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OXFORD

Watch the Oxford Guild! If it is flourishing then all is well with the Exercise; if it is in the doldrums then bell ringing generally is on the decline. The message from last Saturday's meeting at Oxford was that all is well with the Guild operating through its 15 districts. The area of the Oxford Guild may be taken as fairly typical of much of England. There are two industrial towns; a number of residential areas and scores of truly agricultural villages. From this area the record number of 229 new members was elected last year. With such an advent of new interest the future seems assured.

Saturday was the 69th annual meeting. A new era was started by the election of a new Master in the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg and a new secretary in Mr. W. Hibbert, who succeeds his late father. During this long period the Guild has only had three Masters — all of them clerics, in the Revs. F. E. Robinson, C. W. O. Jenkyn and G. F. Coleridge. All three of them were personal friends, and they rang their first peal together at Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, on January 31st, 1900. Commenting on the peal in his book, 'Among the Bells,' the Rev. F. E. Robinson wrote: 'Of this band the yokels said "there was a terrible big parson (Mr. Coleridge), a very nice young gent (Mr. Jenkyn) and an old gent as took all his clothes off" (myself).' It was as far back as 1879 that Canon Coleridge rang his first peal with the Rev. F. E. Robinson at Kirtlington. This peal of Grandsire Triples was the first peal to be rung by University men. On Saturday one was conscious of bridging space and being in the hallowed company of the giants of the past.

But the tradition goes on. The year 1945 was notable, even in the annals of the Oxford Guild, for peal ringing. When the Peal Analysis is published we believe that Oxford's record of 86 peals rung during the year places it in the forefront of the Exercise. Special mention is made by the new Master in his report of the peal of Spliced Surprise Major rung at St. Ebbe's Church, Oxford, in which was introduced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative with 112 changes of method! Delve into memory and other occasions of ringing fame will be found. It was in August, 1900, that the Guild rang the first uncondacted peal of Stedman, the company including J. W. Washbrook, the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Canon Coleridge.

Rarely has a tribute from the pulpit been delivered of a ringer as that accorded to the late secretary, Mr. R. T. Hibbert, by Canon Coleridge in the festival sermon on Saturday. He died on March 31st, having been secretary of the Guild from 1917 until the day of his death. He had great peals to his credit, including 21,363 Stedman Caters at Appleton in 1922. The one that captures imagination was that in 1896 of 5,184 London Surprise Major at Merton College, Oxford. This was a peal for men of nerves. Here the ringing chamber is a square of 26½ feet. The ringers stand two on each side of a stone gallery only three feet wide with a balustrade round it. The opening in the centre looks down into the chapel 60 feet below. The only illuminant on this occasion was candles and these began to flicker out. To enable the peal to be completed fresh candles had to be brought, and to place them in position the steeplekeeper had to squeeze past Mr. Hibbert, who was ringing the sixth and the Rev. F. E. Robinson on the fifth. Those were the days! And what a tradition for the 229 new members to follow.

TEN BELL PEAL

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 13, 1946, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E flat.

THOMAS G. FOX Treble	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD... 6
MRS. C. H. KIPPIN ... 2	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... 7
THOMAS H. FRANCIS ... 3	*NORMAN V. HARDING ... 8
*JOHN G. SAUNDERS ... 4	FREDK. E. COLLINS ... 9
LEONARD H. BOWLER ... 5	CHARLES W. ROBERTS... Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FREDK. E. COLLINS.

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 29, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES Treble	*JOHN D. A. CLEAVER ... 5
HENRY HODGETTS 2	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT, 6
FRANCIS KIRK 3	FREDK. W. BRINKLOW 7
ERIC B. HARTLEY 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

* First peal in the method.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 6, 1946, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, EDMONTON, N.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Washbrook's No. 1.

MRS. J. THOMAS Treble	FREDERICK DIGBY 5
JOHN THOMAS 2	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 6
ISAAC ATWATER 3	ERNEST MORRIS 7
VICTOR WOODARDS 4	FRANK BYE Tenor

Conducted by E. MORRIS.

* First peal.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, July 7, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

CHARLES E. FISHER Treble	LESLIE G. BRFIT 5
ALBERT E. WHITING ... 2	*GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 6
*MRS. C. W. PIPE ... 3	CHARLES F. BAILEY ... 7
FRANK L. FISHER ... 4	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN... Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by L. C. WIGHTMAN.

* 100th peal together.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, July 8, 1946, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN WALDEN Treble	*JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 2	*WALTER TOMLINSON ... 6
*KENNETH S. B. CROFT ... 3	RUPERT RICHARDSON ... 7
*JOHN FREEMAN 4	JOHN A. FREEMAN ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 75). Conducted by J. FREEMAN.

* First peal in the method.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 10, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH, CUBITT TOWN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*JAMES D. RICHARD ... Treble	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT ... 5
MRS. E. E. DAVIS ... 2	JAMES BENNETT 6
VERNON J. BENNING ... 3	PHILIP A. CORBY 7
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 4	HAROLD W. CLARK ... Tenor

Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

* First peal at first attempt.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 10, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

LAWRENCE GREENHOW ... Treble	SHIRLEY BURTON 5
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	FRANK K. MEASURES ... 6
ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 3	ALFRED BALLARD 7
HARRY G. WAYNE 4	WILLIAM J. ROOT Tenor

Composed by FREDK. H. DEXTER. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 11, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6060 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES Treble	FREDK. W. BRINKLOW ... 5
JOHN D. A. CLEAVER ... 2	STEPHEN H. HOARE ... 6
HENRY HODGETTS 3	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 7
ERIC B. HARTLEY 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 12, 1946, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ERNEST H. SIMPSON ... Treble	VERNON BOTTOMLEY ... 5
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... 2	FRED DUNKERLEY 6
WILLIAM BARTON 3	WILLIAM AMBLER 7
GORDON BENFIELD ... 4	SAM LONGBOTTOM Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by WM. AMBLER.



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**BURNHAM, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sat., July 13, 1946, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

GEO. W. DEBENHAM ... Treble	*HERBERT G. ANDREWS... 5
CYRIL A. BURGESS ... 2	H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... 6
*MISS PAT HOLMES ... 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 7
*MISS MARY PEMBERTON 4	GEORGE GILBERT ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN THORP. Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.
* First peal of Treble Bob.

**HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sat., July 13, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

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

*E. DENNIS POOLE ... Treble	WALTER LEE ... 5
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER 2	PERCY NEWTON ... 6
ROLAND BIGGS ... 3	WILLIAM HENLEY ... 7
ALFRED C. LEVETT ... 4	HARRY WINGROVE ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by H. WINGROVE.
* First peal in the method.

**OVER, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sat., July 13, 1946, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

ERIC NOBLES ... Treble	MISS D. C. OSBORN ... 5
*GORDON LAWRENCE ... 2	FREDK. C. STUTON ... 6
HARRY W. HOWARD ... 3	HARRY PARKER ... 7
REGINALD W. WORRAL 4	CECIL RADDON ... Tenor

Composed by J. NICHOLL. Conducted by H. PARKER.
* First peal in the method.

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

On Sat., July 13, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Johnston's Variation. Tenor 13½ cwt.

*JOHN SCOTT ... Treble	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY... 5
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... 2	JOHN S. MASON ... 6
FRANK E. PERVIN ... 3	LEONARD TREVOR ... 7
JOHN PINFOLD ... 4	GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK E. PERVIN.

* First peal.

**KIRBY-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., July 13, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt.

EDWARD E. DAVEY ... Treble	WILLIAM A. ROUSE ... 5
ALBERT LAWRENCE ... 2	GEORGE A. ANDREWS ... 6
EDWARD B. SMITH ... 3	HORACE A. WRIGHT ... 7
URBAN W. WILDNEY ... 4	ALAN R. ANDREWS ... Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

**GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., July 13, 1946, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

ALBERT BARTHOLOMEW... Treble	† DESMOND G. MAYELL ... 5
*PETER J. EVES ... 2	FRANK V. GANT ... 6
†TERENCE A. GOODEY ... 3	JOHN SITCH ... 7
HARRY TURNER ... 4	WILLIAM BARRATT ... Tenor

Conducted by H. TURNER.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells.

**DRONFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**
(Sheffield District Society.)

On Sat., July 13, 1946, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15½ cwt.

WALTER ALLWOOD ... Treble	ERNEST A. THORPE 5
F. BERNARD DITCHER ... 2	HERBERT O. CHADDOCK 6
J. EDWARD CAWSEW ... 3	*G. GORDON GRAHAM ... 7
JOHN J. L. GILBERT ... 4	JOHN E. TURLEY ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSEW.
* 50th peal. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

**LEICESTER.
THE LADIES' GUILD.**

On Sun., July 14, 1946, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Middleton's. On the Stelfox eight.

MRS. L. M. POWELL ... Treble	MRS. E. DEAL ... 5
MISS JILL POOLE ... 2	MRS. E. E. DAVIS ... 6
MRS. P. POOLE ... 3	MRS. E. K. FLETCHER ... 7
MRS. A. K. MATTHEWS... 4	MISS HILDA G. SNOWDEN Tenor

Conducted by MISS H. G. SNOWDEN.

**PENWORTHAM, LANCs.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**
(Preston Branch.)

On Mon., July 15, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt.

CYRIL CROSTHWAITE ... Treble	*W. KENNETH MARTIN ... 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON, JUN. 2	T. WATSON ... 6
*G. ALEC DIMMOCK ... 3	KENNETH HALL ... 7
FRED HOWARTH ... 4	E. ROGER MARTIN ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by C. CROSTHWAITE.
* First peal of Major.

**GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Tues., July 16, 1946, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Dexter's Variation. Tenor 23½ cwt. in D.

ALFRED H. PULLING ... Treble	FRANK E. HAWTHORNE... 5
C. W. R. GRIMWOOD ... 2	*FREDK. A. MUNDAY ... 6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 3	HAROLD A. MAY ... 7
NORMAN V. HARDING ... 4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... Tenor

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS

**WEAVERHAM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Mon., July 8, 1946, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Ten varied callings. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*MISS BETTY MORTON ... Treble	GORDON LAWRENCE ... 4
HARRY PARKER ... 2	WILLIAM HORNBY ... 5
ERIC NOBLES ... 3	MISS D. C. OSBORN ... Tenor

Conducted by E. NOBLES.

* First peal.

**EASTWELL, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Thurs., July 11, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Hereward Bob, Double Bob, Double Oxford,
St. Clement's, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob,
each called differently. Tenor 14 cwt.

*HILDRED S. WICKENS ... Treble	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH... 4
WILLIAM A. OLDFIELD ... 2	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD ... 5
*FREDK. G. HUCKSTEPP... 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... Tenor

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal in seven methods.

STRETTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., July 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Two extents each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

Conducted by E. NOBLES.

HARRY PARKE Treble	REGINALD W WORRALL ... 4
*JOHN ORME 2	*MISS D. C. OSBORN ... 5
*GORDON LAWRENCE ... 3	ERIC NOBLES Tenor

Conducted by E. NOBLES.

* First peal in three methods. First peal of Minor as conductor. H. Parker's 150th peal.

SEAVINGTON ST. MARY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., July 14, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being ten 240's (Morris) and twenty-two 120's. Tenor 7 cwt.

ALBERT H. DRAYTON ... Treble	REGINALD WELCH ... 4
REGINALD BEALE 2	HENRY A. GUMMER ... 5
FREDK. WELCH 3	*KENNETH WELCH ... Tenor

Conducted by HENRY A. GUMMER.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS

WICKHAM ST. PAUL'S, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., June 26, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT BROAD ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

OLAVF BROYD 1-2	THOMAS BIRD 5-6
ERNEST W. PYE 3-4	REG. RIPPINGALE 7-8

Composed by C. MARTIN. Conducted by E. W. PYE.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., July 1, 1946, in One Hour and Thirty Minutes,
AT VERNON HOUSE, FRIAR LANE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores.

*PETER NIX 1-2	RALPH NARBOROUGH ... 3-4
†RALPH HARDY 5-6	

Conducted by PETER NIX.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Doubles.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 4, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;

WILLIAM L. B. LEESE ... 1-2	JOHN THOMAS 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	ERNEST MORRIS 7-8

CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 9-10

Composed by J. PIGGOTT. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., July 7, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5029 CHANGES;

MRS. J. THOMAS 1-2	BETTY SPICE 5-6
JOHN THOMAS 3-4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7-8

WILLIAM L. B. LEESE ... 9-10

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

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 11, 1946, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
IN ST. MARGARET'S BELFRY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD... 1-2	ERNEST MORRIS 5-6
*G. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 3-4	CHARLES MARSHALL 7-8

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major 'in hand.'

EXETER DISTRICT ON DARTMOOR

FACTS AND FANCIES OF THREE INTERESTING VILLAGES.

A tour by motor-coaches was made by Exeter District, Guild of Devonshire Ringers, in fine weather on July 13th in lieu of the customary single centre meeting. The party, with friends from Mid-Devon and Aylesbeare Deanery branches, totalled nearly 40.

Notes prepared by Mr. A. W. Searle, chairman, Exeter District, conveyed the information that the tower of the 15th century church at Ashburton (the first stop) is 90ft. high, that once a boy fell from the top, yet was able to walk home, and, according to the registers, lived to a good old age. The ring of eight, tenor 22 cwt., is built upon six that were originally given by Sir William Yonge and Mr. John Harris, of Hayne, in 1740. They were Members of Parliament for the borough, which was disfranchised in 1868. Those were the days when M.P.'s not only made gifts, but paid for votes and provided prodigious hospitality during elections. And they required no salaries!

At Buckland-in-the-Moor (the second stop) there is another 15th century church with one of the lightest rings of eight in the county, the tenor being 8 cwt. The dial of the tower clock is inscribed, 'My dear mother,' the letters beginning with 'M' at 9, taking the places of the usual numerals. The clock and the augmentation of the bells from five to eight are a memorial to Mrs. Whitley by her son, Mr. Whitley, who founded Paignton Zoo. Besides a Norman font, the church possesses an ancient screen, which, in addition to conventional paintings of saints on the front, has an extraordinary series of large grotesques on the inner portion.

Widcombe-in-the-Moor (the final stop) has an impressive tower, 120 feet high, containing a good ring of six, with 16 cwt. tenor. The third bell bears the inscription, 'Robeart Hamlyn, sonne of John Hamlyn, Chittleford, gathered of the young men and mayds fyftene.' There is, or used to be, a bell at Fording-bridge, Hants, with the inscription, 'Young man and mayds made me, 1655.' The church at Widcombe was struck by lightning during service in 1638; four people were killed and 62 injured. Boards in the base of the tower give a vivid description of the incident written in verse by the schoolmaster of the time. Beside the church is a 500-year-old church house, which has been used as a poor house and then a school and is now a church house again.

The village has been made famous by the Devon folk song about the borrowing of Tom Pearce's mare so that 'Bill Brewer, Jan Stewer, Peter Gurney, Peter Davy, Dan'l Whiddon, Harry Hawk, old Uncle Tom Cobleigh and all' could ride from some undefined place to Widcombe Fair. Why there should have been any borrowing at all has never been explained. Uncle Tom Cobleigh, the chief character in the song, is known to have been a well-to-do yeoman at Spreyton, which is a good dozen miles from Widcombe as the crow flies and much more by road. If any quadruped had to make such a journey with Bill Brewer and Co. it would be justified in leaving them in the lurch like Tom Pearce's mare, which 'took sick and died.' An impersonator of Uncle Tom Cobleigh rides about the village during the tripping season, and there are many ponies on the moor, but they are far too lively to be mistaken for the ghost of Tom Pearce's mare which the song says appears 'gashly white' when 'the wind whistles cold on the moor of a night.'

Tea was taken at Ashburton and the date of the autumn meeting altered from September 14th to October 5th.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD

TWO BISHOPS AT ANNUAL MEETING.

