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**A MATTER OF FINANCE.**

The time will soon be coming when most of the leading guilds and associations hold their annual meetings, and already many of the annual branch meetings, the necessary preliminaries to the more general gatherings, have been held. These annual meetings are a very important and necessary feature in the life of the Exercise, for they not only give the men who are responsible for the organisation of ringing an opportunity of obtaining renewed confidence from the rank and file, but they also give the ordinary members, if they think fit, an opportunity of expressing their views on the working and policy of the association. It would not be a good thing for any guild if there were an impression among its members that it was controlled by a handful of men who kept everything in their own hands. No doubt in normal conditions when once an association has settled down into good working order under an efficient secretary there is a general wish and tendency among the members to leave things as they are and not to interfere; and so the proceedings at an annual meeting sometimes rather tend to become formal and perfunctory. That is a tendency which should be carefully watched, for the more the average members interest themselves in the working of their association the stronger will be the body and the easier the work of its officials.

In this present year it is more essential than ever that ringers should concern themselves about the welfare and future of the guilds they belong to. We have just come through a great upheaval which, though it has left the Exercise and its organisation outwardly unaltered, has actually in many respects profoundly changed everything. It will not be known for many years what the full effect of the war on change ringing and the Exercise will be, but there is one problem which will have to be faced without delay, and that is the question of finance.

Compared with the results achieved the cost of running an association is exceedingly light. The service rendered is practically always voluntary, and the secretary's expenses, consisting of postages and stationery, would represent almost all the financial liability, but for one thing. It is the annual report issued by most associations which accounts for the greater part of the expenditure, and here is a matter which should engage the attention of all ringers.

That the annual report is worth while and a source of strength is hardly open to question; much would be lost if the annual statement, showing the names of the mem-

(Continued on page 70.)

bers, the peals rung, and the general progress made, were discontinued. That, however, must happen in many cases unless a special effort is made. The task of compiling and collecting the material has always been undertaken voluntarily and will be so in the future; but the paper and the printing must be paid for, and however much economy is practised, it will hardly be possible in future to issue an average annual report at less than three times the cost of the pre-war copies. Within these last two or three weeks there has been a substantial increase in the general rates of printing.

Some of the wealthier associations have substantial cash balances and could afford to meet the extra cost from their reserves. Such a plan might be popular, but it would be financially unsound, and no more than a temporary expedient. There is but one sound device, and that is for all guilds alike to increase substantially their annual subscriptions. It might be disliked by many members, but sooner or later it will have to be done unless the associations are content to lower drastically their standards of efficiency.

Ringers are very prone to forget at times how very cheaply they get their pastime and recreation. Many seem to think (unconsciously no doubt) that, because bell ringing in some of its aspects is church work, they are entitled to have everything free of cost. It would be wrong not to recognise that ringing is, or should be, church work, but for the majority of ringers it is something else; and the men who reap the advantages brought by that something else ought not to grudge a contribution to the cost entailed. To do them justice we do not believe they will do so when the facts are brought before them.

## TWELVE BELL PEAL.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE TOWN HALL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 42½ cwt.

JOHN WORTH ... .. Treble	*ALAN J. BROWN ... .. 7
*WILLIAM CARNWELL ... .. 2	PETER LAFLIN ... .. 8
C. KENNETH LEWIS ... .. 3	ALBERT FORD ... .. 9
*MARY ELKIN ... .. 4	FREDERICK R. WILLIAMS ... .. 10
HERBERT LUDKIN ... .. 5	CHARLES H. PAGE ... .. 11
W. W. WOLSTENCROFT ... .. 6	RICHARD BENSON ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

\* First peal of Treble Twelve.

## TEN BELL PEAL.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1946, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALPHEGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

JOHN N. JUKES ... .. Treble	DANIEL T. MATKIN ... .. 6
HENRY H. FEARN ... .. 2	JOHN BRAGG ... .. 7
HAROLD R. HOFTON ... .. 3	THOMAS H. REEVES ... .. 8
*G. WM. CRITCHLEY ... .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN ... .. 9
†EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... .. 5	JOHN PINFOLD ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR C. SHEPHERD.

\* First peal of Grandsire Caters. † 100th peal.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1946, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWARD J. BEER ... .. Treble	WALTER H. DOBBIE ... .. 5
MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS ... .. 2	GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. 6
MRS. ELLEN E. DAVIS ... .. 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... .. 7
*KENNETH W. MAYER ... .. 4	GEORGE J. BUTCHER ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

\* First peal in the method inside.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1946, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*BASIL JONES ... .. Treble	JAMES A. MILNER ... .. 5
JAMES FERNLEY ... .. 2	C. KENNETH LEWIS ... .. 6
WILLIAM FERNLEY ... .. 3	†PETER LAFLIN ... .. 7
†ALAN J. BROWN ... .. 4	JOHN WORTH ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. WASHBROOK. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

\* First peal. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal in the method inside.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTY'S GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1946, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.	
*GORDON HARRISON ... .. Treble	JOSEPH H. BRITAIN ... .. 5
ARTHUR SHARPE ... .. 2	GEORGE RODEN ... .. 6
SIDNEY D. AINGER ... .. 3	BARNABAS G. KEY ... .. 7
WILLIAM J. LEACH ... .. 4	EDWARD WHITE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by B. G. KEY.

\* First peal. First peal for the Guild.

BRENCHLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Feb. 3, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

F. J. LAMBERT, SEN. ... .. Treble	WILLIAM ROGERS ... .. 5
ALFRED W. DURHAM ... .. 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... .. 6
*FRANCIS BROMLEY ... .. 3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... .. 7
THOMAS E. SONE ... .. 4	PHILIP A. CORBY ... .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

\* First peal in the method.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., Feb. 4, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

JAMES F. HARVEY ... .. Treble	WM. B. CARTWRIGHT ... .. 5
H. JAMES TURNER ... .. 2	HENRY H. FEARN ... .. 6
*EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... .. 3	JOHN PINFOLD ... .. 7
*G. WM. CRITCHLEY ... .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WM. B. CARTWRIGHT.

\* First peal in the method.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Feb. 4, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S.	
FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... .. Treble	FREDERICK A. COLLEY ... .. 5
JAMES E. BAILEY ... .. 2	PHILIP A. CORBY ... .. 6
JOHN WHEADON ... .. 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... .. 7
JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... .. 4	EDWIN BARNETT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. E. AUDSLEY.

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**BEXLEY, KENT.**  
**THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**  
*On Wed., Feb. 6, 1946, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,  
**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
 HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... *Treble* | JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... 5  
 FREDK. J. CULLUM ... 2 | GEORGE H. CROSS ... 6  
 EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 3 | HARRY HOVERD ... 7  
 FREDERICK A. COLEY ... 4 | JAMES E. BAILEY ... *Tenor*  
 Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

**LEICESTER.**  
**THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**  
*On Thurs., Feb. 7, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,  
**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
 MIDDLETON'S. *Tenor 16 cwt.*  
 JOSIAH MORRIS ... *Treble* | ERNEST MORRIS ... 5  
 ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 2 | SIDNEY O. CHENEY ... 6  
 \*C. W. H. POWELL ... 3 | HAROLD J. POOLE ... 7  
 ALFRED BALLARD ... 4 | G. STEDMAN MORRIS ... *Tenor*  
 Conducted by GEORGE STEDMAN MORRIS.  
 \* First peal in the method.

