, he did not propose to raise an assessment up to and including the fiscal year 1953/54. The position regarding 1954/55 is at present under discussion.

The decision to increase the price of 'The Ringing World' from 4d. to 6d. is dealt with in its proper place, but it may be of interest to set out the position which would have arisen but for the generous donations received from ringers during the past three years:—

Year	Loss on Trading £	Donations £	Nominal Surplus £
1952	180	254	74
1953	272	311	39
1954	87	336	249

Thus, instead of a deficit of £539 during this period the paper has been able to show a surplus of £362.

It was agreed by the Standing Committee last year that consideration should be given to increasing the amount for which the Library was insured, and as a result it was decided that the figure should be amended from £250 to £600.

I would like to express my thanks to Association secretaries who send me copies of their annual reports, and also to those who send other publications. The Council is again greatly indebted to Mr. W. G. Wilson and Miss C. L.

Groves for very kindly making themselves responsible for the typing and duplicating of these papers.

A final thought—the first three societies to pay their affiliation fees for 1955 (apart from one Guild who did so in advance) were the Scottish and Irish Associations and the St. David's Guild, in that order.

The hon. secretary moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. R. S. Anderson seconded and thanked the secretary for his work for the Council.

The report was adopted.

### REPORT OF THE HON. LIBRARIAN

During the year the borrowing of books of reference increased considerably. Sales of publications increased by 25 per cent above the previous year's total, and would have been greater had not the popular books on 'Doubles and Minor Methods' and 'Preservation and repair of bells' been out of print for most of the year. A new edition of the latter is now available and, at the moment of writing, negotiations are in hand with printers regarding a new edition of the Doubles book.

As a result of the price increases sanctioned last year, income exceeded expenditure by £4 2s. 1d. The 'best seller' has been Mr. W. G. Wilson's book, 'On Conducting,' with 'Village Bells' second and 'Hints to Beginners' third.

Typed index sheets of the printed books in the Library have been made during the year and a welcome addition to the equipment has been the acquisition of six bookcases.

Where there are many copies of any book in the Library, printed since 1850, I recommend that all above three copies be sold.

During the year the Library has received the following gifts: 'Cheshire Bells, Part III,' from the author, Mr. J. W. Clarke; 'Beginners' Grandire,' from the author, Mr. A. Waddington; 'Notes for Beginners,' from the author, Mr. W. G. Wilson; the late Mr. C. Perry's MSS., from Mr. A. C. Hazelden; and 'The Irish Bell News,' from Mr. F. E. Dukes.

Once again I must pay special tribute to the painstaking and efficient work of Miss P. J. Ayris in running the sales section of the library.

Mr. F. Sharpe in moving the adoption of the report said they would notice that they had made a profit which was very gratifying to him. It was necessary because the profit they made was absorbed by 'The Ringing World' charges for advertisements and helped with publications.

He had received that day from the president a treatise on experiments carried out at All Saints', Loughborough, on the swinging position of bells and on experiments carried out in the Loughborough foundry with a spring bell-frame. He had also received a copy of the history of the London County Association and the North Southwark Diocesan Guild.

He expressed his thanks to Miss P. Ayris for seeing to the despatch of books and to the Rev. Eric Tarrant, Rector of Launton, for the use of a room in his Rectory for the library.

Mr. H. J. Poole seconded and the report was adopted.

### CARTER'S RINGING MACHINE

Mr. A. A. Hughes reported that the machine was in good working order and was demonstrated on two occasions last year.

Mr. H. J. Poole, seconding, said he would like to express thanks for the demonstration given when the National Police Guild visited London.

The report was adopted.

### THE ROLL OF HONOUR

Presenting the report of the Roll of Honour Sub-Committee, Mr. Harry Miles said, 'You see in front of you a happy man. He has done a job given to him at York in 1949.' The Roll

of Honour was now finished. Another thing which had made him happy was the wonderful response from all quarters in the compilation of the roll.

There were a number of people he would like to thank. First, the two librarians of St. Paul's Cathedral, Mr. G. W. Henderson (since retired) and the Rev. W. M. Atkins; then Mr. C. Cullen, of Farnborough, Kent, who offered and wrote the roll free and designed the oak case. The roll in its case was placed just outside the gallery at St. Paul's Cathedral. The College Youths had agreed to turn over a page periodically.

It was proposed that photostat copies should be made of the roll. He asked Mr. F. Dunkerley to arrange with a firm at Oldham to make the stats—to send the original roll back to St. Paul's, the stats to him and the account to the general secretary. Mr. Dunkerley sent the roll back to St. Paul's, the stats to him and he paid the account personally. He thanked Mr. Dunkerley for his help and generosity.

Mr. R. S. Anderson in seconding the adoption of the report said he did not think there was a memorial in the country that had been done entirely by the people concerned. He moved that the secretary send an official letter of thanks to all who had contributed to the successful completion of the roll.

The report was adopted.

## THE ACCOUNTS

### THE BALANCE SHEET

The balance sheet of the Central Council was as follows:—

Creditors, £558 17s. 4d. (£778, 1953); Payments in advance, £848 12s. 11d. (£767); Capital Accounts: 'The Ringing World,' £1,695 11s. 4d.; General Fund, £452 10s. 4d. Total, £3,539 11s. 11d.

Goodwill and blocks, 'The Ringing World,' £200; Library, £10; Bookcases, £15 15s.; Typewriter, £18; Stock of Publications, £289 13s. 6d.; Debtors, £715 3s. 1d.; 3½ per cent Defence Bonds, £800 (£800); Cash at Bank and in hand, £1,491 0s. 4d. (£1,486). Total, £3,539 11s. 11d.

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Expenditure—Biographies Committee, £4 6s. 7d.; Council meeting, Newcastle, £2 15s.; Accountants' Fees, £15 15s.; Stationery and Printing, £9 7s. 3d.; Postage, £6 8s. 2d.; Telephone, etc., £1 5s. 5d.; Typewriter written off, £3; Bookcase written off, £3; Cheque book and Bank charges, 9s. 1d.; Insurance (Library), 14s.; Wreath, £2; Typing, £1 1s.; Excess of income over expenditure, £32 12s. 1d. Total, £82 13s. 7d.