Brecon was the venue for the 17th annual meeting of the Guild, and despite inconvenient access, there was a good attendance. There is only one tower (eight bells) in the town, but members also visited St. David's, Llanfais, just outside Brecon, and bells in both towns were well used.

The annual service was held at the Cathedral. The Bishop of Llandaff, in an address to the ringers, dwelt on the opportunities the ringers had as ministers of the bells for developing churchmanship.

Tea was served at the old factory, at the invitation of the president, the Bishop of Swansea and Brecon; after tea the president invited members to the garden at Ely Towers for the annual meeting, when his lordship took the chair. Also present was the Bishop of Llandaff, who was very glad of the opportunity of meeting members of the Guild.

The accounts were presented by the treasurer, a balance in hand of £49 being reported.

The officers were re-elected en bloc, the only change being Mr. D. H. Bennett, of Bronllys, who was elected Ringing Master for the ensuing year. The general secretary, Mr. D. G. Williams, read an appeal from the Rector of Llanfihangel, Talyllun, for assistance to restore the bells at that parish; it was decided to send a donation of £10.

Mr. E. Stitch proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the president for his kind hospitality and stated how pleased the members were that two Bishops gave their valuable time in attending the festival at Brecon. This was supported by Mr. A. Hoare.

The annual competition 1946 will be held at Bronllys, when it is hoped that all towers will send a band. Mr. J. Pitman has again been invited to adjudicate.

QUARTER PEALS

ALMONDSBURY, GLOS.—On July 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. C. Williams 1, D. Gardner 2, C. R. Harding 3, H. J. Robins 4, F. Skidmore (conductor) 5, V. E. Wills 6, G. Cape-well 7, W. J. Cook 8. Rung for the induction of the Rev. H. R. R. Radcliffe Cox as Vicar.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTER.—On June 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: K. Lawson 1, C. Castleman 2, P. Smith 3, R. Swann 4, A. Skinner 5, H. Bowley 6, R. Barrow (conductor) 7, E. Bass 8.

BISLEY, GLOS.—On June 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. C. Thain 1, G. Latham 2, T. Pritchard 3, B. Latham 4, R. J. Thain 5, T. C. Witts (conductor) 6, W. Dean 7, R. Sharpe 8.

BATH.—On July 5th, at St. Michael's, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Hallett 1, T. K. King 2, Miss N. Williams 3, W. G. Brown 4, S. J. T. Shellock 5, W. H. Hurford 6, R. Fry, jun. 7, G. J. Hawkins (conductor) 8. First quarter of Kent Major for ringers of 1, 4, 6, 7 and 8.

CHICHESTER.—At the Cathedral on June 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: L. Stilwell 1, P. R. Blackman 2, P. N. Bond 3, Miss Joyce Humphrey 4, W. G. Challen 5, R. J. Stone 6, F. W. Burnett (conductor) 7, H. F. Dunford 8.

CHESTER.—On June 18th at St. Mary-Without-the-Walls, 1,344 London Surprise Major: P. Swindley (conductor) 1, J. Hayes 2, J. S. Webb 3, J. E. Bibbey 4, J. Swindley 5, J. W. Griffiths 6, E. F. Bennett 7, H. Pye 8. First quarter-peat in the method for ringers of 3, 6, 7 and 8.

CHIPPING NORTON, OXON.—On June 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. E. Cook 1, D. Coombes 2, J. Keyte 3, F. Perry 4, I. Harris 5, J. Jarvis 6, R. H. Jarvis (conductor) 7, H. Francis 8.

CANTERBURY, KENT.—On July 4th, at St. Stephen's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. C. Philpott 1, C. Buesdon 2, B. J. Luck 3, J. W. Unwin (conductor) 4, Miss B. Philpott 5, D. P. Jones, R.A.M.C. 6, G. Swaffer 7, J. Stockbridge 8.

EXETER.—At St. Thomas', on June 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. W. A. Walls 1, E. Pilley 2, F. Wreford 3, R. Truman 4, A. G. Newman 5, C. Hosgood 6, E. W. Biffin (conductor) 7, W. Fairchild 8.

HOLLOWAY, LONDON.—At St. Mary Magdalene's on June 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Begrie (first quarter-peat) 1, E. Pryor 2, R. Newman 3, R. Charge 4, R. Begrie 5, G. Charge 6, A. Turner (conductor) 7, H. W. Barnard 8.

HOLYWOOD, CO. DOWN.—On June 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Dunwoody 1, W. Pratt 2, J. Rush 3, J. Edgar 4, John Savage 5, J. T. Dunwoody 6, H. Brown (conductor) 7, Joseph Savage 8. First quarter-peat in tower since resumption of change ringing.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.—On July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. C. Turner (first quarter of Triples, age 12 years) 1, C. J. Turner 2, Miss Q. Pring 3, J. Salway 4, J. Arbury (conductor) 5, E. Retter 6, A. Holway 7, G. Retter 8.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On July 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Cox (first quarter) 1, A. Heywood 2, D. Cox 3, J. W. Wilkins 4, A. G. Jones 5, W. Lee 6, P. Newton (conductor) 7, V. Evans 8.

KNEBWORTH, HERTS.—On June 26th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. J. Croft 1, W. E. Symonds 2, H. W. Else 3, F. Croft 4, E. Winters 5, D. C. Mears (conductor) 6, L. Fidler 7, A. E. Symonds 8.

LONDON.—At St. Giles-in-the-Fields on June 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. C. Markham (first quarter) 1, T. J. Lock 2, Miss M. A. Prockson 3, J. G. Boomsma 4, A. White 5, G. A. Parsons 6, L. J. Fox (conductor) 7, D. C. Price 8.

MERTON, SURREY.—At St. Mary's on July 7th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: Joyce Edwards (first quarter) 1, Audrey Castle 2, E. W. Gibbons 3, H. W. Barrett (conductor) 4, W. Conning 5.

NORTH BRADLEY, WILTS.—On Sunday, June 30th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: Percival Harding (conductor) 1, Jean Burton 2, Ron Harding 3, Eric Hitchins 4, Donald Lee 5, Lawrence Hitchins 6.

OXTON, CHESHIRE.—On June 25th, 1,264 Bob Major: E. Carvell 1, Miss J. Webster 2, Miss M. Webster 3, G. Ledsham 4, R. Edgar 5, E. Gilbert 6, L. L. Gray 7, R. G. Edwards (conductor) 8. First quarter-peat of Major for the ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 5.

PORTSMOUTH.—On June 23rd, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Lawrence 1, L. P. Cook 2, E. A. Jurd 3, H. A. Nobes 4, W. Tate 5, R. E. Turner (conductor) 6, J. H. Hunt 7, A. Lawrey 8.

REPTON, DERBYSHIRE.—On June 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Minnion 1, W. Soar (conductor) 2, J. Brittan 3, J. Stennitt 4, S. Jones 5, W. Minor 6.

RAINHAM, KENT.—On July 7th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: Trevor Cross 1, Basil Edwards 2, Eric Naylor 3, S. B. A. William Court 4, Francis J. Cheal 5, William J. Walker 6, George A. Naylor (conductor) 7, William Hollands 8. First quarter of Oxford Bob Triples for ringers of the treble, 2, 3 and 4.

TWICKENHAM.—On July 3rd, at St. Mary's, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: J. Croft 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, A. F. Thirst 3, A. M. Houghton 4, H. W. Rogers 5, E. Morris 6, H. G. Andrews 7, T. W. Taffender 8.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.—On July 6th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: D. A. Bayles (conductor) 1, Miss J. Gaymer 2, W. E. Robinson 3, Miss M. Fidell 4, T. W. Crowe 5, G. Lusk 6, J. Hedley 7, W. J. Davidson 8.

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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.,
34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

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BELFRY GOSSIP

A century of towers—Mr. P. A. Corby's peal at Cubitt Town.
Perseverance has been rewarded. A first peal of Stedman recorded
this week was scored after over 20 attempts.