**LONDON.**  
**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD**  
*On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS,  
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**  
 HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. *Tenor 18 cwt.*  
 GEORGE M. KILBY ... *Treble* | REUBEN SANDERS ... 5-  
 WILLIAM H. HEWITT ... 2 | THOMAS J. LOCK ... 6  
 ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 3 | PHILIP A. CORBY ... 7  
 J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 4 | RUPERT RICHARDSON ... *Tenor*  
 Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.  
 A thanksgiving for the life and work of Charles T. Coles.

**CRAYFORD, KENT.**  
**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**  
*On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,  
**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**  
*Tenor 12½ cwt.*  
 FREDERICK A. COLEY ... *Treble* | HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 5  
 EDWIN BARNETT ... 2 | HARRY HOVERD ... 6  
 EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 3 | FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 7  
 \*GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 4 | CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... *Tenor*  
 Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.  
 \* First peal in the method. A tribute of respect to Mr. C. T. Coles.

**SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM.**  
**THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**  
*On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,  
**A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
 ALLEN MORGAN ... *Treble* | CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 5  
 GEORGE E. LARGE ... 2 | WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... 6  
 SIDNEY T. HOLT ... 3 | REGINALD WOODYATT ... 7  
 THOMAS HEMMING ... 4 | GEORGE AMBLER ... *Tenor*  
 Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT.

**BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.**  
**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**  
*On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND LAWRENCE,  
**A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**  
*Tenor 14½ cwt.*  
 JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... *Treble* | JACK G. BROTHWELL ... 5  
 WALTER ALLWOOD ... 2 | LESLIE W. BACON ... 6  
 \*CYRIL R. WRIGHT ... 3 | A. BENJAMIN COOPER ... 7  
 GEORGE L. CHAMBERS ... 4 | JOHN E. TURLEY ... *Tenor*  
 Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by J. E. TURLEY.  
 \* First peal in the method.

**BURNHAM, BUCKS.**  
**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**  
*On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,  
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
*Tenor 16 cwt.*  
 WILLIAM HENLEY ... *Treble* | H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... 5  
 GEORGE C. GOODMAN ... 2 | JESSE ELDRIDGE ... 6  
 RONALD C. NOON ... 3 | HARRY WINGROVE ... 7  
 GEORGE MARTIN ... 4 | FRANK H. HICKS ... *Tenor*  
 Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.  
 First peal as conductor.

**LLANFRECHFA, MON.**  
**THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION**  
*On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,  
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
*Tenor 7 cwt.*  
 \*THOMAS STEPHENS ... *Treble* | GEORGE LARGE ... 5  
 CLEMENT GLENN ... 2 | BRIAN D. PRICE ... 6  
 JOHN W. JONES ... 3 | \*JOHN ALSOP ... 7  
 ALFRED W. HEATH ... 4 | A. PATRICK CANNON ... *Tenor*  
 Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.  
 \* First peal on eight bells.

**LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.**  
**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**  
*On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,  
**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
*Tenor 13 cwt.*  
 LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... *Treble* | FRED HODGSON ... 5  
 GEORGE ROBINSON ... 2 | FREDERICK SEAGER ... 6  
 WILLIAM H. SENIOR ... 3 | ERNEST H. SIMPSON ... 7  
 RALPH G. EDWARDS ... 4 | ALFRED SMITH ... *Tenor*  
 Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.  
 In memoriam, Charles T. Coles.

**SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.**

**BRAFELD, NORTHEANTS.**  
**THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**  
*On Thurs., Jan. 31, 1946, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,  
**A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**  
 Being 240 Stedman, 960 Antelope, 720 April Day, 720 Reverse Canterbury, 720 St. Simon's, 840 Plain Bob and 840 Grand sire. *Tenor 12 cwt.*  
 GEORGE CARE ... *Treble* | GEOFFREY GAYTON ... 3  
 EDWARD ROBINSON ... 2 | WILLIAM R. HAMMONS ... 4  
 RONALD C. NOON ... *Tenor*  
 Conducted by RONALD C. NOON.

**MONK BRETTON, YORKSHIRE.**  
**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**  
*On Sat., Feb. 2, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,  
**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**  
 Being 720 each of Kent, Oxford, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Sandal, College Exercise and Norbury. *Tenor 10½ cwt.*  
 WILLIE GREEN ... *Treble* | JOHN WM. MOXON ... 4  
 GEORGE CUTT ... 2 | ERNEST CUTT ... 5  
 \*ARTHUR FIRTH ... 3 | DANIEL SMITH ... *Tenor*  
 Conducted by D. SMITH  
 \* First peal of Minor in seven methods.

**GREAT DALBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.**  
**THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**  
*On Sat., Feb. 2, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,  
**A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**  
 Being four 120's each of April Day, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob and 30 of Grand sire. *Tenor 11 cwt.*  
 \*WILFRED L. GOODACRE *Treble* | \*T. EDWARD COOPER ... 3  
 ERNEST MORRIS ... 2 | \*CHARLES E. COOPER ... 4  
 \*HAROLD T. BONSHOR ... *Tenor*  
 Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.  
 \* First peal.

**LLANELLY, BRECONSHIRE.**  
**THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**  
*On Wed., Feb. 6, 1946, in Three Hours,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELI,  
**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**  
*Tenor 13 cwt.*  
 Seven different 720's. *Tenor 13 cwt.*  
 \*THOMAS STEPHENS ... *Treble* | BRIAN D. PRICE ... 4  
 \*JACK ALSOP ... 2 | ROBERT STEPHENS ... 5  
 \*ROBERT ALSOP ... 3 | A. PATRICK CANNON ... *Tenor*  
 Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.  
 \* First peal.

**WHICKHAM, CO. DURHAM.**  
**THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**  
*On Wed., Feb. 6, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,*  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,  
**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**  
 One extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. *Tenor 8 cwt.*  
 STEPHEN THOMPSON ... *Treble* | JOHN ANDERSON ... 4  
 \*S. THOMPSON, JUN. ... 2 | \*JOHN JACKSON ... 5  
 KENNETH ARTHUR ... 3 | WM. J. DAVIDSON ... *Tenor*  
 Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.  
 \* First peal in seven methods.

## CASTON, NORFOLK.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

## A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising an extent each of Single Court, Oxford Bob, Double Court,  
Plain Bob, St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob.  
Tenor 9 cwt.

*NELSON W. BANHAM ... Treble	WILFRED G. SAUNDERS... 4
*CHARLES E. G. BANHAM ... 2	LESLIE W. HOUGHTON ... 5
NOLAN GOLDEN ... 3	F. CHARLES GOODMAN ... Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal in seven methods.

## HALSALL, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

## A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise, two of Oxford and Kent  
Treble Bob, and one of Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN LUNHAM ... Treble	WILFRED CORE ... 4
THOMAS W. HAMMOND... 2	ARTHUR MAWDESLEY ... 5
THOMAS HORRIDGE ... 3	JOSEPH RIDYARD ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

## DAVENHAM, CHESHIRE.

## THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,

## A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and one  
extent each of Double Oxford, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.  
Tenor 15 cwt.