Income—Affiliation fees, £75; Donations, £1 11s.; Balance (case for roll of honour), £2 0s. 6d.; Balance (publications account), £4 2s. 1d. Total, £82 13s. 7d.

### 'THE RINGING WORLD'

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Expenditure—To Woodbridge Press Ltd. (printing and blocks), £3,369 2s. 9d.; Despatch of copies, £140 10s. 6d.; Postage and wrappers, £583 13s. 9d. Editorial Office: Editor's fees and expenses, £294 8s. 8d.; Clerical assistance, £120 3s. 8d.; Postage, stationery and sundry, £28 18s.; Accounts Department: Clerical assistance, £104; Postage, £20 5s. 2d.; Stationery and telephone, £17 19s. 9d.; Audit fee, £21; Sundry, £2 13s.; Net profit, £249 0s. 1d.

Income—Rolls Publishing Co., £1,844 7s. 11d.; Postal subscribers, £1,907 0s. 6d.; Donations, £335 14s. 4d.; Sundry sales, £25 12s. 9d.; Notices, £378 14s. 10d.; Advertisements, £421 9s.; Interest, 3½ per cent Defence Bonds, less tax, £18 16s.; General Fund advertisements, £20.

**CENTRAL COUNCIL—Cont.**

Moving the adoption of the report the hon. secretary said he suggested that the accounts of 'The Ringing World' be left to 'The Ringing World' report. On the general fund they had made a profit of £32, which was a welcome change. This had been brought about by the doubling of the affiliation fees which now amounted to £75. The accounts had been audited by Mr. A. A. Hughes and Mr. F. W. Perrens.

Mr. A. A. Hughes seconded the adoption of the report, which was adopted.

**'THE RINGING WORLD' COMMITTEE**

Your committee has to report another year of strenuous effort to maintain solvency. During 1954, another campaign was launched to obtain more postal subscribers. All affiliated Societies were invited to elect members to act as District representatives of 'The Ringing World', their functions to be to try to obtain more subscribers, and also to forward to the Editor news of what was happening in their Districts. The result was encouraging and your committee is most grateful to these representatives for their efforts.

Towards the end of the year we felt there was a danger of an adverse balance, and your committee was forced to the necessity of raising the price of the journal to 6d. This decision was taken after three years' vigorous struggle to keep the price at 4d. Rising costs left no alternative and it is to be hoped that when the effects of the increase are realised we may experience financial stability. So far as can be estimated the resultant drop in circulation is between three and four per cent—much less than we had expected.

The situation was saved last year, as in previous years, by the generous help received in personal, voluntary peal, quarter-peal and other donations.

In view of the discussion last year regarding the non-publication of letters written over a nom-de-plume, your committee decided to advise the Editor to consider such communications for publication provided they did not contain attacks on persons or bodies. A notice to this effect was published and the result has been obvious to all readers.

Your committee looks forward to the time when it may be possible to include more illustrations in the journal, and as soon as the financial position is sufficiently improved this, and other possible improvements, will be made. For the time being, however, economy and even austerity must continue until we sail in smoother waters.

Finally, we would place on record our sincere thanks to all who have helped in the production of the journal: to Mr. Tom White, the Editor, for his able and conscientious work; Mr. Jeater for his efficient supervision of the accounts; to all literary contributors; to all readers; to all district representatives; and last but by no means least to all who have, by their donations, helped us in a most difficult year.

Mr. F. I. Hairs in presenting the report regretted the absence of Mr. Smallwood. The rise in the price to 6d. was only made after careful consideration and was due to the fact that they were still depending on charity.

Mr. H. G. Poole seconded the adoption of the report.

The Rev. J. H. M. Scott said a great many people in his area were not change ringers. Call change ringers had no means of publicity for the results of their competitions except the local press. If those results were put in 'The Ringing World' they would get a substantial increase in circulation.

Mr. H. Miles supported this point of view.

Mr. Anderson said if the call change ringers sent the information to the Editor it would be published.

Mr. G. Pullinger: Could it be made possible for the paper to be open for advertisements?

The President: It is quite open.

Mr. J. E. Lilley: I don't want to cross swords with Mr. Scott, but I feel this is a very controversial subject. We are struggling very hard in Devon to introduce change ringing and I am very pleased to say that through my influence there will be a change ringing band at Buckfast Abbey.

The Rev. J. H. M. Scott spoke of the friendly relations with the call change ringers and the Devonshire Association at the annual competitions at Dean Prior and had invited a band of change ringers to ring the service touch. A peal was rung at South Molton in honour of the South Molton band winning the ringing competition.

The report was adopted.

Introducing the accounts, the hon. secretary said they would notice on the income side that during the year the income from postal subscribers had increased and that was before the price increase. Donations had also increased. They would not have made a profit had it not been for these generous donations. The expenditure during the year was nothing unusual. It became clear that the paper would not have paid without an increase in price. The Standing Committee recommended that the accounts be passed subject to audit. These accounts were audited professionally.

Mr. F. I. Hairs seconded and the report was adopted.

**BIOGRAPHIES COMMITTEE**

The Committee have been gratified by the response made by 1954 new members to their request for the prompt return of the forms handed to them when they were introduced to the president.

Of the total forms distributed at Newcastle just over half were returned duly filled in, a few complete with a photograph. This, although better than previously, could be much improved. The particulars for which we ask have proved by our experience to be the minimum foundation required for the record of each member which the Council wishes to preserve.

The album, already containing a good number of finished obituaries, is on view. From those sheets it is hoped members will note the information that is wanted, also that provision is made for a photograph of *post card size*. This point is specially mentioned because, in the case of members elected before 1935 (many already deceased) photographs have in many cases been obtained only with difficulty and often only by reproduction from loaned and faded copies.

Our books now contain the names of 713 persons who have been elected to membership of the Council. Of this total 76 have not attended a meeting and 100 have attended one meeting only. 315 are known to be deceased. We have complete biographies of 215 deceased past members, and 72 others, whose biographies are partially complete, are those on whom Mr. Stilwell and myself are spending many hours of searching the pages of volumes of the ringing papers. In the hope of enlisting the help of present members we append a short list of records which need only a photograph for completion.

E. E. Burgess (Bath and Wells), died 6th April, 1933.

Rev. H. C. Courtney (Bath and Wells), died January, 1929.

Rev. C. C. Parkes (Bath and Wells), died 18th December, 1930.