Sheffield and District have had to rearrange their Bank Holiday
programme. Norton bells are not available and the meeting will take
place at Whiston.

An amendment of the time of the peal of Bob Minor at Havering,
Essex, on July 6th, to two hours and 58 minutes and not three hours
and 54 minutes as originally published has been forwarded by the
conductor, Mr. L. W. Bullock.

Mr. Ernest Morris' new book, 'Bells of All Nations,' is now in the
press. The Rev. F. F. Rigby, president of the Lancashire Association,
has written a small text book on ringing, 'Elementary Change Ring-
ing,' which should be on sale at an early date.

A ringer at Christ Church, Mitcham, for nearly 50 years, Mr.
Pidwell is shortly retiring and is going to live at Eastcote. As secre-
tary he made arrangements with Mr. W. H. Joiner for the combined
outing of Mitcham and Streatham ringers to Hastings on July 13th.
Mr. Miller (the Mitcham captain) is convalescing after his recent
operation. He is not yet able to ring.

More national publicity! 'The Daily Mirror' had an article, 'Ring
o' Bells,' in their issue of July 22nd written by the Rev. George
Braithwaite. We trust the picture of the two ringers was a caricature.
It certainly was not drawn by an artist who had been inside a belfry.
This is how the author explains the process: 'The ringers in a few
rounds get the feel of their bells, and then the changes begin. The
conductor shouts occasional directions, more as a precaution than any-
thing else, for everything actually depends on the memory and con-
centration of the ringers.' Conductors, please note!

A correspondent reminds us that the peal rung at Sible Hedingham,
Essex, on June 22nd, was by a Sunday service band and is the first
for 25 years by the local company. We don't want to wait a quarter
of a century for the next!

We like the story of the Twineham, Sussex, ringers, who, on their
outing, so enchanted their coach driver by ringing 720 Bob Minor on
handbells that he took the wrong turning and landed the party at
the gates of a mental hospital! Ringing took place at Laughton,
Hailsham, Hellingly and Chiddingfold.

Ten boys of Felsted School have constituted themselves into a Guild
of Change Ringers. They began to ring in the tower of the Parish
Church a few weeks ago and they rang rounds open for the first time
on July 9th. The band is being trained by Mr. A. C. Telfer, Mr.
W. T. Farrow and Mr. H. Ebert.

Another attractive new body is the Roving Ringers of Cheltenham,
whose leader, Michael Clifford, is just under 15 and has called several
quarter-peals. Nearly all the members are now up to Kent and
Oxford Treble Bob standard. This band had their summer outing to
Tredington, Glos., on July 20th, where the bells had not been rung
for about 10 years. The Roving Ringers plan fortnightly practices at
Bishop's Cleeve on Saturdays during the winter for Minor methods,

OXFORD GUILD'S NEW LEADERS

MASTER ELECTED BY A MAJORITY OF THREE VOTES RECORD NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS
SON SUCCEEDS FATHER AS GUILD SECRETARY CANON COLERIDGE AND UNITY

The 69th diocesan festival of the Oxford Guild on Saturday was memorable for two things. Canon G. F. Coleridge, who has been Master since 1933 and has a connection with the Guild since its first year, laid down the reins of office. His successor, the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg, the Deputy Master, was elected by a majority of three votes.

The new hon. secretary is Mr. W. Hibbert, who succeeds his father. The deep affection with which the late Mr. R. Tom Hibbert was held by the Guild was voiced by Canon Coleridge when he preached at the festival service at Christ Church Cathedral. The lesson was read by the Bishop of Dorchester, a vice-president of the Guild.

Canon Coleridge selected for his text Exodus xl., verse 15: 'Speak that they go forward.' He said it would not be fitting if he did not refer to the deep sense of loss caused by the death of their old and well tried friend, Tom Hibbert, who for many years of devoted work had proved to the full what a secretary should be.

After mentioning Mr. Hibbert's work in reporting on the condition in bell chambers, the Canon said apart from his secretarial work, honest Tom was a prince among men and among ringers. He was no peal snatcher, though he had not a few to his credit and good ones which brought him a sense of joy and satisfaction. He never snatched at peal ringing, but what he did snatch at was opportunities to get hold of some young ringers, and by explaining to them with infinite care brought them to the mastery of a bell to ring perfect rounds and then changes.

To-day at the outset of their business they had to choose a new Master and a new secretary, and it was their duty to select the best candidate for the office. Many a promising band of ringers had fallen to pieces through lack of determination to cultivate certain things, and the most important of these was a spirit of unity. They wanted unity in every tower, in every branch, and in every guild. Without that spirit of unity their ringing could not be pleasing to God Who had called them to praise Him in their art.

Canon G. F. Coleridge presided at the start of the annual meeting, which was held in the Chapter House. He was supported by the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Deputy Master), Mr. A. D. Barker (hon. treasurer) and Mr. W. Hibbert (acting hon. secretary). Arising from the minutes, Mr. A. D. Cullum moved that a vote of thanks be passed to Mr. Hibbert for his work during the interim since his father's death.

POINTS FROM REPORTS.

The Master's report contained a personal note stating that he had been warned by the doctor not to walk a yard further than he could help and nothing was left except to ask the Bishop to allow him to resign the living of Crowthorne; other resignations in many quarters of necessity follow—including the Mastership of the Guild. A far younger man was needed than one now in his 89th year. He acknowledged the unfailing help rendered by the members—especially the secretaries of branches.

The Rev. C. Elliot Wigg, Deputy Master, reported that he found the general level of keenness very high in the Guild. An encouraging feature in some branches had been the large number of young ringers who had joined the Guild. For example, at one tower in the North Berkshire branch a band of girls under the tuition of Miss M. R. Cross had advanced in a short time to the point of being able to ring Bob Minor without outside help. He asked branch secretaries to send in notes on the progress made in their own districts each year. Several notable peals had been rung during the year, including one of Spliced Surprise Major at Oxford. It was a cause for congratulation that the Guild could now muster an entirely local band capable of ringing Cambridge Maximus at the Cathedral.

The secretary's report stated that 86 peals had been rung during the year. Congratulations were extended to Mr. W. F. Judge on his ability and energy as conductor of many of the peals and Mr. George Gilbert for his usual go.

The hon. treasurer reported that the general funds of the Guild amounted to £422 14s. 9d., of which £345 was in the Restoration Fund. The report and accounts were adopted.

NEW OFFICERS.

Announcing his resignation, the Master said it had been a proud time for him to have been their Master. He was not leaving the Guild and his interests would remain with them.

Mr. A. D. Barker assured Canon Coleridge that the Guild had been more than satisfied with his chairmanship. The least they could do was to make him a vice-president. Mr. W. J. Paice seconded and this was unanimously agreed to.

There were two nominations for the Mastership—the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg, proposed by Mr. E. C. Hughes and seconded by Mr. H. Blunt, and Capt. A. R. Poyntz, R.N., proposed by Mr. W. Hibbert and seconded by Mr. A. D. Cullum.

Capt. Poyntz announced that he was still at the orders of the Admiralty and he might be called away. He would like someone more active. The voting resulted as follows:—

The Rev. C. E. Wigg ... 68 Capt. A. R. Poyntz 65

The new Master promised to do his best for the Guild in his own way. He said he was a busy man with two parishes to look after.

Capt. A. R. Poyntz received a unanimous vote for the position of Deputy Master. He warned the meeting, however, that he would not be able to get round very much owing to the Admiralty and the stinginess of the Government as regarded petrol.

Mr. A. D. Barker was the only nominee for the treasurership and Mr. W. Hibbert was a popular choice for a successor to his late father as hon. secretary.

HIS FATHER'S WISH.

Thanking the members, Mr. Hibbert said his father in the last few months asked him to thank the Guild for the happy time they had given him. He thought it was in his father's heart that he should undertake that job.

When Miss Marie R. Cross was re-elected hon. librarian she reported that up to yesterday there were 35 books in the Guild Library. That day she received a complete set of 'Ringing Worlds' and 'Bell News' from Canon Coleridge. She was granted a sum of £5 to buy a book case and to arrange for binding four volumes of 'Ringing Worlds.'