MISS NANCY M. EVANS... Treble	HARRY W. HOWARD ... 4
REGINALD W. WORRELL... 2	HARRY PARKER ... 5
MISS D. C. OSBORN ... 3	ERIC NOBLES ... Tenor

Conducted by H. PARKER.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

## ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

## THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 31, 1946, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes,  
AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF SPLICED KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR,  
5024 CHANGES;

2,496 Kent and 2,528 Oxford, with 46 changes of method.  
ERIC A. DENCH ... 1-2 | JOHN THOMAS ... 5-6  
MRS. J. THOMAS ... 3-4 | CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7-8  
Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

## ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

## THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1946, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,  
AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

## HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

*LUCILA M. HUBBERT ... 1-2	ERIC A. DENCH ... 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS ... 3-4	JOHN THOMAS ... 7-8

Conducted by J. THOMAS.

\* First peal of Triples in hand.

## BOURNEMOUTH.

## THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Feb. 3, 1946, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,  
AT ST. PETER'S HALL,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

## MATHEWS' TWELVE-PART.

MARY E. DAVIS ... 1-2	ARTHUR V. DAVIS ... 5-6
PERCY W. BRAYSHAW ... 3-4	MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 7-8

Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

NORTON SUBCOURSE, NORFOLK.—On Sunday, January 27th,  
1,440 Bob Minor: A. Walpole 1, E. Brown 2, K. Brown 3, B. Barber 4,  
S. Fenn (conductor) 5, G. Walpole 6.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

## THE

# LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

**RECENT LOSSES.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I was deeply sorry to learn of the passing of my old friend, Tom Coles, and your leading article strikes the right note when you say his life and work is an example, an inspiration and a challenge to the younger generation. Tom Coles struggled hard early this century to handle a bell well, and we wanted him to stick it and make progress, for it could plainly be seen that he had organising ability, a valuable asset; especially in those days. He was no North and East District ringer of his association only; he did splendid work for the South and West portion as well. In handbell ringing he could not get far, but though it was galling to him not to be able to do much, he could not stay away from nearing handbell peals, in fact he arranged peals at his home.

When Arthur T. King finished his period of office for the Middlesex Association, the hour produced the man to follow on, and Tom undertook a task which brought out all his best qualities. As a ringer at the front end his striking was a shining example, and as a conductor he was unselfish, for he could have called many peals, but he preferred to pass the conducting round and give others a chance. Undoubtedly Tom did his best for ringers and ringing, and the Exercise is the poorer through his passing. It has been said that peal ringers are often selfish, but Tom Coles proved otherwise, for encouragement of others was not only his aim, but he carried it out in a practical manner.

Death has also lost us Ernest Marsh, another fine example to the young ringer. His father sowed good seed before him, and Ernie followed up the work with unmistakable zeal and energy. Though limited for towers compared with other areas, he was not afraid to go outside Plymouth and help the six-bell ringers. Truly the Devon Guild have every reason to be proud of a man like Ernest Marsh. Who would be keen enough to travel over 200 miles to take part in a peal with a father and three sons, who were old friends of his? Yet Ernie Marsh, having a desire to see them, and score a peal with them, fulfilled this desire in 1913. A fine ringer and a splendid organiser, his loss will be very much felt in the district where he was based.

W. SHEPHERD.

Hersham.

Dear Sir,—May I endorse the very fine tribute to the late Charles T. Coles contained in your leader this week? He it was who gave me opportunities of ringing a peal of Cambridge Maximus at Southwark Cathedral, and calling a peal of Stedman Cinques there, occasions which prove his greatness of heart, and the number of ringers to whom similar kindnesses were extended by him must be legion. He was both an excellent ringer and conductor and by no means least was he a most competent and able organiser, as those who have been associated with him on ringing tours can well testify. He was one of the rare few, loved and respected by all, and his passing removes from our ranks one whose place will indeed be hard to fill.

LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

Dear Sir,—I was very sorry to read of the death of Mr. Charles T. Coles and I would like to express my sympathy to his family. As a member of the Central Council I met Mr. Coles several times, and at Birmingham last year he called my 300th peal. He was a highly respected and valuable member of the Council.

T. E. SONE.

Paddock Wood, Kent.

**'RESTORED PEALS'**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Do peals have to be recast before they can be described as having been 'completely restored'? I ask this on reading your note that the Salford Priors peal is 'the first complete restoration of a peal since the war.'

I suppose, for instance, that the Heydour (Lincs) peal, rededicated December 22nd last, as reported in your issue of January 11th, can be regarded as having been only partially restored?

J. OLDHAM.

Loughborough.

**DEATH OF MR. HENRY B. BURT.**

The death is announced of Mr. Henry B. Burt, who for many years had been tower keeper and captain of the band at St. Matthew's, Kingsdown, Bristol.

The funeral service on February 9th was attended by a representative body of ringers from the two Bristol branches of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, who rang half-muffled touches before and after the service. Mr. Burt learned to ring at St. Nicholas', Bristol, and was for a time chairman of the Bristol Branch of the Diocesan Association.

**DEATH OF MR. JAMES HUNT.**

The death of Mr. James Hunt, of Leyton, at the age of 62, occurred on January 29th under tragic circumstances during the course of his duties on the railway. He had been a ringer at Leyton since 1929. The interment at the City of London Cemetery on February 4th was attended by Mr. C. A. Hughes and Mr. G. Dawson.

**AMESBURY, WILTS.**

Two new trebles, added by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. to the ring at Amesbury, near Salisbury, to complete the octave, have been dedicated by the Bishop of Salisbury.

The congregation was one of the largest ever seen in the church and included representatives of the Amesbury Parish Council, the Methodist Church, the Amesbury Fire Brigade, the Amesbury Division of the Wilts Constabulary and the Wilts and Dorset Motor Services.

Before the service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung by H. Franks, H. Abrahams, C. Wenham, W. Abrahams, W. A. Theobald and E. Mundy, conducted by W. A. Theobald. All are members of the local band except the conductor.

After the service various touches were rung by visiting ringers from Sarum St. Thomas', Wishford, South Newton, Tisbury and local ringers.

The oldest bells of the existing six are two hung in 1619 and made by John Wallis, the first of a Salisbury firm of bell founders. The last member of the firm, John Tozier, made the sixth bell, which bears the date 1715: No. 1 bell is inscribed, 'Come at God's call. I.W. 1619,' and No. 5, 'Be strong in fayth prayes God well. Francis Countess Hertfords Bell. I.W. 1619.' The Earl of Hertford, brother of Jane Seymour, and afterwards Duke of Somerset and Lord Protector, was presented with the abbey and lands at Amesbury by Henry VIII.

**THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES**

February 10th, 1854. The St. James' Society rang the first peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells.

February 11th, 1810. The spire of St. Nicholas', Liverpool, crashed when the bells were ringing for service. Twenty-three people killed and many injured.