C. W. P. Clifton (Lincoln), died 28th November, 1926.

C. Edwards (Hereford), died 2nd January, 1953.

J. P. Hyett (Hereford), died 23rd June, 1944.

F. E. Dawe (College Youths), died December, 1942.

H. A. Heywood (Chester Diocesan), died 20th July, 1943.

R. Sperring (Chester Diocesan), died 6th February, 1953.

T. Groombridge, Senr. (Kent County), died 29th October, 1951.

T. Groombridge, Junr. (Southwell), died 24th May, 1948.

R. A. Daniell (Cumberland Youths), died 20th December, 1935.

G. Longden (Lancashire), died 4th August, 1908.

W. E. Wilson (Lancashire), died 11th February, 1943.

R. G. Knowles (Worcester), died 22nd September, 1942.

F. Lees (Durham and Newcastle), died 12th August, 1897.

F. C. Willey (Yorkshire), died 29th October, 1929.

J. Basden (Middlesex), died 14th December, 1911.

Since the meeting at Newcastle and up to the time of preparation of this Report no deaths of members or of past members have been reported. We are, however, able to report on the deaths of some former members not previously reported to the Council which have come to our knowledge.

Thomas Card (Society of Royal Cumberland Youths 1906-1908), died 24th March, 1932.

A. E. Nye (Sussex 1894-1896), died 13th January, 1952.

G. H. Howse (Sussex 1909-1917).

G. A. Black (Essex 1915-1917), died 8th April, 1951.

J. W. T. Holgate (Yorkshire Association), died 15th October, 1951.

Moving the adoption of the report, Mr. A. C. Hazelden said information of the date of death was required of the Rev. W. W. Covey Crump, Ely Diocesan Association; Mr. S. J. Hughes, representative of the Dudley and District Guild; Mr. John Holden, of Saddleworth, Yorkshire Association; Mr. James Maddock, Bath and Wells; Mr. A. Taylor, Chester Diocesan Guild; Mr. J. W. Milner, Chester Diocesan Guild. He appealed to members to fill in the forms and send photographs.

Mr. John Willis, in emphasising the appeal, said to members of the Council, 'This is the only lasting record that you will get.'

Mr. F. W. Rogers suggested that members should place a note with their wills asking executors to send a postcard giving the date of their death.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards paid a tribute to the work of Mr. Hazelden and his committee.

**PEAL BOARDS COMMITTEE**

The publication last year of a list of towers where early peal boards exist, and from which details have been recorded, gave a clear indication of the progress made as well as a reminder that many more are still awaiting discovery.

Boards in towers where the bells are rung regularly—and especially where there is a band of change ringers—have in all probability been fairly well covered. On the other hand, there are towers where ringing once flourished but for some reason or other has now lapsed, and the bells have fallen into disuse. Such places provide opportunity for exploration, as instanced at Dedham, in Essex. Here the bells have not been rung for more than a century, but the ringing chamber has recently been examined with the result that a peal board recording 5,040 of Bob Major rung in 1818 has been added to the list. No doubt there are others to be located in similar circumstances.

Quite obviously the committee must depend on the interest and support of the members of the Exercise in general for the completion of its task and makes an earnest appeal for the search to be continued. The history of ringing will be enriched by these efforts.

(Continued next page)

## CENTRAL COUNCIL—Cont.

During the past year some thought has been given to the form of binding for the safe storage of the records collected and it seems clear that in view of the possibility of extra sheets having to be added at any time in the future, a loose-leaf binding must be adopted. The committee is prepared to be responsible for the binding and it is hoped that the matter can be taken in hand shortly.

Mr. J. W. Clarke moved the adoption of the report and said that details were slowly coming in and 15 were received last year. Mr. W. Ayre seconded and the report was adopted.

## TOWERS AND BELFRIES COMMITTEE

During the past year the committee has produced a revised edition of the Council's handbook, 'The Installation, Preservation and Repair of Bells, Bell-frames and Fittings.' Members of the committee have given advice on restoration work in 40 towers—an increase of two on the previous year.

Mr. J. W. Clarke has advised on the restoration of the bells and fabric of one tower in Suffolk; and, in his capacity as chairman of the Chester Diocesan Advisory Committee, has done much useful work in that Diocese.

Mr. F. E. Collins has inspected the bells and gear in four towers in Essex and Hampshire. In each instance his advice has been taken and restoration schemes are pending. A scheme for the complete rehanging and augmentation of the bells in a Sussex tower, upon which he reported last year, has been adopted and the work is in hand.

Mr. J. Freeman has dealt with four inquiries in Lincolnshire. In one tower a major restoration involving the recasting and augmentation of the bells was advised; in two towers inspections were made following applications for faculties to rehang bells, and approval was recommended; in the other tower advice on the safety of ringing the existing bells was given.

Mr. E. H. Lewis has dealt with an inquiry from a Suffolk parish where precise calculations were required of the effect of lowering the swinging positions of the bells from 70 feet to 45 feet from ground level. He is also dealing with an inquiry from a Warwickshire tower.

Mr. W. Osborn has visited 12 towers in the West Country. In four instances he had advised on work of a major character involving the complete renewal of bell-frames and gear. In four towers he advised on the recasting of bells or the desirability of replacing them. In another tower, after a major structural restoration had been completed, the architect refused to allow the bells to be rung. Mr. Osborn advised the installation of reinforced concrete beams encircling the inner face of the tower walls, which has been done, and all is now satisfactory. As a member of his Diocesan Advisory Committee, he has given advice resulting in the granting of ten faculties. An application to install recorded bells in another tower was successfully quashed.

The convenor has dealt with 15 inquiries in Bucks, Berks, Norfolk, Northants, Oxon, Suffolk and Yorks. In five instances major restorations involving complete rehanging in new frames are being carried out; in two instances problems regarding vertical vibration cracks in the masonry of towers were dealt with; in three towers advice on augmentations was given; in five towers repair work was advocated. In addition to these he has been in correspondence regarding minor repairs to the bells in a Cornish tower, and in two instances has given advice on sound control. An endeavour to persuade a donor to install a small ring instead of a larger chime was unsuccessful but a private arrangement was made with the bell founders that these bells should be cast to ringing weights. Lectures have again been given to the York Architectural Institute.