To the committee Messrs. G. Caudwell, R. White, A. D. Cullum, H. Sear, J. W. Wilkins, W. F. Judge, R. A. Post were re-elected, and Messrs. J. T. Fowler, W. Dixon, C. J. Hibbert, G. Holfield and Miss Dorothy R. Fletcher appointed to fill vacancies. Regret was expressed at the resignation of Miss V. Robinson from the committee as she was shortly leaving the diocese.

PEAL RESTORATIONS.

The General Committee made recommendations that grants of 10 gns. for restoration of bells be made to Great Horwood, Cookham, Bray and Compton.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that Bray had dropped their scheme in favour of a ych gate and Cookham had obtained the money required.

Capt. Poyntz moved as an amendment that the 40 gns. should be divided between the two towers. Ten gns. out of £375 seemed a very small sum to vote. Mr. J. T. Fowler seconded.

The representative from Compton asked £500 and £600 had been collected and the job would cost about £800.

Mr. Evans, the foreman of Great Horwood, said their fund was started by the ringers themselves and £588 had been raised. The ringers had collected £450 by means of whist drives and dances during the war. The job would cost £677. Nothing had been done to the bells for 100 years.

The amendment was carried. The hon. treasurer announced that the money would not be paid until the work was completed.

The meeting confirmed the election during the year of 229 new members (a record), compared with 174 last year.

The Bishop of Dorchester, who presided at the latter part of the meeting, congratulated it on its progressive and live membership. He thought the way the Guild came through the war with its enthusiasm undimmed was a very fine prospect for the future.

It was decided to hold next year's festival at Oxford.

Mr. Keyte said that now 'The Ringing World' was run by the Central Council the Guild should take up the question of its attitude towards the younger members. In a recent issue it was stated that quarter-peals were to be restricted to 26 an issue. There were a number of them who were trying to teach young ringers and it would encourage them if quarter-peals were published.

The new Master and Mr. Barker both replied that they believed care would be exercised in the publication of quarter-peals so as to publish those which would encourage young ringers.

THE LUNCHEON.

There was a company of 194 at the luncheon, which was held at Christ Church Dining Hall, the new Master, the Rev. C. E. Wigg, Presiding.

The toast of 'The Oxford Guild' was proposed by Mr. T. W. White, who brought greetings from the Guildford Guild and 'The Ringing World' to the new officers.

Canon Coleridge, in his reply, reiterated his appeal for continued unity.

Capt. A. R. Poyntz, in proposing 'The Visitors,' welcomed a contingent of 26 from Croydon, who were visiting Oxford for their annual outing.

Gratitude to the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church for permitting the festival to be held in the Cathedral Church and also the use of the Dining Hall was expressed by the Master.

The Bishop of Dorchester replied that it was an annual pleasure to welcome the Guild and they would be delighted to see them next year.

The afternoon and evening was devoted to ringing.

THE BASINGSTOKE 'PEAL'

Recorded as a Miscellaneous Performance

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH WANT RULE AMENDED:

More than ordinary interest was attached to the annual meeting of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild at Bournemouth on July 6th, when the Basingstoke 'peal' figured prominently on the agenda. The Guild decide to record it as a 'miscellaneous performance,' but to press for an amendment of Central Council rules.

The meeting was held in St. Peter's Hall, presided over by the Master (Mr. G. Williams), supported by the hon. general secretary (Mr. F. W. Rogers), hon. treasurer (Mr. W. Linter) and the Vicar of St. Peter's. Apologies were received for non-attendance from several members.

In presenting the accounts, the treasurer thanked the various districts for their support during the year, but made comment on the fact that Rule 13 should be amended in the light of present-day conditions to allow district secretaries to make their full quota to the central fund. It was unanimously decided to instruct a sub-committee to enquire into the form of amendment to be proposed.

The Guild officers were re-elected en bloc, viz.: Master, Mr. G. Williams; hon. secretary, Mr. F. W. Rogers; hon. treasurer, Mr. W. Winter; peals recorder, Mr. A. V. Davis; hon. auditor, Mr. W. Smith.

An addition to Rule 6, paragraph 3, specifically defining the position of non-resident ringers attached to affiliated towers, was proposed by Mr. A. V. Davis, and after some discussion was agreed upon by 21 votes to three.

It was agreed, on the recommendation of the two districts concerned, to transfer the tower of Buriton from the Portsmouth District to the Alton and Petersfield District.

LOYALTY TO COUNCIL.

Mr. G. Pullinger gave a report on the meeting of the Central Council at Norwich and touched on the points which concerned members. Arising from this report was the question of how the 'peal' of Caters rung on nine bells at Basingstoke was to be dealt with, seeing that the Council had rejected it as a peal. Mr. Pullinger moved that the 'peal' be printed in the next annual report as a 'miscellaneous performance' with a footnote explaining the position.

Mr. C. Kippin (conductor of the 'peal') agreed that as the Council would not recognise it the Guild could not do so, because they would be breaking their own rule. The motion was carried unanimously.

A resolution concerning rules of the Central Council, sent by post to the general secretary from the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead (a member of the Council), found no seconder, because members felt that it cut across the well-established principles of the Exercise.

Mr. C. H. Kippin proposed that 'The Guild, having pledged itself to abide by the rules and decisions of the Council, has no option but to recognise the decision of the Council in refusing to admit the Basingstoke "peal." It feels, however, that to recognise peals on five and seven bells without a cover, even to the extent of recognising a five-bell peal in a 12-bell tower, yet not to admit a nine-bell peal in a nine-bell tower, is unjust and inequitable. The Guild feels that if the Council expects to command respect of its rulings, the rules should be recognised, or none at all.'

Mr. J. Hill (Andover) seconded and considerable discussion took place. The Master pointed out that this resolution raised big issues and there was not time that day to go into the question thoroughly.

Mr. W. Cheater (Ringwood) moved an amendment 'That this matter be left to the Executive Committee to go into the question, to draw up proposed alterations to rules of Central Council, and to instruct their representatives to bring this before the next meeting of the Council.' This was seconded by Mr. R. Reed (Bishopstoke).

Mr. Kippin withdrew his motion and the amendment was carried nem con.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Newport, Isle of Wight, on Saturday, July 5th, 1947.

A grant of 5 guineas was approved to the scheme for the restoration of Tichborne bells.

ANNUAL DINNER FAVOURED.

A scheme for a proposed annual dinner at Bournemouth in the autumn was placed before the meeting by Mr. A. V. Davis. He said that he had been approached on the matter, and provided the Guild would give the project its approval, he would go ahead with the arrangements. The committee of the Salisbury Guild were in favour and no financial responsibility would fall on either Guild, because the dinner ticket would cover all expenses. A local committee would be formed, with representatives from both Guilds. It was unanimously agreed that the Guild would support Mr. Davis in the venture.

Votes of thanks were accorded the incumbents for the use of the various peals of bells during the day and to all concerned who had assisted, particularly to Mr. Davis.

The Guild service was held in St. Peter's Church, after which tea was served in St. Peter's Hall. The bells of St. Peter's and St. John's as well as the ring of twelve at Christchurch were available, and many took advantage of the opportunity to have a pull on these excellent bells.

THE LADIES' GUILD

37 NEW MEMBERS ELECTED AT LEICESTER.

One of the most successful annual meetings ever held since the formation of the Guild in 1912 took place in Leicester on July 15th, when a record number of 53 members attended from Bedfordshire, Cheshire, Cumberland, Derbyshire, Dorset, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, London, Middlesex, Norfolk, Northampton, Nottingham, Somerset, Sussex, Surrey, Warwickshire and Yorkshire.

A short service was held in the Cathedral, conducted by the Provost, who extended a warm welcome to the Guild. Members and friends were afterwards entertained to tea by the president, Miss E. Steel, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed by those present.

At the business meeting, under the chairmanship of the president, 37 new members were elected. The president and hon. secretary and treasurer were re-elected. The treasurer presented the accounts, which showed a balance in hand of £49 11s. 10d.