1873. At Benington, 5,600 Cambridge Surprise Major. The first true peal in the method.

February 12th, 1821. At Oldham, 14,016 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 7 hours and 26 minutes.

1853. William Wakley born.

February 13th, 1848. At Aston, the first peal of Kent Treble Bob Caters.

February 14th, 1731. At St. Michael's, Cornhill, the College Youths rang 7,018 Grandsire Cinques.

1836. Joseph Tebbs died, aged 68.

1903. At Rammoor, Sheffield, the first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major.

1920. At Painswick, 13,001 Grandsire Cinques.

February 15th, 1825. At Oldham, 9,999 Grandsire Major. Composition false.

February 16th, 1789. At Aston, 14,224 Bob Major.

1790. At Cambridge, 6,000 Oxford Treble Bob Royal.

**SERVICE TOUCHES.**

**BOB MINOR.**

The 720 Bob Minor given in our issue of February 1st was composed by J. J. Parker as far back as 1882, and as a composition is of unusual interest. We copied it, however, from a fifty-year-old manuscript collection, in which the singles in one of the two variations of the 720 were misplaced, making it false. The following are the correct figures:—

	720		720
	23456		23456
S	32564 1	S	24356 5
	32645 1		24563 1
	32456 1		24635 1
	25643 2		43562 2
	25436 1		43625 1
S	52364 1	S	34256 1
	35264 5		34562 1

Each four times repeated.

**DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Doncaster and District Society was held at Doncaster on January 26th. Sixty ringers were present, including Mr. H. Walker, of York, the first secretary of the society when it was formed in 1925, and Mr. G. Halksworth, the society's first committee chairman. The ringers were from Arksey, Adwick-le-Street, Bawtry, Darnby Don, Campsall, Felkirk, Fishlake, Gamston, Goole, Retford and the local belfry. Service was conducted by the Rev. Canon L. Davies.

The statement of accounts was accepted. Mr. W. E. Critchley was appointed hon. secretary for three years, and Mr. F. Newsome as peal secretary.

The Walker Cup, for the best attendance at Sunday ringing, was won by Felkirk, and was presented by the donor, Mr. H. Walker, to the secretary, Mr. D. Smith.

The secretary reported that vicars of several churches in the district possessing a ring of bells had agreed to become vice-presidents of the society.

The methods rung during the evening included Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich Major, Grandsire, Oxford Bob and Stedman Triples.

# THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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### 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

**The official Journal of the Central Council of  
Church Bell Ringers.**

*President of the Council:* EDWIN H. LEWIS, M.A.

*Hon. Secretary of the Council:* GEORGE W. FLETCHER,  
The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.

*Treasurer of 'The Ringing World':* A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,  
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Fletcher, The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk, and  
not to the Editor.

#### THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

##### PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The second session of the nineteenth Council (49th  
annual meeting) will be held on Whitsun Tuesday, June  
11th, 1946, in the City Council Chamber, City Hall, Nor-  
wich (by kind permission of the Lord Mayor).

Notices of motions should be in the hands of the  
honorary secretary not less than two calendar months  
previous to the meeting.

Secretaries are reminded that affiliation fees are now  
due.

G. W. FLETCHER,  
Hon. Sec.

The Cambridge Surprise Major at St. Margaret's, Leicester, was  
the first peal on the new Margaret octave.

The ringer of the third in the peal at Merton, Surrey, on January  
28th, was Wilkins Massey, not William Massey. Correspondents are  
again asked to be careful to write out their reports clearly and  
accurately.

The Stedman Triples at St. Giles-in-the-Fields on February 9th was  
the 400th peal rung by Mr. Ernest C. S. Turner.

#### THE GREAT BELL OF COLOGNE.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In your issue of January 18th an interesting letter on  
the Great Bell of Cologne from the pen of Mr. John F. Ballinger con-  
tained a copy of the inscription on the old Kaiser Bell. A number  
of your readers will doubtless have made some acquaintance with the  
German language in the course of their military service, and any  
such may have observed that the last clause as reproduced does not  
quite make sense. As an interesting experiment in textual criticism I  
conjecture that the word 'Ehre,' meaning 'Honour,' has been omitted  
—perhaps by an error in the guide book. The inscription would then  
conclude with the lines, 'Dass Fried and Ehr' Ihm Gott bescheer.'  
With this tentative emendation the whole inscription would run in  
English:—

'The Kaiser Bell I am called,  
The Kaiser's honour I praise:  
On holy watch I stand,  
For the German Kingdom I beseech,  
That God may bestow on it peace and honour.'

At a later date the verger at the Cathedral told me that the new  
bell replacing the Kaiserglocke weighed 20 tons.

Bournemouth.

F. LI. EDWARDS.

## THE LATE CHARLES T. COLES.

### FUNERAL AT WALTHAMSTOW.

On Saturday last, the funeral took place at Walthamstow of Mr. Charles Thomas Coles, who had passed away suddenly on the previous Saturday. The service in St. Mary's, the parish church, was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon G. D. Oakley, and the bells were rung half-muffled as the cortege arrived at the church. The interment was in the family grave in Chingford Cemetery, and after the interment a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the graveside by Messrs. J. A. Trollope, J. F. Smallwood, E. C. S. Turner and Rupert Richardson. A large number of relatives and friends were present.

The family mourners were Mrs. C. T. Coles (widow), Mr. C. T. W. Coles and Lieut. A. F. Coles, R.N.V.R. (sons), Mrs. Hurle and Miss D. Coles (daughters), Mrs. L. Coles (mother), Mr. A. W. Coles (brother), Mrs. Munns, Mrs. Keeler, Mrs. A. W. Coles and Mrs. Dakenfull (sisters-in-law), Mrs. C. T. W. Coles and Mrs. F. Coles (daughters-in-law), Mr. Mitchell (brother-in-law), Mr. Hurle (son-in-law), Miss Shelley (niece), Mrs. Bayling (cousin) and Miss Bayling, Mr. and Mrs. Gunthorpe, Mr. and Mrs. Ball, Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Cook.

There was a large number of ringers present. They included Messrs. E. C. S. Turner, T. J. Lock and J. A. Trollope (secretary, branch secretary and vice-president of the Middlesex County Association), Mr. A. A. Hughes (treasurer of the Ancient Society of College Youths), Mr. G. W. Fletcher (secretary of the Central Council) and Mrs. Fletcher, Mr. J. F. Smallwood (representing the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham), Mr. Rupert Richardson (Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild) and Mrs. Richardson, Mr. G. W. Steere (secretary of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths), Mr. H. Rumens (representing the St. Mary's, Walthamstow, band) and Messrs. J. Bennett, W. Hewitt, G. Kilby, R. Saunders, J. Hawkins, H. Kilby, A. Cutler, A. W. Brighton, P. Corby, W. Oram, E. Barnett, G. Dawson, C. Dean, C. Matthews, G. Holman, W. Ayre, E. Dench, R. W. Stannard, J. L. Millhouse, W. Fox, T. Fox, A. Mason, G. A. Parsons, F. Knight, H. W. H. Strickland and Mrs. J. E. Davis. Floral tributes were sent by the Central Council, the Middlesex County Association, the Ancient Society of College Youths, the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, and the Walthamstow company.