This Institute has recently purchased a disused church and it is proposed to convert this into lecture rooms and a library. In the church is a derelict ring of six bells, four of which are mediæval. These are to be rehung in a new frame as a practical example for the instruction of students of Ecclesiastical Architecture.

Mr. F. Sharpe moved the adoption of the report and said it was a very brief summary of a considerable amount of work done by members of the committee.

Mr. F. E. Collins seconded.

Mr. C. Pipe asked the name of the Suffolk tower.

Mr. Sharpe said it was at Ipswich; they did not mention the names of towers for commercial reasons.

Mr. P. A. Corby said the Council must not lose sight of the great importance of the work of the committee. He thanked the committee for the work they were doing. There was a great scope for the work of this committee and it was his personal opinion that they ought to concentrate more on this aspect of their affairs than on the technical matters of change ringing, which took so much of their time. As one went round the country one realised the many towers that could take advantage of the services of the committee. He wondered if there were any means of making the work and services of the committee more widely known among the clergy and the diocesan advisory committees.

Mr. F. Sharpe replied that the chancellors and the secretaries of the diocesan advisory committees had been notified.

Mr. R. G. Blackman said for the annual meeting of the Friends of Chichester Cathedral the Archdeacon of Chichester had on the agenda 'The bells and tower.' He felt that such reports should be given to all annual meetings of parochial church councils.

Mr. C. K. Lewis said such a responsibility was up to the towers themselves. A measure had gone through the Church Assembly which required every church council to have their fabric examined by an architect every five years. The remedy was getting a ringing member on the parochial church council.

Mr. J. W. Clarke said there was not one architect in 100 who knew anything about bells. He had only seen one architect report on bells and that stated 'bells rusting.' On one occasion an architect designed a frame of timber and rubber. Fortunately that report came to the Advisory Committee and he was able to express his opinion. Many architects were still sent out by the Central Council for the Care of Churches who did not know anything about bells. He still felt that the best method was a representative of the committee on the Advisory Committee. Mr. Clouston had recently been appointed to the Ipswich Advisory Committee.

Mr. John Freeman, who is a member of the Lincoln Advisory Committee, thought local ringers should be more active and report conditions to parochial church councils.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow said when the quinquennial inspections began it seemed most important that advice should be taken in every case where the bells were out of order. He had met cases where the incumbent did not know how many bells he had got. At the quinquennial inspection somebody should submit a complete list of all unringable bells. Mr. Nolan Golden had provided such a list for the Norwich Diocese. Such lists might do no good, but they would prevent Archdeacons from saying they did not know.

Mr. W. Osborn stressed the importance of each tower having a steeplekeeper. Where there was a good steeplekeeper the bells were in good order. The steeplekeeper should report regularly to the parochial church council.

Mr. N. Chaddock asked Mr. Sharpe to send a circular concerning the services of the com-

mittee to the diocesan advisory committees where there was no ringing representatives.

Mr. J. A. Hoare asked if this would cover their Church in Wales.

Mr. Sharpe: I have on many occasions been down to Wales and examined towers and belfries. I have written a book on 'The Church Bells of Radnorshire,' and I have completed two-thirds of a book on the bells of Cardiganshire and one-third of one on Pembrokeshire. In regard to the quinquennial survey the difficulty will be to find architects who have any knowledge of bell ringing. As a rule they don't know very much and don't like to be told. We are making progress and the Council is represented on the York Institute, which instructs surveyors.

Mr. D. Burnett said it had been the practice at Truro Cathedral, where the meeting was presided over by the Bishop, to ask if the bells were in good order.

Mr. Sharpe called attention to the new edition of 'Preservation and Care of Bells.' A copy should be in the hands of each incumbent and secretary of the parochial church council.

The report was then adopted.

(To be continued)

## A CORNISH PRACTICE NIGHT

(With apologies to the Exercise.)

It is a beautiful evening, late in spring. The birds are singing gaily in the treetops; young lovers out for an evening stroll gaze longingly into each other's eyes; and at the local bowling club men in shirt sleeves and pipes in their mouths are innocently pursuing their leisurely hobby.

Suddenly the peace is shattered by a harsh jangle of sound; strong men wilt, mothers hasten to ensure that their offspring are safely indoors, and the members of the bowling club speedily retire to the soundproof clubhouse.

Why? It is the local ringers' practice night, of course! and for the next hour and a half the peace of the lovely countryside is obliterated by the wild cacophony of Grandsire Triples, the majestic thunder of Bob Major and the haunting melodies of Stedman Triples.

Let us for a while view the source of all this disturbance. Within the cool, grey walls of the old tower there is gathered a company of young people, both men and women. One unfortunate learner is being 'pushed' through a course of Grandsire Doubles, and a group of young ladies are sitting in a corner equipped with knitting needles and fashion magazines and exchanging local gossip. After an interval in ringing, the leader, a burly, fierce-looking young man solemnly makes the announcement, 'We are now going to ring a course of Camridge Major, and woe betide anyone who goes wrong.' Eight young hopefuls stand to the ropes, and eight sweaty brows are puckered in concentration as each endeavours to guide his bell correctly along the intricate path of Cambridge.

As the hands of the clock creep toward the hour of nine, and as the bells are rung down and the last throbbing chord dies away, the sun seems to shine again, the birds sing once more and the members of the bowling club thankfully resume their game; peace reigns.

Outside the church the young people are gathered, smoking and talking. One bighead is heard to remark, 'When I rang Stedman Cinques with George Fearn at St. Martin's—but is hastily booed down by the remainder of the company. So here we leave them, a gathering of young sorcerers gleefully discussing arrangements for future disturbances, and the inhabitants of the surrounding countryside, both animal and human, rejoice in the fact that they will be left in peace, at least until Sunday morning.

ANNE ONYMOUS.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## MUFFLED RINGING

Dear Sir,—With reference to a letter in 'The Ringing World' on muffled ringing, church bells are rung (or should be) to the glory of God and in His service.

Why, then, should we muffle this praise because one who has served Him faithfully in this way for many years has now been called by God to higher service? Surely the reasonable thing to do is to ring the bells open to express our thankfulness for the years that have been.

I, personally, shall always be glad that the day my husband passed on we had a ringing meeting here and the bells were ringing for many hours. He always said that he hoped they would ring for him, but not muffled, and the peal and quarter peal in memoriam and the funeral ringing were all open. It certainly helped to add to my belief in the fact that he is not far away.