The secretary reported that meetings were again being held in most districts, but some had not yet commenced to function since the war. A letter had been received from a member suggesting that the Guild had had its day, and no longer served any useful purpose. She was proud enough of the work the Ladies' Guild had done to want to see it come to an honoured end and not to fade out almost imperceptibly, as seemed to be happening in more than one part of the country. The members present most strongly disagreed with this view. The attendance of members from such long distances proved that the Guild was by no means dead, or even dying.

Mrs. Richardson reported on the proceedings of the Central Council meeting at Norwich.

A long discussion took place regarding alterations to districts, and the formation of new ones, but it was decided to make no definite change in the existing districts, but to authorise three members to arrange meetings in parts of the country which have previously not been well served. These were as follows: Miss J. Poole to take charge of Leicester and district: Miss Mary Elkins, Cheshire and Lancashire; and Mrs. F. I. Hairs, Sussex and part of Kent. It was decided to hold next year's meeting at Oxford.

Some of the members spent an enjoyable week-end in Leicester, and wish to express their very grateful thanks to Mr., Mrs. and Miss Poole for making all the arrangements, and other ringers who helped to entertain the visitors. A ladies' peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung at the Cathedral on Sunday afternoon, particulars of which appear elsewhere.

IRISH ASSOCIATION NORTHERN BRANCH.

Following the decision at the annual meeting of the branch on Easter Monday to resume quarterly meetings, the first of these was held on July 13th at St. Patrick's, Coleraine. There was a good attendance of members representing Coleraine, Londonderry, Holywood, Ros-trevor and St. Thomas', Belfast.

Lunch was held in the Corporation Arms Hotel and was followed by a short business meeting, at which Mr. J. Dixon, Coleraine (vice-president), presided. After lunch mixed teams from the various towers took part in the ringing of St. Patrick's Church bells, and touches of Grandire Triples and Plain Bob Minor were rung by members of Holywood and St. Thomas' Societies.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Bangor in October, 1946.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION FIRST VISIT TO NORTON SUBCOURSE.

The first meeting of the East Norfolk Branch at Norton Subcourse was held on July 6th and was attended by 48 members. The new Vicar (the Rev. Owen Morris) conducted the service and presided at the business meeting, supported by the Rev. A. St. J. Heard (president of the association), Mr. Nolan Golden (Ringing Master) and Mr. J. Harwood (hon. secretary).

Thirteen new members were elected, including the Rev. Morris as an honorary member. Lowestoft was selected for the next meeting on August 17th. An appeal by Mr. Nolan Golden for a collection towards a belfry restoration fund resulted in £2 6s. being contributed. The votes of thanks included a special one to the ladies for providing such a fine tea. A joint meeting with the Suffolk Guild at Beccles on September 28th or October 5th will be advertised later.

Members attended from Beccles, Gorleston, Haddiscoe, Kessingland, Mulbarton, Norton, Reedham, Gillingham, Somerleyton, Norwich, Forncebt, Great Yarmouth, Woodton and Hales.

AN EX-SERVICE GUILD ?

Dear Sir,—I think that the ex-Service ringers would welcome the chance of forming an Ex-Service Man's Guild. It would keep alive the brotherhood of Service life, and also form a link between various guilds and associations. The only requirement of a prospective member need be that he has served either in His Majesty's Forces or in the Merchant Navy.

I leave it to readers to decide whether the idea is workable or not.—

Yours fraternally,

E. V. WILLIAMS.

NEWS AND COMMENTS OF CORRESPONDENTS

THE BASINGSTOKE 'PEAL'

POINTS FOR THE COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION.

Dear Sir,—Whilst I hesitate to prolong an already well-worn discussion and whilst I agree that the Central Council was bound by its rules to reject the paradoxical Basingstoke 'peal,' which, in any case, will doubtless be well recognised by campanological posterity, the one fact which, in my opinion, does emerge is that these somewhat ancient and very inconsistent rules create such an extremely unsatisfactory position as to warrant their early amendment.

The chairman of the Council is reported as saying, 'On the question of five they form a very fine musical peal,' but surely seven, nine and eleven bells have an equally good, if not similar, musical relationship to five, as eight, ten and twelve have to six?

No, sir, however unorthodox, unusual, unfamiliar and perhaps in many respects undesirable peals on seven, nine and eleven bells may be, if well struck on bells in the diatonic scale, they are, as far as ringing goes, certainly not unmusical, neither are they by any means less difficult to accomplish.

With the latter statement few ringers will disagree, but the *average* ringer does subscribe to the fallacy that such ringing is (to quote Mr. Pulling) 'an awful row,' principally because, being unnecessary, he does not hear it often enough to become accustomed to its sound or familiar with its peculiar beat.—

Man thinketh it sedition
Which he does not understand,
Until by repetition
It proveth truly grand.

Long ago I discovered that non-ringers, both musical and otherwise, cherish no such illusions or prejudices, and, when their unprompted opinions were sought, I found they would often surprisingly and readily prefer some 'odd-bell' to 'even-bell' ringing, especially when the tenor was rung 'behind' in the former and 'inside' in the latter. The greatest mistake of all, and I write with a fairly considerable, if enforced, experience of 'odd-bell' ringing, is when bands ring an odd number of bells which are not in the correct *diatonic* scale such as by depleting an ordinary ring of eight of the second, a bell which, incidentally, from a musical standpoint, is one of the most indispensable in an octave.

Some years ago I had the almost physically painful experience of taking part in a peal on each of two rings of eight, neither of which was in the correct diatonic or even chromatic scale and both of which sounded hideous. Because of their availability, accessibility, 'go,' etc., at that time many peals were rung on both these rings by various bands comprising well-known ringers, yet each of these exceedingly and miserably unmusical performances was recognised by the Central Council of the day without question.

If, as it would appear from the Basingstoke 'peal' debate, the Council assumes the task of deciding what is musical or unmusical in ringing and it pursues this matter logically, it has mountains of work (and difficulties) ahead! Several complete but out-of-tune rings will, no doubt, be banned for peal ringing purposes, in addition to Basingstoke, and I venture to suggest that there are also one or two frequently rung methods which should certainly not escape 'the axe'!

There is yet another serious and, to my mind, far more important aspect of this matter. I could quote several sets of circumstances which have obtained in certain towers from time to time, where had conductors been undiplomatic in the matter of leaving out 'the odd man' for a long length, there would have occurred serious disruption in bands, grievances amongst ringers and incumbents, loss of 'coming' ringers to the Exercise and in one eight-bell tower (where the 'odd man' was the local, 'stone' towerkeeper who could only cover) a company of six would speedily have found itself without a tower to ring in.

However rare, exceptional and isolated such instances are and however blissfully unaware of them the Council may be. I feel confident that its members, many of whom, so to speak, had their initial ringing 'brought to their own back doors,' have no desire to unduly handicap or impede the progress of such bands by unnecessary hard and fast rules.

To be constructive, I suggest that the Council ends all this inconsistency and periodical controversy by recognising all *true* peals on 5, 7, 9 and 11 bells even while (if it wishes) expressing strong disapproval of same.

If, as is unlikely, there is a resultant glut of such peals, the Council will then know that such ringing is popular with a section of the Exercise it serves, but if, as formerly, only a very occasional 'odd-bell' peal is rung, no harm will be caused and it will be justified in not troubling unduly about the matter anyhow. After all, the Central Council has plenty of other work to do (or it should have!).

T. R. BUTLER.

27, Lynwood Gardens, Orrell Park, Liverpool, 9.

WEST HILL, WANDSWORTH.—On July 7th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: M. V. Chilcott (first quarter in method) 1. H. Langdon (conductor) 2. J. E. Chilcott 3. W. H. Hewett 4. J. H. Rumley 5. W. S. Langdon 6. R. F. Deal 7. H. R. Newton 8.

RECORDS OF OLD PEAL BOARDS

Sir,—In your editorial of July 5th, on the question of archives, you make the point that the search of the country for old records will only be accomplished by a process of decentralisation, with key men ready to co-operate in the area of each guild or association.