In the afternoon an unmuffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung at St. Giles-in-the-Fields as an act of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr. Coles, and at Crayford a peal of London Surprise was rung as a tribute of respect to him.

### MR. COLES' CAREER.

Charles Thomas Coles was born at Islington on June 5th, 1882, and so at the time of his death was in his 64th year. He learnt to ring at St. George's-in-the-East, one of the churches destroyed during the recent war. It was there that on March 30th, 1905, he rang his first peal, one of Stedman Triples conducted by John R. Sharman. Since the year 1909 he was attached to St. Mary's, Walthamstow.

In 1903, Charles Coles joined the Middlesex County Association and from very shortly afterwards was almost the most influential member of that society. The Middlesex Association had been founded by Arthur T. King in 1897, by the amalgamation of two older bodies, and for several years King was the secretary and mainstay of the society. He retired in 1910 and his place was taken by Mr. Coles, at first nominally as joint secretary, but all along really as what he later became formally, the general secretary of the association.

It was a task of some difficulty and one which called for special gifts. Arthur King was a big man with far-reaching ideas and ideas for the good of ringing and ringers. He cherished the hope of introducing to London north of the Thames the territorial and diocesan organisation which had been found successful in other parts of the country. The circumstances were peculiar and the difficulties immense, but he set himself to overcome them and was undaunted by the fact that he would have to face the opposition of old and powerful societies

who did not view things in the light he did. To give his new association prestige and status King formed a first-class peal ringing band under William Pye, and conducted what was virtually an attack on central London from the suburbs. There is no need to-day to judge either Arthur King or the societies which opposed him. Each was right according to the particular point of view, but a good deal of ill-feeling naturally was engendered. Tom Coles inherited King's work and ideals and he was more intimately connected with William Pye than almost anyone else. He stood up stoutly for his own association, yet he was not the man to accept strained relations with another society if they could be avoided. From the first his influence was towards peace and harmony. As the years went on he worked deliberately for co-operation between all Metropolitan ringers. A joint committee which was formed to entertain the Central Council at one of its London meetings gave him an opportunity he used to the utmost, and it was his special pride that the last thing he did before handing over the secretaryship of the Middlesex Association to Mr. Ernest Turner was to arrange a joint meeting with the College Youths. At the time of his death no visitor was more welcome among the College Youths than he.

As a secretary Mr. Coles showed that continuous unobtrusive efficiency which is the mark of a really good secretary and is most effective when it is least noticed. The reports he wrote for his association and those he sent to 'The Ringing World' were models of what such reports should be—clear, concise, well arranged, full of the things that mattered, with no affectation, and no unnecessary words. The late John S. Goldsmith used to say that Tom Coles' reports required less sub-editing than any others; and during a long period of years no man probably had so few words altered or cut out of his writing as he. The letters he wrote were on the same style. This was not through any particular conscious design. It was natural. The style was the man and showed his soundness and his strength as well as to some extent his limitations. In 1937, as a recognition of 25 years' service as secretary, the members of the Middlesex Association presented him with a gold watch.

Charles T. Coles took a great interest in the work and activities of the Central Council, to which he was elected in 1921. He soon became one of the more influential members, and his opinions, which always were the views of the central body of sane, well-instructed, sober-minded members of the Exercise, commanded the respect of all. He was a member of the Standing Committee and of the committee which carried out the last revision of the Council's rules.

### PEAL RINGING.

Charles T. Coles was a great peal ringer, one of the greatest of all time. It was due partly to his association with William Pye, partly to the friendly relations he cultivated with ringers in all parts of the country, very largely to his organising ability, and, of course, very largely, too, to his skill as a ringer. To deal adequately with his peal ringing career will need a special article, and at present we will content ourselves with giving a list of his peals, the numbers in brackets being those he called. The total number was 1,014, of which 12 were on handbells and 278 conducted by him. He rang his 1,000th at Crayford on July 24th, 1943, a memorial to his gallant son killed in action in Tunis.

Grandsire Doubles 1 (1); Triples 10; Caters 4 (1).  
 Stedman Triples 120 (59); Caters 109 (57); Cinques 117 (42).  
 Erin Triples 1; Caters 2 (1); Cinques 1.  
 Erin, Stedman and Grandsire Caters 1 (1).  
 Minor in three methods 1 (1).  
 Bob Major 10 (8); Royal 1; Maximus 1 (1).  
 Kent T.B. Major 11 (6); Royal 7 (6); Maximus 3 (1);  
 Oxford T.B. Major 3 (2); Royal 1 (1).  
 Kent (Granta) T.B. Royal 1 (1).  
 Spliced Kent and Oxford T.B. Major 1.  
 Little Bob Major 1; Maximus 1.  
 Double Norwich C.B. Major 18 (1); Double Oxford 1; Edmonton Bob 1; Marlborough Bob 1; St. Clement's Bob 1; Winchester Bob 1; Little Albion T.B. 1.  
 Isleworth Bob Royal 1.  
 Cambridge S. Major 1 (1); Major 60 (19); Royal 77 (7); Maximus 75 (4).  
 Yorkshire S. Major 5 (1); Royal 2 (1); Maximus 1.  
 Superlative S. Major 101 (33); Maximus 5.  
 Bristol S. Major 121 (19); Lincolnshire 1; London 81 (1); London-derry 1; New Cambridge 1; Norfolk 2; Pudsey 1; Rutland 1.  
 Middlesex S. Royal 5.  
 Sliced Sunrise Major—Three Methods. 1: Four, 14; Five, 2; Six, 1; Seven, 1; Eight, 1; Nine, 1; Ten, 1; Eleven, 1; Twelve, 1.  
 Sliced S. Royal, Three Methods, 1.  
 Sliced Superlative and Cambridge Maximus 1.  
 On handbells—Grandsire Triples 1 Stedman Triples 4; Caters 7.  
 Ringing was an important part of Charles T. Coles' life, but it did not represent all his activities. He was a chess player of some ability; he took a part in the work of the organisations connected with his fellow workers at the Railway Clearing House where he was employed during the whole of his life after he left school; and at one time he was keenly interested in the politics of his home district.

Mr. Coles was a member of a very large number of ringing associations, including the Society of Cumberland Youths.



MR. C. T. COLES.

## MAKERS OF LONDON BELLS.

(Continued from page 43.)

In any account of the makers of London bells, however general, mention must be made of Thomas C. Lewis, though he stands quite outside the regular succession of bell founders, though he did not influence in any way the progress and development of the art of bell founding, and though the amount of work he actually did was quite small. Lewis was an organ builder and maker of pianofortes at Brixton, who had a fine reputation and turned out some splendid work. He was a thorough artist who never allowed financial considerations to interfere with his artistic ideals and he held strong opinions on the quality of musical tone and what he considered certain obnoxious tendencies of his time. He took up bell ringing as an addition to his other activities and with strongly held views already formed from his other experiences.

Lewis published his opinions on musical tone in a little book of which I gave an account in 'The Ringing World' of August 27th, 1943, and which was a protest against certain tendencies then shown by other makers of musical instruments. So far as bells were concerned, what he objected to was two things. One was the style of bells introduced by the influence of Lord Grimthorpe. The other was the ideas, then beginning to be expressed, which afterwards developed into what is now generally known as Simpson tuning.