I do not think Mr. Paice is right in suggesting that the passing of a loved one is any less solemn now than ever it was, but to my mind the use of muffles has passed with the fashion that decreed crepe and widow's weeds and black clothes even for little children.—Yours sincerely,

DORIS COOPER.

Croydon.

## MUFFLED RINGING IS NOT MORBID

Dear Sir—If these requests and desires become more general as during the last 20 years or so they have tended to do, says Mr. Paice, then there is little we ringers can do—against requests and desires—but try and see that the Exercise and public should be educated to see things in their proper perspective and respect them.

'Will it then eventually become the regular custom to ring the bells "open" on all occasions, sad and gay?' he asks. Most certainly not—least, God forbid.

Any change arising from modern age and thought to muffled ringing should be resisted to the full.

Bells have been rung for years to celebrate every mood and every occasion, grave and gay, for rich and poor alike. Who would ever dream of ringing 'open' for Good Friday, the most sad and solemn occasion in Christian history; or who would think of ringing muffled for 'The Day of Resurrection,' to tell it out abroad? It is the contrast that makes muffled ringing for its own occasions and purposes so stately, impressive—yes, and majestic. Long may it continue so.

Incidentally, at our last practice we had a distinguished ringer visitor, Mr. Ronald Dove. Our bells were muffled for one of our ringers, Harry Furber Holding, to be laid to rest the following day. Before the practice ended we walked some distance to the station for the sole purpose of hearing the muffled bells; we could see quite a number of people looking to where the ringing came from, and apparently enjoying it. They usually ask on Good Friday what it is that is different about the bells.

The retention of muffled ringing—there is nothing morbid about it—is more important to the Exercise than whether Bob Triples is or is not to be allowed.

**Moral:** a place for everything and everything in its place.

Crew.

W. FRANK STENSON.

A much appreciated gesture was the entertainment of the ringers who successfully rang a peal at Great Doddington, Northants, to tea by the incumbent.

## SYNTHETIC BELLS — A CONTRIBUTORY CAUSE

Dear Sir,—Artificial reproduction of bell sounds are an abomination, whether they be formed from recordings of actual bells or by some form of electronic device. Both lack the richness of harmonics of real bells, the former through lack of sensitivity and the latter from obvious monetary considerations.

The clergy up and down the country are consistently being reminded of this evil; this mockery of what for so many centuries has become part of the English way of life.

To be fair to the clergy, though, we must probe deeper into the problem and take into consideration both sides of the argument. Too many rings of bells, especially in country towers, to-day hang silent. The parishioners are called to worship Sunday by Sunday to the tolling of a single bell. It would be interesting to find out how many rings of bells actually do hang silent, disturbed only by an occasional visiting band. It is sometimes the case that a new ring of bells is hung in a tower where before there were only one or two. In many isolated country places these bells soon become silent.

Let us take the case of a clergyman whose former parish had one of these 'silent rings.' He arrives at a church with probably only a single bell. A parishioner approaches him on the possibility of the installation of an amplified system of recorded bells, which he, the parishioner, will pay for. What, in view of his previous experience, are his reactions to such a suggestion likely to be? Take also the case of a similarly situated clergyman whose bells which are hardly ever rung have become unsafe for ringing. Would it not be cheaper for him to hang the bells dead?

These are only a few incidents of the many which force the clergy to take a more enlightened view on artificial bells.

It is all very well to put forward wordy arguments against artificial bells. It is very well to say that any tower containing bells is a potential centre of ringing. It is all very well the 'potential' being there if there is insufficient energy to release it!

The only real and solid barrier to the encroachment of this mechanisation of bells is the human one! The silent towers must be peopled once more. It is the duty of every one of us, wherever possible, to train a new team for those towers, to aid those who are left to build afresh.

This is the only reply; theoretical arguments are of no avail without material backing.—Yours sincerely,

JOHN E. COOK.

Branston, Lincs.

## UNRINGABLE BELLS

Dear Sir,—I am working on a list of unringable towers throughout the country and I would appreciate the assistance of enthusiasts who would be prepared to send lists of unringable towers in their various counties.

This does not include Middlesex, Kent or Shropshire, as I have personally investigated these. If there are any counties so fortunate without black spots I would be glad of confirmation.

By unringable I mean all towers, from those whose bells lie cracked on the floor to those whose silence is due to the proverbial 'Parson's Gag.'—Sincerely yours,

ERNEST J. ROWE

3, Avenue Road, Tottenham, N.15.

## A FORMER PEAL AT WILLOUGHBY WATERLEYS

Dear Sir.—The peal at Willoughby Waterleys, Leicestershire, on May 28th, recalls vividly to my mind the occasion when I conducted the first peal on these bells on June 18th, 1927. The then Rector (the late Rev. E. A. Ingham, M.A.), once Precentor of Liverpool Cathedral, was given 'Standard Methods' to digest during the ringing. Although he was not a change ringer he wrote the following lines during our peal, which show his quick grasp of our 'ringing phrases and terms,' and will be of interest to present peal ringers:—

**TREBLE TO TENOR 'SNAPPING'**  
'Up' and 'down' and 'in' and 'out,'  
Do not 'course' if you have gout;  
'Hunting,' 'leading,' 'changes,' 'strokes,'  
Do not think that these are jokes.  
'Dodge the middle,' 'behind,' 'before,'  
Be a 'Bob' but not a bore.  
Don't go 'Wrong' but get 'right' 'home,'  
Else climb down from up the dome.  
'Maximus' is just a twelve,  
'Tuffings' not the only helve;  
'Minors,' 'Majors,' 'Triples' call  
Men of muscle, short or tall.  
'Caters,' 'Royal,' 'Cinques' there are,  
'Single,' 'Doubles' don't debar,  
Then you'll flourish 'touch' or 'peal'  
Show your nous and prove your zeal.

Sincerely yours,

ERNEST MORRIS.

Leicester.

## A COMPOSITION OF YORKSHIRE

Dear Sir.—In reply to Mr. Warwick, attention was drawn to the falseness of this composition to Yorkshire in 'The Ringing World,' No. 2,251, page 350. Confusion may have arisen in that a composition of Yorkshire in my name was inadvertently withdrawn in mistake for the false composition the week before. To the best of my knowledge this peal (Report No. 53/97) is not false.—Yours faithfully,

D. W. BEARD.

East Ham, E.6.