In their report to the Central Council at Norwich (see 'The Ringing World' for June 21st, 1946) the Peal Boards Committee of the Council asked for offers of help from people who were willing to be associated with the committee and their work, so far as particular areas of the country were concerned. The committee are charged with the work of compiling details of all peal records contained on tablets and boards in the church towers of the country and of dates up to 1825, but it is manifestly impossible for the members of the committee personally to visit every tower. We, therefore, depend upon ringers to help us with the preliminary collection of details.

We would like a district representative in the area of each of the territorial associations and we ask for volunteers for this work. We shall also be glad to receive details of old peal boards from any member of the Exercise who, while not able to spare the time to participate more fully in our work, can send us particulars from his own or neighbouring towers.

Details should be sent to the undersigned, and should include the type of board, its condition and the exact wording thereon. We shall be glad if association and district secretaries would mention this appeal at their next meetings.—Yours faithfully,

WILFRID G. WILSON,

Convener of the Peal Boards Committee.

28, Abbey Avenue, Alperton, Wembley, Middlesex.

SCHOOL BROADCAST

Dear Sir,—Your entirely admirable paragraph in Belfry Gossip on the school broadcast of July 9th leaves little for the Literature and Broadcasting Committee to say. I do not know whether the other members of the committee had the opportunity of listening in, but for my own part I arranged for four quite little boys, who are learning to ring handbells, to come to my house in time for the broadcast, and the five of us listened to it with keen enjoyment. I thought it in every way perfect. The introduction of the two young boys was an especially felicitous feature, and Mr. Hughes is to be heartily congratulated on his part in the proceedings. It remains only to add that the representative of the B.B.C. responsible for arranging the broadcast did, in fact, act on advice given by a member of the committee.

F. L. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna.

JOINT MEETINGS

Sir,—It is, indeed, a very fine movement to hold joint ringing meetings between two associations. Ringers get to know each other and good fellowship is engendered.

There is, unfortunately, another side to the picture as soon as the rope end is reached. The 'internationals' get together, and except for an occasional thought the average standard ringer is compelled to look on for the major part of the ringing practice. Such meetings to the smaller fry are not very helpful.

At joint meetings one person should take complete control in the ringing room and see that every person present gets a fair share of ringing. When that is done some of these joint meetings will be far more helpful than they are at present.

R. NEWMAN, R.A.N.

132, Stroud Green Road, N.4.

LAUNCESTON BELLS

Dear Sir,—As the individual who conducted the first peal on Launceston bells on October 9th, 1901, I was somewhat interested in the Rev. A. S. Roberts' letter in your last issue of 'The Ringing World,' the wording of which is not exactly correct. The fourth line should read, 'was organised by the late Rev. Maitland Kelly, Kelly House, Devon,' not 'the late Rev. F. E. Robinson.' This being the first of my many ringing tours in the West brings to mind many happy times spent on these tours. At other towers on this occasion we rang first peals on the bells (viz., Holesworthy and Stratton) and firsts of Major or a new method at the others.

It was on this occasion I saw Exeter Cathedral bells practically unringable, but during the following year they were completely restored by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and the following October, 1902, I had the honour to conduct the first peal on them to the great delight of the late Rev. Maitland Kelly, who remarked, 'I never expected to live to hear this.'

Very interesting reports were given in 'Bell News' of these tours by the Rev. G. F. Coleridge (as he was then), page 298, October 19th, 1901, and 340, October 25th, 1902.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

1, Chestnut Avenue, Eastleigh.

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is 2s. up to four lines. Additional lines are at the rate of 4d. each.

For additional insertions with no change, one half above charge for each insertion.

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All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

KENT ASSN.—Lewisham District.—Eynsford, Saturday, July 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.45.—A. G. Hill, 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere.

LINCOLN GUILD. — Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, July 27th, at Heydour. Bells (8) available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service 4.15, followed by tea and business. Those requiring tea please notify me by July 26th.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Sleaford, Lincs.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN. — Bedford District. — Willington (6), Saturday, July 27th, 3 o'clock. Bring sandwiches. Cups of tea and meeting 5 o'clock.—L. H. Bowler, Hon. Sec.

SALISBURY GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—Iyme Regis (8), Saturday, July 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting after.—C. H. Lathey.

DEVON GUILD.—N.E. Branch. — Quarterly meeting, Cruwys Morchard (6), Saturday, July 27th. Tea provided, but members must bring own food. Ringing commences 2.30.—C. G. Dymond, Branch Sec.

OXFORD GUILD. — Newbury Branch.—Beenham (6), Saturday, July 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Refreshments 5 p.m.—S. Davis.

GUILDFORD GUILD. — Chertsey District.—Meeting, Esher, Saturday, July 27th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (if possible) following.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Crewkerne Deanery. —Quarterly meeting, North Perrott, Saturday, July 27th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Light refreshments 5 p.m. Meeting to follow.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSN.—Eastern Division.—Bengeo (8), Saturday, July 27th, at 3 p.m. Service, 5 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting.

NORWICH ASSN. — North Norfolk Branch. — Wymondham, Saturday, July 27th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.

ELY ASSN.—Ely Branch.—Littleport (8), Saturday, July 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—C. Gimbert, Sutton, Ely.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Portsmouth District. — Hambledon (6), Saturday, July 27th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.

KENT ASSN.—Tonbridge District.—Cowden, Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Service 4.30. No tea available. — T. Saunders, Hon. Dis. Sec.

CRUSADERS OF S.W. ESSEX. — Next meeting, Dagenham (8), Saturday, July 27th. From 3.30 p.m., with short break for cups of tea 5 p.m. From plain hunting upwards. No request will be refused. Just come along and ask. Everybody welcome. — J. H. Crampion, 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Bristol City Branch.—Next meeting, Aug. 3rd. All Saints', City (8). Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Bring own food. Business to follow.—C. H. Wood, 1, Brunswick Street, St. Paul's, Bristol 2.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting, Rainford, Saturday, Aug. 3rd, 2.30. Cups of tea provided.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

SUSSEX ASSN. — Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Rusper, 3 p.m., Aug. 3rd. Unable to provide tea.—G. T. Jennings, Crawley.

DEVON GUILD. — Practice, Broadclyst, Saturday, Aug. 3rd, 3 p.m. Stedman and Major. Tea. — F. C. Smale.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD. — Daventry Branch. — Preston Capes (6), Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Please bring food. Cup of tea provided. — Miss H. M. Smith, Furnace Lane, Lower Heyford, Northampton.

GUILDFORD GUILD (Leatherhead District) and SURREY ASSOCIATION (N.W. District).—Joint meeting, Leatherhead, August Bank Holiday. Bells from 3. Service 4.15. Tea at the Duke's Head 5 p.m. Owing to restricted room, numbers for tea must be sent to G. Marriner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead, by Aug. 1st.—A. H. Smith and D. Cooper, Secs.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Whiston (8), on Monday, Aug. 5th, 3 p.m. Those requiring tea (1s. 6d.) must notify Mr. N. Chaddock, 33, Brecklands Broom, Rotherham, by Aug. 1st.—H. Chaddock, Sec.

SALISBURY and WINCHESTER GUILDS. — East Tytherley, Hants, August Bank Holiday. Bells (8) from 11 a.m. Lockerley (6) after 2 p.m. Bring food and sugar. Cups of tea, 5 p.m., in Church Hall. — W. Theobald, G. Pullinger.

COVENTRY GUILD. — Coventry, Rugby and Nuneaton Districts. — Joint district monthly meeting, Monks Kirby, Saturday, Aug. 10th, 3 p.m. This meeting is in conjunction with the Ringers' Day at Monks Kirby. Will Coventry Guild members for tea please notify me by Aug. 3rd certain? — Leonard Trevor, Dis. Sec., 32, King Edward Road, Nuneaton.

ESSEX ASSN.—A General Committee meeting to be held at Chelmsford on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Will members please keep this date clear? — Robert C. Heazel, Hon. Gen. Sec.