Sir Edmund Becket, afterwards Lord Grimthorpe, was one of the most extraordinary men of his generation. By profession he was a lawyer, and so eminent a lawyer that he made a far larger income at the bar than any other lawyer had ever made. In addition to that, and as an amateur, he posed and was widely accepted as a great authority on clock making, church architecture, theology, and church law. Nor did these things exhaust his activities. He wrote a book to tell people how to build and equip the houses they lived in giving instructions about the smallest fittings. There have been other men, of course, who have thought they knew everything about everything, but Grimthorpe really did know an extraordinary lot, even if he did not know everything. He did some dreadful things at St. Albans Abbey, but at any rate he saved the building from complete ruin. He designed the clock at the Houses of Parliament, and as the specification called for a greater accuracy than the Clockmakers' Company thought possible, he invented an escapement which gave all that was asked for and more. When Warners, who were to cast the bells, were doubtful whether they knew how to design them (for they had hitherto used only the traditional shape copied from older bells and these were to be much larger) he told them not to worry. He would do it, and he did.

It was inevitable that such a man, especially one with the domineering, self-satisfied, nature he possessed, should, for all his success, be lacking in the finer artistic sense, and (apart from mechanical things) should fall short of the highest standards. It was so in church architecture, where what he did was severely criticised and condemned by leading architects. It was so also in bell designing, though in that, for various reasons, there were many fewer persons to contradict him or to challenge his authority; and for some years his influence was clearly shown in the bells which were cast for different parts of England. Some of them were actually designed

by him. They included the ring of twelve at Worcester, and the octaves at Doncaster, Burton-on-Trent, and St. John's, Croydon; all of which, though they have been recast, are remembered by many ringers. Other rings which show his influence, though modified to a greater or less degree by the experience of the founders, are the rings at Manchester Town Hall (since recast), the Roman Catholic Church at Cambridge, the Imperial Institute, and St. Paul's Cathedral.



ST. ANDREW'S, WELLS STREET.  
Now at Kingsbury.

T. C. Lewis summed up the main result of Grimthorpe's influence by saying that 'A very general belief has been instilled into the minds of purchasers that bells to be of good and even superior tone should be heavy in quantity of metal used and thick in the casting.' 'Not content with the ancient and genuinely characteristic tone which in itself is unique and belongs to no other instrument for the production of sound, these modern intruders, mostly amateurs by profession, clamour for bells the thickest and heaviest that can be made to do the work, consequently the most poor and vulgar tone is poured out from many of our church towers.' This was one of the two tendencies in bell founding against which



Lewis protested. Here events have proved he was right, but it is pretty certain that the reaction against Grimthorpe's ideas came from the founders themselves, and was quite independent of anything that Lewis had written.

His other protest concerned the way in which bells should be tuned. It was the time when scientists like Lord Raleigh and amateurs like Canon Simpson were beginning to call attention to the various tones given out by a bell, and not unnaturally the opinion was being more generally held that the quality of a bell depends mainly on the degree in which those tones are in musical harmony. That, said Lewis, is a great mistake. It must be remembered that, at the time, all which was argued for or against what is now called five-tone tuning was based on theory and the very inconclusive evidence afforded by old style bells. The knowledge necessary to cast and tune a bell on Simpson principles had not yet been acquired by the founders, nor was it ultimately gained except after long and careful experiments and research work aided by vastly improved instruments and machinery.

Lewis did not concern himself about the overtones of a bell. "There are many harmonies heard," he said, but he passed them by as quite subordinate in strength. What he considered was the only important tone other than the strike note was the hum note, and here he joined issue with those who said that the two should be a true octave apart. It may seem to be so in theory, he said, but long experience had convinced him that, in defiance seemingly of harmony, a fine bell should have its hum note a flattened major seventh, and there was nothing poorer in tone than a large bell with its strike note and hum note in perfect octaves.

Lewis had one other important rule for the casting of bells; they must come out of the mould exactly as they are to hang in the steeple and no tuning must be allowed. The reason he gave for this was that the casting, when cooled, has a skin which is definitely tougher than the interior metal; and if this skin is removed the resonance of the bell will suffer. Combined with the other requirements this was a most exacting condition, for it meant that if the bell as first cast was not perfect in tune it was useless and must be recast, unless it was sent out slightly imperfect, which his artistic conscience would not allow. It is said he cast more than twenty bells before he was satisfied with the octave he made for St. Andrew's, Wells Street, and though such devotion to a high ideal is beyond praise, we are not surprised to learn that it did not pay and his firm had to give up bell founding.

Thomas C. Lewis had an opportunity of putting his ideas and theories into practice when he cast the bells for St. Andrew's, in the West End of London. The church for many years counted for much in the religious and musical life of the metropolis and was one of the most outstanding examples of nineteenth century ecclesiastical architecture. Then its usefulness passed away and it was considered to be redundant. Fortunately, however, it was not destroyed. It was removed stone by stone to a new residential district of Middlesex, and to-day at Kingsbury the church with its fittings and bells can be seen and heard under better conditions than ever before.

Thomas C. Lewis cast the back six bells at Fulney in

Lincolnshire, but otherwise he did no more than make a few more bells for various churches.

Kingsbury bells are a fine and musical ring, but they really prove nothing in the controversy between old style and new style tuning, for in them the relationship of strike notes and hum notes was a designed one which it never was in the earlier bells. Many things go to make up the quality of a good bell, and it is a mistake to attribute it to any one of them. We have numerous really excellent rings cast and tuned on the five-tone plan. It would be a most interesting and perhaps profitable experiment if one of the three great founders were to start on the basis of one of the best of the old style bells, such as the old tenor at Bow, and to it add seven other bells in which the hum notes and overtones were out of strict theoretic harmony but true to each other, perhaps modified by considerations depending on the weight of the individual bell. Would the result be a ring with the peculiar Painswick quality and more than the Painswick excellence?

(To be continued.)

### BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

#### MEETING AT BEDFORD.

Over sixty ringers were present at the annual meeting of the Bedford District of the Bedfordshire Association, held at Bedford on January 26th. They came from Biddenham, Turvey, Stagsden, Bedford (St. Peter's and St. Paul's), Woburn, Kempston, Bromham, Elstow, Tempsford, Luton, Silsoe, Great Barford, Maulden, Cople, Hitchin, Cardington, Newmarket and Renhold.

Mr. L. H. Bowler was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and the committee, consisting of Messrs. H. L. Harlow, R. West, J. Hilson and G. Hutchings, were also re-elected, the last two as members of the general association committee. There was a balance in hand of £5 18s. 1½d., of which £5 10s. had been sent to the general fund, and an increase in membership, from 26 in 1944 to 69. The Rev. A. St. G. Colthurst, of St. Paul's, Bedford, was elected an honorary member, and 10 new ringing members were elected. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Milton Ernest on March 2nd.

The methods rung included Bob Minor, Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob, Woodbine, Cambridge, York and Wells Surprise Minor, Grandshire and Stedman Caters and Plain Bob and Treble Ten.

### ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

#### MEETING AT BOCKING.

The annual meeting of the Northern District of the Essex Association was held at Bocking on February 2nd, 43 persons being present. Service was conducted by the Dean, the Very Rev. E. Rogers, and Miss H. G. Snowden was at the organ. The collection for the bell fund amounted to 17s. Tea was at Courtauld's canteen.

In her annual report the hon. secretary, Miss H. G. Snowden, stated that meetings had been held at Braintree, Halstead, Pebmarsh and Sible Hedingham with an average attendance of 30. Eleven new ringing members and 18 re-elections had been ratified. Forty-three peals had been rung, 28 on tower bells and 15 on handbells. The tower bell peals were Doubles and Minor in one to four methods, Grandshire Triples and Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge, Superlative, London and Spliced Surprise Major. The handbell peals were Bob Minor and Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, seven Minor methods, London Surprise Minor and Major, Double Norwich, and Cambridge, Superlative and Spliced Surprise Major.

Mr. L. W. Wiffen was re-elected Ringing Master, Mr. H. A. Pratt was appointed hon. secretary in place of Miss Snowden, and Messrs. F. Claydon and H. G. Felton were elected to the committee. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Great Bardfield on April 27th. The methods rung ranged from Bob Major to Spliced Surprise.

### DEATH OF MR. S. J. COLEMAN.

The death is announced of Mr. Sidney James Coleman, which occurred at St. Neots, Huntingdon, on February 4th, at the age of 66. The funeral on February 7th was at Eynesbury Parish Church, and the interment at St. Neots Cemetery. The Rector, the Rev. J. R. Garrett, conducted the service, and the ringers present were Messrs. H. Fields, S. W. Hawksford, S. J. Peck and L.-Cpl. W. A. R. Chamberlain.

In the evening a 720 of Grandshire Doubles with tenor covering was rung on Eynesbury bells half-muffled by six members of the Ely Diocesan Association from St. Neots, Eynesbury and Great Staughton.

Mr. Coleman, who until his retirement through illness in 1930 was a member of the St. Neots band, had rung over 200 peals, several of them on handbells. Fifty-two of them were achieved in one year.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.****MEETING AT BASINGSTOKE.**

The annual meeting of the Basingstoke District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild was held at Basingstoke on January 26th, when 74 members were present from a wide area. Service was conducted by the Rev. Canon Chute in St. Michael's Church, and tea was served in the Church Cottage. At the business meeting, Canon Chute was in the chair, supported by the Rev. Canon Jeudwine, the Rev. F. S. H. Maule and the district officers.

The balance sheet showed that 88 members had paid their subscriptions, and with 28 members serving in the Forces (whose subscriptions are waived), brought the total up to 116. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Chairman, the Rev. Canon A. W. Chute; hon. secretary, Mr. G. Chesterman; Ringing Master, Mr. C. Ostler; district representatives, Mrs. R. G. Flew and Mr. H. Balaam; auditor, Mr. R. G. Flew.

The secretary said that Overton bells were being increased to eight and would soon be ready. Due notice would be given in 'The Ringing World.' The district was steadily improving and there were great hopes that 1946 would be a record year, owing to the fact that many young people were becoming members. Twenty-seven new members were elected.

During the afternoon and evening a variety of the standard methods were rung.

**LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.****MEETING AT HINCKLEY.**

About 50 members attended the first meeting of the Hinckley District of the Leicester Diocesan Guild.

The secretary, Mr. W. A. Wood, in giving his report for 1945, said that 1945 had been an improvement on the previous year. Twelve meetings had been held, at which the average attendance had risen from 24 to 34, while the average of towers represented had risen to 12. There had been 19 new and six rejoins during the year. Barwell, Broughton Astley and Croft had attended all meetings. Three all district peals had been rung and nine others with the assistance of one or more members from other districts. Most towers had taken part in the ringing for VE and VJ Days. There were still about 26 members in the Forces, and the district had lost four members through death.

Mr. H. Bird was elected chairman, Mr. W. A. Wood as secretary. Messrs. G. Newton and F. K. Measures as committee. A new office was that of District Ringing Master, and after a discussion on the desirability of the office, Mr. A. Ballard was elected.

Earl Shilton on February 16th was fixed for the next meeting. Of the 25 towers in the district the following were represented: Barwell, Broughton Astley, Burbage, Croft, Cosby, Desford, Earl Shilton, Hinckley, Kirkby Mallory, Peckleton, Sapote, Stoke Golding and Stoney Stanton.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.****MEETING AT DORCHESTER.**

The annual meeting of the Dorchester District of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held in Dorchester on January 26th, at which about 80 members and visitors were present from Abbotsbury, Bere Regis, Bradford Peverell, Charminster, Dorchester St. Peter, Fordington St. George, Frampton, Maiden Newton, Piddlehinton, Stratton, Sydling, Upwey, Wool, Wyke Regis, Beaminster, Bournemouth, Bradpole, Bridport, Evershot and Hampton. Service was conducted at St. Peter's by the Rector, Canon A. W. Markby, assisted by Canon D. F. Slemeck. At the business meeting the officers elected for the coming year were: Chairman, Canon A. W. Markby; vice-chairman, Canon D. F. Slemeck; Ringing Master, Mr. F. Preece; Deputy Ringing Master, Mr. J. H. Hayne; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mrs. A. F. Godley.

A letter of greeting was read from last year's Ringing Master, Sergt. P. Toccock, now serving in the India Command. The secretary stated that for the first time since the outbreak of war some towers in the branch had again attempted peal ringing, and it was hoped it would continue; Abbotsbury, Upwey and Wool all had peals and quarter-peals to their credit for 1945. During the afternoon and evening there was ringing in the towers of both Dorchester St. Peter and Fordington St. George.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.****MEETING AT LYONSHALL.**

The annual meeting of the Kingston District of the Hereford Diocesan Guild was held at Lyonshall on January 26th. Service was conducted by the Rev. D. Rice, and at the business meeting the secretary reported that during the past year two meetings had been held with attendances of 20 and 18, and three practices with an average of eleven. The accounts could not be presented, as all subscriptions were not paid. The district officers were re-elected: Ringing Master, Mr. T. Jones, Kingston; Assistant Ringing Master, Mr. L. Evans, Fardisland; secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. Preece, Staunton-on-Arrow; auditor, the Rev. L. Perry, Staunton-on-Arrow. The next meeting was fixed for Weobley in April, and combined practices at New Radnor in February and Fardisland in March. The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

**NOTICES.**

**THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION** of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

The charge for notices other than of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

All lines exceeding six in any one insertion are charged at the rate of 4d. per line.

**GUILDFORD GUILD.**—Guildford District.—Annual Saturday, Feb. 16th. Service at S. Nicolas', 4.30. Tea and business S. Nicolas' Parish Hall.—A. C. Hazelden, 109, Grange Road, Guildford.

**KENT ASSN.**—Canterbury District.—Throwley, Feb. 16th. Special bus leaves Court Street, Faversham, 2.35 p.m. Cups of tea provided; bring food.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

**MIDDLESEX ASSN.**—South and West District.—Annual, St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3.15 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. No tea. Committee 5.30 p.m. Business 6.15 p.m. Both in Vicarage Room.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, 1, Listoke Edgehill Road, Ealing, W.13 (Perival 5320).