## REVERSE UNION BOB

Dear Sir,—The method mentioned by Mr. George Francis, which is St. Simon's with the 2-3 at the lead end instead of 2-5, was rung at Stanwell on or before February 15th, 1952, as Reverse Union Bob. Also Bampton had been rung before it was published in 'The Ringing World' as St. Faith's Place. Accordingly the names Bampton and Reverse Bampton should be changed.

All the plain Doubles methods, about 100, have been rung at Stanwell in the last two or three years, and unless you go on to methods with four blows occurring at other than trebles lead or tie there are no more to be named.

In the absence of any publication of Doubles methods I will willingly supply information about same on the receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.—Yours sincerely,

F. T. BLAGROVE.

1, Fells Cottages, West Bedfont,  
Near Staines, Middlesex.

## Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—J. L. Garner-Hayward 5s., Holy Trinity, Wandsworth, 5s.

Peal.—Castle Cary 4s.

Quarter Peals.—Belgrave 2s., Margate 2s., Chelsfield 2s. 6d., Marlow 2s. 6d., Henfield 5s., Henley-on-Thames 2s. 6d., Old Windsor 3s.

## OBITUARY

### MR. FRANK L. FISHER

With regret we record the death of Mr. Frank L. Fisher, of Ufford, Suffolk, on May 20th, at the age of 54, as briefly announced in our last issue. Frank began ringing immediately after the first world war and continued in his quiet way until late 1953, when illness compelled him to go into hospital where, with the exception of a few weeks at home and convalescent, he remained to within a week of his death, which occurred on May 20th.

One of the few East Anglian men who made a real study of Grandsire Triples, he had called Holt's Original from every bell, including the tenor, and from each pair of handbells. His peals, which numbered over 200 for the Suffolk Guild, included Surprise Major, Royal and Maximus.

Frank was a friend of everyone who knew him and Suffolk ringers feel his loss intensely, as shown by the many who attended his funeral, which took place on May 25th at Ufford, conducted by the Rector. In his address the Rector said Frank Fisher was an inspiring example of a man whom not even years of painful ill-health could turn from the assiduous worship of our Lord in His church. Sunday by Sunday until he was no longer physically capable of getting there, he would be seen at church at Sung Mass, Matins and Evensong.

He loved his bells and did great service in training as ringers any young people who desired his help. There is probably no better known ringer in Suffolk. It may seem a small thing, but every other day for many years he wound up the church clock—often at much inconvenience—a benefit shared by the whole village. He ended his life as he lived it—in faith and in the love of God.

### MR. HARRY FURBER HOLDING

We regret to record the death of Mr. Harry F. Holding, who died at the age of 64 and had been a ringer at Christ Church, Crewe, for 50 years.

He was known by ringers in many counties, having rung 230 peals, including one of 17,280 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, which took place at Over Parish Church on July 21st, 1923, taking ten hours to complete, and remaining a record for many years. He was a member of the regular Sunday service band and held the office of tower secretary for 30 years.

His remains were carried into Christ Church by his fellow ringers on the eve of his funeral on May 25th.

The bells were rung half-muffled on both occasions, the ringers being: Richard D. Langford, William Holding, George A. Packer, Wilfred Kerr, Ivor Nicholls, Frank Stenson, Steve Leyland, Jack Holloway, Malcolm Owen, Herbert Edge, Clifford Thomas, also Herbert Sutton, from Acton.

He will be greatly missed by his fellow ringers. R. D. L.

### MR. A. WEAVER

The death occurred on May 23rd at the Hamadryad Hospital, Cardiff, of Mr. Bert Weaver. 'Old Bert,' as he was affectionately called, was for many years captain and 'steeple-keeper' at St. Augustine's, Penarth.

Born at Marden, in Herefordshire, he was a carpenter by trade and for many years worked for Mr. William Greenleaf, the bellhanger, assisting in the rehanging of many rings of bells up and down the country. He later entered the service of the old Taff Vale Railway, later absorbed into the Great Western Railway. He was a regular attendant at Association meetings and his genial presence and quaint humour will be greatly missed. F. J. H.

### MR. PETER WOOD, SEN.

The sudden death of Mr. Peter Wood, sen., of Billingshurst, on May 23rd, came as a great shock to all who knew him. He was not a great peal ringer, having rung only three or four, but was one of those who never failed to fulfil his work for the church and service ringing.

He served St. Mary's Church well and truly for 57 years in choir and ringing and as head server for the latter years. R. W.

## 16 TOWERS VISITED DURING WHITSUN

A very enjoyable and successful week-end, mainly in Shropshire, was had by members of various Societies of 'Tower Grabbers.' The advance guard arrived in Shrewsbury on the Saturday afternoon and took part in a tour arranged by the assistant curate of St. Julian's, the Rev. A. James Vincent, himself a ringer. Towers visited (all sixes) were Westbury, Worthen, Bishop's Castle and Clunbury but Pulverbatch was reached so late that there was no one there to unlock the belfry door.

The non-arrival of expected ringers from Warwickshire and Somerset caused the cancellation of a tour on the Sunday afternoon, but service ringing was enjoyed at Shrewsbury, St. Chad's (12), in the morning and at two Staffordshire towers, Eccleshall (6) and Broughton (8), in the evening. Late on Sunday evening two well-known ringers arrived in the green Commer van from Truro, and with the co-operation of the incumbent enabled Little Wenlock to be 'bagged' early on Monday. Arriving at Much Wenlock (8), where the Hereford Guild were holding their 'annual,' the party was joined by members of the N.S.T.G. and rang here and at Coalbrookdale (10), Madeley (8) and Broseley (8). It was then decided to try to 'bag' Willey (5), and Michael Horseman's winning ways proved successful in obtaining permission. Morville (6) was the next 'official' tower, and here the band were met by the Vicar and captain. These two gentlemen suggested that the party should ring at Quatt Malvern, and permission was readily obtained for the use of these delightful six bells. The last tower was Powick (6) in Worcestershire, where the party, delayed by heavy returning holiday traffic, were grateful to find a local ringer patiently waiting for them. So ended a happy week-end, enjoyed by ringers from the counties of Cornwall, Devon, Monmouth and Somerset, joined by others from Bedfordshire, Staffordshire and elsewhere at certain of the towers. E. T. P. F.