BRISTOL, ST. STEPHEN'S. — Ringing: Sundays, 10 a.m. Ten bell practice Mondays 7.30 p.m. — E. F. Hancock, 124, Coronation Road, Bristol 3.

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BIRTH

DAVIS.—On July 18th, 1946, to Eileen (née Bishop), wife of the Rev. Kenneth C. Davis, St. Francis' Vicarage, Ruxley Lane, Ewell, a son (Francis Paul).

DEATH

COLES.—On July 19th, 1946, Beatrice May, dearly loved wife of S. G. Coles, of 3, Holly Terrace, Staple-grove, Taunton.

SITUATION WANTED

CLERK seeks situation, 14 years' experience, book-keeping, supervising and P.A.Y.E. Change ringer, 8 or 10 bells.—Box 102, 'The Ringing World,' Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Onslow Street, Guildford.

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LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION**EDUCATIONAL SETTLEMENTS INTEREST.**

Encouraging interest in new directions was reported at the quarterly meeting of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association at Caldicott on July 13th, attended by 20 members. The Vicar took the service which was followed by a sumptuous tea.

At the business meeting Mr. J. W. Jones gave a full report of the Central Council meeting at Norwich, for which he was heartily thanked. A long discussion took place on the question of instructors, several towers being mentioned as being in need of help. Mr. J. W. Jones volunteered to go to Marshfield if it could be arranged. It was learned with satisfaction that efforts were being made to get Chepstow bells ringing again, and three new members from that tower were elected.

The Merthyr Educational Settlements project to form a society to study the art of change ringing was discussed, and the ringers from Ebbw Vale reported having gone to two of their meetings.

The hon. secretary read a notice of motion to divide the association into districts. This was voted to lie on the table. It was proposed to hold the next Monmouthshire meeting at Ebbw Vale. The next meeting will be at Cowbridge.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION**MEETING AT LEIGH-ON-SEA.**

A meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association was held at St. Clement's, Leigh-on-Sea, on July 13th, and supported by 35 members and friends from Prittlewell, Brentwood, Leytonstone, Romford, Wanstead, Fobbing, Hornchurch, Springfield, Maldon and Newmarket. Service was conducted by the Rector (Canon Stuart King), and collection for the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to £1 10s. 3d.

Tea, kindly provided by the local company, was served in the Church Hall. Mr. C. Willis presided and was supported by the Master (Mr. J. Chalk). Five honorary members, including Messrs. C. Willis and S. D. Cotgrove, churchwardens of St. Clement's, and three ringing members were elected. Stanford-le-Hope was chosen as the next place of meeting on September 28th.

Mr. G. L. Joyce, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Rector and local company, remarked that the thing which had struck him most was the enthusiasm and interest displayed by the clergy and churchwardens of St. Clement's in this gathering of ringers. Mr. Willis replied by hoping the day was not too distant when another meeting could be arranged at Leigh. Mr. F. Lufkin reported on the proposed installations and restorations of bells in the Southend district.

Ringing during the afternoon and evening ranged from call changes to Surprise Minor.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

Representatives from the following towers attended the July meeting at Felkirk on the 14th inst.: Bolsterstone, Cawthorne, Darfield, Eastwood, Earlsheaton, Sandal, South Kirkby and the local company.

The bells were rung during the afternoon; tea was served in the old schoolroom, and at the business meeting the Vicar (the Rev. J. F. Barlow) presided. Thanks were given to the Vicar for his interest and the use of the bells. The next meeting will be held at Horbury on August 10th.

Ringing in a variety of methods followed.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD**NEW TREBLE AT BROUGHTON ASTLEY.**

On July 13th, the Hinckley District held a district meeting at Broughton Astley, when over 50 ringers and friends attended from Burbage, Coventry, Croft, Desford, Earl Shilton, Hinckley, Leicester (Cathedral and St. Margaret's), Lutterworth, Sapcote, Sharnford, Stoney Stanton, Rugby, Wigston (South and Magna), together with the local band. Methods rung under the supervision of Mr. A. Ballard, Ringing Master, ranged from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Minor, with rounds for the learners.

Tea was arranged by the ladies in the Social Hall and was followed by the business meeting. Mr. H. Bird, district chairman, presided and spoke of the significance of the meeting owing to the recent re-tuning of the bells and the adding of a new treble augmenting the peal to six bells. He thanked all who had helped towards this achievement.

The Rector (the Rev. C. A. Turner), in a speech of welcome, supported the chairman's thanks for the help given towards the bells and dwelt upon the opportunities that ringers had for developing churchmanship.

Mr. Ernest Morris, vice-president of the Guild and member of the Bishop's Advisory Committee, spoke of the revelation that had taken place. Instead of the old wooden frame with heavy going bells, they were now hung in an iron frame for eight bells on steel girders. The new treble was a perfect splice and it was a job well done. They now had a fine peal of which all might be justly proud.

A welcome guest and an honorary member, Mr. N. L. Hewitt, in a witty speech, said he knew nothing about the practical side of ringing, but he was very pleased to know of the progress made by the local learners (three of whom were made members that day). When watching them ringing recently, however, he was much impressed by the number of times 'Bob' was shouted at and he was, therefore, afraid that Bob was not making such rapid progress as the others!

The meeting stood in silence as a last token of respect for the late Albert E. Clayfield, of Higham-on-the-Hill. On the proposition of Mr. C. H. Webb, a vote of thanks was carried to the Rector for the use of the bells and to the ladies for the admirable arrangements for tea. A social evening followed.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD**ALTON AND PETERSFIELD DISTRICT.**

A very enjoyable district meeting was held at Liss on July 13th. Among those present were Canon E. A. Berrisford (district chairman) and the Rev. E. Curtis (St. Mary's, Portsea). Towers represented were Bramshott, Blackmoor, East Meon, Liss, Petersfield and Steep.

The Rev. H. N. Wrigley (Rector) conducted the Guild's service in St. Mary's Church, and tea and the business meeting followed. The Rector of Liss was elected an hon. member and five ringing members were elected from Petersfield. The next quarterly meeting was fixed for October 12th at Bramshott.

The bells of St. Mary's and those of the old Church of St. Peter were rung to various of the standard methods, and several young ringers had the opportunity of a 'first' plain course.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION**BATH BRANCH AT SWAINSWICK.**

At the quarterly meeting held at Swainswick on July 13th, the service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. Brooksbanks, assisted by the branch chairman, Preb. Barnett, the lesson being read by the branch secretary, Mr. S. S. Woodburn. Tea was served by lady parishioners to 50 ringers and friends.

Preb. Barnett presided at the meeting, when thanks were expressed to the Rector, the choir and organist. The Rectory garden was visited, and Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung on handbells on the lawn.

Visitors were present from Bristol, Clifton, Failand, Mangotsfield and Stoke Poldington. The ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge.

QUARTER PEALS

FOLKESTONE, KENT.—At the Church of SS. Mary and Eanswythe on July 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Slingsby 1, F. Orris 2, A. Kedwell 3, W. Coe 4, J. Willis 5, T. Anderson (conductor) 6, T. Farley 7, C. Pidcock 8. Rung with bells half-muffled as a last tribute to the memory of the Rector, the Rev. D. V. Bickingham, who was buried on that day.

PORTSMOUTH.—On July 7th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Lawrence 1, L. P. Cook 2, E. A. Jurd 3, J. H. Hunt 4, W. Tate 5, H. A. Nobes 6, F. W. Burnett (conductor) 7, A. Lawrey 8.

SHROTON, DORSET.—On June 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Reginald Woodland 1, Bertram Rideout 2, Benjamin Rideout 3, William G. Damen (conductor) 4, George W. Dennis 5, Donald R. Harvey 6.

WALKDEN, LANCs. — 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Scott (first quarter) 1, Miss A. Potter 2, R. Collier 3, James Denner 4, J. Potter (conductor) 5, A. Burton 6, J. V. Cheetham 7, H. Prescott 8. Rung as a farewell to R. Scott, who joined the Army the following day.

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