**ESSEX ASSN.**—South Western Division.—Woodford, Saturday, Feb. 16th, 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting to follow.—Mrs. J. H. Crampton, Hon. Sec., 14, Wellesley Road, Wanstead, E.11.

**EAST DERBYS AND NOTTS ASSN. and DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSN.** (Chesterfield Branch). — Clay Cross, Feb. 16th.—J. W. England, Sam Scattergood.

**ELY ASSN.**—Hunts District. — Annual, Eynesbury, Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. No tea. Cafes open St. Neots.—H. J. Parker, Great Staughton, St. Neots.

**OXFORD GUILD.**—V.W.H. Branch.—Longcot (6), Saturday, Feb. 16th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30.

**HEREFORD GUILD.**—Ross District.—Annual, Ross (8), Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea and business 4.30.

**LEICESTER GUILD.**—Hinckley District.—Earl Shilton, Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. Tea in Schools 5 p.m. Names to Mr. G. Newton, 26, Avenue South, Earl Shilton, Leics.—W. A. Wood.

**HERTFORD ASSN.**—St. Albans District.—Sandridge (6), Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. Tea in Parish Hall, 5 p.m.—R. Darvill, 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Ringing at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate.—A. B. Peck.

**LEICESTER GUILD.**—Melton Mowbray District.—Waltham-on-the-Wolds (6), Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Tea and business 4.30. Names to R. Mount, Waltham.—J. H. Cook.

**KENT ASSN.**—Maidstone District.—Hollingbourne, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 2.30. Usual arrangements. Names for tea to C. H. Sone, Linton, Maidstone.

**LEICESTER GUILD.**—Market Harborough District.—Lubham, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Names by Feb. 20th to L. W. Allen, High Street, Great Glenn, Leicester.

**GUILDFORD GUILD.**—Chertsey District.—Annual, Hersham (8) (not Walton), Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow. Nominations for several officers. Names for tea to W. Simmonds, 33, Burwood Close, Hersham, by Feb. 20th.—F. E. Hawthorne.

**PETERBOROUGH GUILD.**—Guild Committee, Hind Hotel, Wellingborough, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. — Robt. G. Black.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSN.** and **SOUTHWELL GUILD.**—Sutton-on-Trent, Feb. 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Maximum attendance essential. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mr. E. W. Vessey, 19, Main Street, Sutton-on-Trent, Newark, by Feb. 20th.—H. Denman and T. Groombridge, jun.

**DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSN.**—Derby District. — Heonor (8), Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Business in belfry 5 p.m. Tea shops near.—Wm. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.**—Exeter Branch.—Newton St. Cyres, Feb. 23rd. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names by Feb. 18th.—W. H. Howe, 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

**OXFORD GUILD.**—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Burnham, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Names for tea by Feb. 18. — A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks.

**LANCASHIRE ASSN.** — Fylde Branch.—Bispham (8), Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided.—J. H. Foster.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Eye, Feb. 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Tea at White Lion 5 p.m.—C. W. Pipe, Grundisburgh.

**CHESTER GUILD.**—Wirral Branch.—Birkenhead St. Mary's (6), Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards in Parish Hall.—Harry S. Brocklebank.

**HERTFORD ASSN.**—Northern District.—Codicote (6), Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names by 21st to Mr. P. Phillpot, 96, High Street, Codicote, Hitchin.

**CHESTER GUILD.**—Grappenhall Branch.—Daresbury, Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Names for tea to Mr. S. Booth, Daresbury, before Feb. 20th.—John E. Ashcroft.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—St. Michael's, Headingley, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided. Business, 7 p.m., in tower. — H. Loft-house, 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

**HEREFORD GUILD.**—Hereford Branch.—Annual, St. Nicholas', Hereford, Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Service 4.30. Names for tea to J. W. Downes, 1, Holmer Hall Cottage, Holmer, Hereford.

**LEICESTER GUILD.** — Loughborough District. — Quorn (8), Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Cups of tea 5 p.m. No service.—H. Myatt.

**LANCASHIRE ASSN.**—Bolton Branch.—All Souls', Bolton, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Business 6.30 p.m. Teas, 1s. and 2s. Names to C. Brownlow, 79, Astley Street, Bolton, by Feb. 20th.—Peter Crook.

**CHESTER GUILD.**—Northwich Branch.—Annual, Hartford, Feb. 23rd. Tea provided. Names to Miss D. C. Osborn, 258, London Road, Northwich, Cheshire, before Feb. 19th.

**KENT ASSN.**—Rochester District.—Practice, Northfleet, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 6 to 8.30 p.m.

**BATH AND WELLS ASSN.**—Axbridge Deanery. — Weare (6), Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 6.30 p.m. to 9 p.m.—E. J. Avery, Sandford, Bristol.

**DONCASTER SOCIETY.** — Adwick-le-Street, Feb. 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Names by Wednesday, Feb. 20th, to W. E. Critchley, 61, Church Road, Stainforth, near Doncaster.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.**—Bristol Rural.—Winterbourne (6), Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Names to D. W. Gardner, 9, Cossham Street, Mangotsfield, Bristol.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.**—Johnson Dinner, Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, Saturday, March 2nd, 6 p.m. Tickets to fully-paid-up ringing members, 3s.; to other members and friends, 7s. 6d. Early application with remittance is necessary as number is strictly limited. St. Martin's (12), St. Philip's (10), and St. Chad's R.C. (8), from 3.30 to 5 p.m.—T. H. Reeves, 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.** — Aylesbeare Branch. — Broadclyst, March 2nd. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names to B. Pidgeon by Feb. 25th.

**SUSSEX ASSN.** — Northern Division. — Annual, Crawley (8), Saturday, Mar. 2nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. O. Sippetts, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

**SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.**—Southern District. — Cadoxton, near Neath (6), Mar. 2nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business to follow. Numbers to E. Stitch, 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam, by Feb. 26th.

**LINCOLN GUILD.** — Elloe Deaneries Branch. — Annual, Spalding, Mar. 2nd. Service 3.15. Tea at British Restaurant 4. Business, Church Day School, 4.45. Names for tea by Feb. 26th to W. A. Richardson, Glenside, Pinchbeck, Spalding.

**SHEFFIELD SOCIETY.** — Annual, Ranmoor (10), Mar. 2nd, 3 p.m. Names for tea (1s. 6d.) to E. G. Dickens, 18, Gisborne Road, Ecclesall, Sheffield, by Feb. 27th.—H. O. Chaddock, Sec.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Hadleigh and Lavenham Joint. — Monks Eleigh (6), Saturday, Mar. 2nd. Cups of tea provided. Bring food. Names to H. Whymark, The Hall Cottage, Church Hill, Monks Eleigh, near Ipswich.—J. T. Corder.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN.**—Bedford District. — Milton Ernest, Saturday, Mar. 2nd, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—L. H. Bowler.

#### RETURN THANKS.

Mrs. C. T. Coles and family wish to thank all kind friends for letters, personal and floral tributes in their recent sad bereavement.

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