## LATE NOTICES

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Chew Deanery.—Meeting, Kingston Seymour, June 18th, 4 o'clock. — Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 6487

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—Meeting at St. Mark's, Worsley, June 18th, 3 p.m. Business following tea. Names for tea to P. Derbyshire, 251, Beesley Green, Worsley, by 16th.—R. Benson. 6485

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Christchurch District. — Second quarterly meeting, Lymington, Saturday, June 18th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Tea. Business meeting follows. Lyndhurst bells (8) evening. Please notify for tea Arthur Davis, 116, Alma Road, Bournemouth. 6486

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch. — Meeting at Rostherne, June 25th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea please advise Mrs. N. Sanders, Old Chapel House, Reddy Lane, Millington, near Altrincham, by June 21st.—C. K. Lewis. 6489

## NOTICES

### Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s. 6d.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

### ENGAGEMENT

MUNDAY—RAWSON.—The engagement is announced between Ernest J., youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Munday, of The Orchard, Rogate, Sussex, and Monica Anthea Ann, daughter of the late Captain G. Coulthard Rawson, of Praxeds, Horley, Surrey, and of Mrs. G. Coulthard Rawson, of The Witch Ball, Horsham, Sussex. 6462

### PUBLICATIONS

NOTES FOR BEGINNERS.—12 short easy chapters. FIFTH EDITION ready end June. Order now. 5 or more, post free, at 5 for 2s. 6d. Less than 5, 6d. each, plus 3d. postage, etc.—W. G. Wilson, 28, Abbey Avenue, Alperston, Wembley. 6383

### MISCELLANEOUS

VISITING CORNWALL?—Are there any ringers visiting Cornwall August 6th-13th who would be interested in arranging some ringing? Own transport a help. Please contact: R. Short, Chilton Trinity, Bridgwater, Som. 6471

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

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

### MEETINGS

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Bath Branch.—An extra meeting will be held at Bathampton (6) on Saturday, June 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. F. Gooding, 2, Rose Cottages, Bathampton. 6464

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Dunster Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Huish Champflower, June 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea for number notified.—A. R. Tudball, Dunster. 6457

DEVON GUILD—Exeter Branch.—Meeting at Shobrooke (new tower for most), Saturday, June 11th. Bells on arrival. Service 4.30 p.m., conducted by the president. Tea 5 p.m. Catering by local ladies. Extra support this time, please!—F. Wreford, 24, Normandy Road, Exeter. 6436

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD. — Coleman's Hatch (8), June 11th. Names to John Ryman, Vicarage Cottage, Coleman's Hatch, Hartfield. —C. A. Bassett. 6456

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—A limited number of ringers are invited to the following lectures at Clarence House, Thaxted:—Change ringing: 10-12.30. Saturday, June 11th; Construction of Bells: 2.30-4.15, Saturday, June 11th; Growth of the Parish Church: 2.30-3.45, Sunday, June 12th. 6484

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Gloucester Branch. — Meeting, Witcombe (6), June 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow.—A. Lynall, Marlyn, Ermin Park, Brockworth, Gloucester. 6458

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting, Tortworth (6), June 11th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Notify for tea.—Mary Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 6459

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Farnham District.—Meeting at Crondall (6) on Saturday, June 11th, from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. (Note change of meeting place from Farnborough, as per programme.)—G. S. Joyce, Hon. Dis. Sec. 6423

**HERTS ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—June 11th, Great Hormead 3 p.m. Names for tea (5 p.m.) by Thursday, 9th, to Mrs. A. J. Baker, 18, Willow Close, Great Hormead, Nr. Buntingford. Ringing at Braughing from 6 p.m.—T. J. Southam. 6446

**HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—Tring (8), Saturday, June 11th, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. Badrick, 53, Western Road, Tring, Herts.—R. Shutter, Dis. Sec. 6452

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—Practice meeting at Chelsfield, Saturday, June 11th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting at Rochdale Parish Church, June 11th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. No tea arrangements; plenty of cafes. Business 6.30.—F. Pritchard. 6455

**MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at Willesden on Saturday, June 11th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. with tea and business to follow. Buses 660 and 664, alight at the White Hart, or Neasden Underground Station, turn right and 5 minutes' walk. 6434

**MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.**—Next meeting, Netherseale, on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify W. F. Woodward, Netherseale, Burton-on-Trent. 6441

**NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting, Stone, Saturday, June 11th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—E. H. Edge, Hon. Sec. 6461

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Central Bucks Branch.—Annual meeting at Wingrave, Saturday, June 11th. Bells (6) 2.45 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Names for tea.—F. Gibbard, 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks. 6454

**SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.**—Meeting at St. Mary's, Nottingham, Saturday, June 11th. Bells available 3 p.m. Own arrangements for tea. Old and new members welcome.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Proposed meeting, Beccles, June 11th, postponed to July 16th. Early cards for tea, please.—C. W. Pipe, Grundisburgh. 6488

**SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—Cancellation of meeting at Rudgwick on June 11th. Will be held at Warnham on the same day. 6491

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Wirral Branch.—Meeting, Wallasey St. Nicholas, June 18th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea free for those notifying by 15th.—Alexander J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 6480

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Dullingham, Saturday, June 18th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Weston Colville (5) after tea.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 6469

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Hunts District.—Meeting at Brampton (5) Saturday, June 18th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. S. Peacock, D's Sec. 6470

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Cirencester Branch.—Coln-St. Denis (5), Saturday, June 18th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15. Bibury (6) 6.30 p.m.—R. Wenban, Williamstrip Cottages, Coln-St. Aldwyn, Cirencester. 6467

**GUILDFORD GUILD.**—Leatherhead District.—Meeting, Cobham, June 18th. Bells from 3. Service 4.30. Tea in Church Room 5. Please help the ladies by sending numbers, by June 15th, to Ann Moore, Chippings, Ickleham Road, Cobham.—A. H. Smith. 6451

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—St. Albans District.—Meeting, Monken Hadley and Barnet, Saturday, June 18th. Bells available: Monken Hadley (8) 3 to 5; Barnet (8) 6 p.m. Please make own arrangements for tea.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 6465

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—By-meeting at Gillingham on Saturday, June 18th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea, by Monday, June 13th, to Mr. L. Harmer, 138, Woodlands Road, Gillingham.—Cyril S. Jarrett, Hon. Sec. 6449

**LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.**—Ringing anniversary, Saturday, June 18th. Bells available 2-5 and 6-8. Old friends and new all welcome.—Stedman H. Symonds. 6483

**LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Hinckley District.—Claybrooke, June 18th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea at Village Hall, Ullesthorpe, 5.15. Please notify, by June 15th, Miss S. Proctor, College Street, Ullesthorpe, Rugby. 6472

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Gainsborough District.—Next meeting, Owston Ferry, Saturday, June 18th. Bells (6) afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify me by Tuesday previous.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Crow Garth, Lee, Gainsborough (Tel. 2623). 6399

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—North Norfolk Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Northrepps on Saturday, June 18th. Bells (6) from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. for those who send names or numbers, not later than Wednesday, June 15th, to Rev. E. W. Blyth, The Rectory, Northrepps, Cromer.—H. Tooke, Branch Sec. 6482

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Chipping Norton Branch.—Annual meeting, Shipton-under-Wychwood (8) on Saturday, June 18th. Service 4 p.m. Tea afterwards. All ringers welcome.—J. Keyte, Branch Sec., Charlbury. 6476

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South Oxon Branch.—A meeting will be held at Great Milton on Saturday, June 18th. Ringing at 3. Service at 4. Tea afterwards for those who notify me not later than June 14th.—H. Badger, Branch Sec., The Blue Man, Thame, Oxon. 6476

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Towcester Branch.—The 25th anniversary meeting at Wicken on June 18th. Service 3.30. Names for tea, by June 11th, to W. A. Yates, Welsh Lane, Boycott, Buckingham. 6460

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Dorset Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Maiden Bradley, Wilts, on Saturday, June 18th. Visitors welcome. Write Rev. William Uphill, Stour Provost Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset. 6466

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Annual meeting, Lichfield, June 18th. Bells: Cathedral (10) 2.30-3.15 and 6.30-7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's (8) and St. Michael's (6), also available during afternoon and evening. Service at St. Mary's 3.45 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, June 15th, to Fred Bennett, Pool House Road, Wombourne. 6439

Preliminary notice. The joint meeting with the Shropshire Association and Hereford Guild will take place at Walsall on July 9th. 6439

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting at Charlwood, June 18th. Bells (6) 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names for tea by June 15th to A. J. Ede, 1, Claremont Villas, Charlwood. 6437

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Uckfield, June 18th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea, by June 15th, to: C. W. Linington, 11, Queen's Drive, Hassocks. 6468

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The annual quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 18th, at Horbury. Horbury and Ossett bells available from 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in

the Co-operative Cafe, Horbury, followed by business meeting. Special business: Election of officers. Subscriptions are now due and Association reports for 1954 available. All names for tea should be sent, by Wednesday, June 15th, to Mr. M. Hunt, The Lodge, Dovecot Lane, Horbury, Wakefield.—A. E. Marsh, Hon. Dis. Sec. 6448

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Summer festival, Leighton Buzzard (10), Saturday, June 25th, 3 p.m. Good attendance, please. Names for tea, before 23rd, please, to Mr. B. Witney, 25, Mentmore Road, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. 6479

**HALIFAX ASSOCIATION.**—Annual prize contest, Cawthorne, June 25th. Entrance fee 10s, to A. Farrand, 12, Greenhill Cottages, Roughtown, Mossley, Manchester. For teas, notify, by June 18th, N. F. Moxon, Green Gables, Cawthorne, Barnsley.—A. Farrand, Sec. 6475

**LADIES' GUILD.**—North Eastern District.—Will hold a meeting at Staindrop on Saturday, June 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea and the business meeting. Names for tea, by Saturday, June 18th, to Mrs. Shields, The Central Cafe, Staindrop (price 2s. 3d.). A special bus has been arranged to leave Bewick Street, Newcastle, at 2 p.m., but so far only 11 seats have been booked. Will anyone interested please communicate with Mrs. N. I. Lea, 9, St. Vincent Street, South Shields. In the event of the bus not being filled, anyone who has booked a seat will be informed of cancellation. 6473

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Meeting, Gedney Hill, June 25th. Usual times. Names for tea by June 18th to J. E. Allen, 31, Quadring Road, Donington, Spalding. 6490

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—Summer outing, Saturday, June 25th, to Northants District. Ringing at Chalcombe (6), Sulgrave (6), Daventry (8) (tea), Staverton (6), Southam (8). All welcome. Details and reserving tea, please contact Miss Lottie Pimm, Eynsham, Oxford. Phone: Eynsham 222. 6450

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Northampton Branch.—Meeting at Pitsford, Saturday, June 25th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, by June 20th, to G. F. Roope, 116, Derby Road, Northampton. 6463

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Rutland Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Edith-weston (6) on Saturday, June 25th. Names for tea, by June 21st, to E. E. Gibson, Estant, Thistleton Road, Market Overton, near Oakham, Rutland. 6481

**SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.**—Annual festival, Knighton, Radnorshire, Saturday, June 25th. Bells (8) available 2 p.m. and also after meeting. Service 3.30 p.m. Preacher: Rev. T. E. Griffiths, Rector of New Radnor. Tea (4s.) and meeting to follow. Names for tea by June 11th.—J. A. Hoare, 6, Gendros Crescent, Fforestfach, Swansea. 6432

**THAMES VALLEY RINGING FESTIVAL.**—June 25th. Ringing at Egham, Staines (St. Mary's) and Wraysbury at 2.30, and Chertsey, Staines (St. Peter's) and Old Windsor at 6. Service 4.30 at Egham. Tea 5 at Egham. Names for tea, by Wednesday, 22nd, to D. S. Froome, 39, Manor Way, Egham, Surrey. 6428

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—Annual meeting, Howden (8) on Saturday, June 25th. Names for tea to Mr. E. A. Newnham, 31, Pinfold Street, Howden, near Goole. Business: Election of officers, etc.—H. S. Morley, 40, New Lane, Selby. 6474

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Preliminary Notice: Annual general meeting and festival, Saturday, July 16th (D.V.), Oxford.—W. Hibbert, Gen. Sec. 6477

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