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FRIDAY, MARCH 22nd. 1946.

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**GILLETT
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INSURANCE OF RINGERS.

It is evident that, though the authorities of some churches do insure their ringers against accident, the custom is by no means a universal one. In many cases where there are regular paid bands it is probable that any risks under the Employers' Liability Acts are covered by a general policy, but it may not be at all certain whether a claim for compensation by a member of one of the loosely organised voluntary bands, which are so common, would be recognised, even when they do receive some form of emolument or gratuity. Still more uncertain is the position of a ringer who is merely a visitor, whether a regular one or not.

No doubt there is a general subconscious feeling, due to long custom, that the risks run by ringers are so very small that they are not worth troubling about, and there is much to be said for such an attitude. There are thousands of things which might happen to any one of us, and if one did happen might be disastrous, but we are content to chance them. And rightly so. No ringer need be afraid that he will suffer injury in the exercise of his art, but something unpleasant might happen to him at any time. Let us state a case.

Suppose that a steeplekeeper, who is a paid servant of the church authorities, has taken a beginner into the belfry to teach him to handle a bell, and in the course of the lesson the stay of one of the bells is cracked but not broken through. Next Sunday a band meets to ring and includes a man who is a frequent visitor but not formally one of the company. Something of no importance needs adjusting in the bell chamber, and this man goes upstairs to put it right. Being an experienced man he steadies himself as he moves on the frame among the raised bells by putting his weight on the side of the bells which he knows is, or should be, the safe side. But one bell has the cracked stay, and will not bear his weight. He falls into the pit with the released bell and sustains serious injuries. What claim has he for compensation?

The view a judge and jury would take of such a case if it were brought into court (which perhaps would hardly be likely) cannot be said. Not so many years ago the general opinion would have been that the man went there to please himself and at his own risk, and must take the consequences. In more recent times a different spirit seems to prevail, and the man might receive heavy damages. It would depend on the interpretation of the law, and such a case, we believe, would not be covered

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by any statute law (such as the Employers' Liability Acts) as an injury to a member of a paid band would.

What would decide the case would be, we think, the old English Common Law, and how far the church authorities were guilty of legal negligence in the person of their servant, the steeplekeeper, in allowing the man to go among the bells when one was not safe. The liability would depend on a number of facts. If the steeplekeeper asked the man to go among the bells he would be bound to exercise 'reasonable' care that he did not suffer any injury. If he merely allowed him to go it might be sufficient to show that he did not know that the bell was in an unsafe condition. If the man went uninvited and without the knowledge of the steeplekeeper the law might consider him as technically a trespasser, and then he would have no redress unless he could show that a trap had deliberately been set for him.

Much of what we have been talking about is not likely to happen, but since there is always the possibility of accident, ringers, especially those who are members of parochial church councils, should do what they can to make certain that the insurance policies held by the church cover all accidents to any ringers who may be engaged at the church. They need not, and should not, provide only for those for which the church authorities are legally responsible. A voluntary band, even if it is only a loosely organised one, has as much moral right to protection as a paid one.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 2, 1946, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes, AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

FREDK. E. WILSON ... Treble	HERBERT W. PERKINS ... 7
MRS. H. J. POOLE ... 2	HAROLD G. JENNEY ... 8
JILL POOLE ... 3	ERNEST MORRIS ... 9
ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 4	G. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 10
HARRY G. WAYNE ... 5	WILLIAM J. ROOT ... 11
SHIRLEY BURTON ... 6	HAROLD J. POOLE ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
First peal of York Surprise Maximus by all and for the Guild.

TEN BELL PEAL.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Mar. 11, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE ROYAL, 6040 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

COLIN HARRISON ... Treble	*HARRY G. WAYNE ... 6
HAROLD J. POOLE ... 2	*HERBERT W. PERKINS ... 7
*ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 3	*G. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 8
*MRS. H. J. POOLE ... 4	ERNEST MORRIS ... 9
*JILL POOLE ... 5	*WILLIAM J. ROOT ... Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK H. DEXTER. Conducted by H. J. POOLE.
* First peal of York Surprise Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes, AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

ALAN F. THIRST ... Treble	ERIC A. DENCH ... 5
*ELIZABETH LAYTON ... 2	†VERNON J. BENNING ... 6
PAUL K. WILLIAMSON ... 3	JOHN F. GROVE ... 7
PHILIP M. J. GRAY ... 4	DENIS N. LAYTON ... Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by DENIS N. LAYTON.
* Fifth peal of Major 'inside.' † 50th peal.

EAST MARKHAM, NOTTS.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 9, 1946, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

MISS GRACE BURCHNALL Treble	*FREDK. G. HOOPER ... 5
MISS KATH BURCHNALL 2	*GEORGE W. CREASEY ... 6
GEORGE E. FOSTER ... 3	ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN 7
*HAROLD DENMAN ... 4	J. FREDK. MILNER ... Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by J. FREDK. MILNER.
* First peal in the method.

BALDERSTONE, ROCHDALE, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Tues., Mar. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.	
FRED. DUNKERLEY ... Treble	*ISAAC GARTSIDE ... 5
*GERALD DARE ... 2	VERNON SYKES ... 6
STEPHEN LL. PARRY ... 3	FRANK APPLETON ... 7
W. W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 4	IVAN KAY ... Tenor

Conducted by VERNON SYKES.
* First peal in the method.

TENTERDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Mar. 13, 1946, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MILDRED,

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

THOMAS E. SONE ... Treble	*WILLIAM ROGERS ... 5
MRS. T. CULLINGWORTH 2	ALFRED W. DURHAM ... 6
REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... 7
THOMAS CULLINGWORTH 4	A. PATRICK CANNON ... Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
* First peal in the method 'inside.'

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Mar. 14, 1946, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

On the 'Stelfox' Eight.

JOSIAH MORRIS ... Treble	ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 5
JILL POOLE ... 2	SHIRLEY BURTON ... 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE ... 3	HERBERT W. PERKINS ... 7
HARRY G. WAYNE ... 4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
First peal of York Surprise Major by all.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Mar. 15, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 15 cwt.	
FRANK H. HICKS ... Treble	EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 2	CYRIL BRETT SMITH ... 6
FREDK. A. COLEY ... 3	FREDK. J. CULLUM ... 7
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 4	PHILIP A. CORBY ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.



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CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 16, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDK. A. COLEY ... Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 5
PHILIP A. CORBY ... 2	HARRY HOVERD ... 6
JAMES BENNETT ... 3	FREDK. J. CULLUM ... 7
*GEOFFREY V. MURPHY... 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by FREDK. J. CULLUM.

* First peal in the method.

ABKSEY, DONCASTER, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 16, 1946, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

W. ERIC CRITCHLEY ... Treble	FRANK REED ... 5
E. C. STACEY ... 2	*RICHARD WILLCOCKS ... 6
HARRY BARNES ... 3	†ERNEST PADGETT ... 7
ERNEST SHORT ... 4	LESLIE WOODHEAD ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by W. E. CRITCHLEY.

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

DORCHESTER, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 16, 1946, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPONITION. Tenor 21 cwt.

FREDK. PRECEY ... Treble	CUTHBERT W. H. POWELL ... 5
WILLIAM A. THEOBALD ... 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE ... 6
H. DENNIS W. BISHOP... 3	REV. C. CAREW COX ... 7
LEONARD HARRIS ... 4	EDWARD G. L. COWARD Tenor

Conducted by the REV. C. CAREW COX.

BLACKPOOL, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 16, 1946, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... Treble	CHARLES SHARPLES ... 5
*HARRY PEARSON ... 2	*ALBERT MORLEY ... 6
WILLIAM H. RATCLIFFE... 3	JOE C. MELLOR ... 7
JOHN H. FOSTER ... 4	*HERBERT RAMSBOTTAM... Tenor

Composed by J. NICHOL. Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

* First peal in the method.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Sat., Mar. 16, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AMBROSE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 11½ cwt.

EMLYN F. HANCOCK ... Treble	GEORGE TALBOT ... 5
ALBERT C. BAKER ... 2	*DOUGLAS W. GARDNER 6
SIDNEY G. RICHES ... 3	EDWIN J. RIDLER ... 7
CLEMENT GLENN ... 4	WILLIAM H. PARKER ... Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN J. RIDLER.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

LYMM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 16, 1946, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S No. 1. Tenor 30 cwt.

ARTHUR LINTOTT ... Treble	THOMAS W. HESKETH ... 5
GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 2	EDWIN C. BIRKETT ... 6
PERCIVAL W. CAVE ... 3	JOHN E. SPICE ... 7
DAVID VINCENT ... 4	FREDK. S. ALMOND ... Tenor

Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Mar. 16, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

ALBERT G. RICHARDS ... Treble	ARTHUR BOTTERILL ... 5
HERBERT KNIGHT ... 2	ALFRED MOY ... J... 6
HAROLD SMITH ... 3	ARTHUR V. PEARSON ... 7
ALBERT D. COLLINS ... 4	HOWARD HOWELL ... Tenor

Composed by S. H. WOOD.

Conducted by H. KNIGHT.

SIX BELL PEALS.

COSBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Mar. 8, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MINOR, 0040 CHANGES;

Seven extents called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

*JOSIAH MORRIS ... Treble	CUTHBERT W. POWELL... 4
ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 2	ERNEST MORRIS ... 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE ... 3	*HAROLD J. POOLE ... Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 100th peal together. First peal of York Surprise Minor by all.

PEBMARSH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Child-wall, St. Clement's, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*CHARLES WOODGATE ... Treble	*MISS JOYCE WOODGATE 4
THOMAS BIRD ... 2	*REGINALD RIPPINGALE ... 5
RONALD SUCKLING ... 3	*CHARLES WEAVERS ... Tenor

Conducted by C. WEAVERS.

* First peal in seven methods.

CARBROOKE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

*FREDK. C. JOHNSON ... Treble	CHARLES E. G. BANHAM 4
NELSON W. BANHAM ... 2	*THOMAS A. A. POTTER... 5
†WALTER J. HOUGHTON... 3	LESLIE W. HOUGHTON... Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE W. HOUGHTON.

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

BILLEDSON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven differently called 720's. Tenor 11½ cwt.

JOSEPH NORTON ... Treble	*CRAIG T. WHITMAN ... 4
*GORDON LEE ... 2	J. GEOFFREY GEARY ... 5
JOSIAH MORRIS ... 3	ERNEST MORRIS ... Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal.

BUXTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 9, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Kent and Oxford and one each of Cambridge, Double Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

REV. G. W. WILSON ... Treble	WILLIAM R. CATCHPOLE 4
WM. C. DUFFIELD ... 2	WALTER C. MEDLER ... 5
ERIC DURRANT ... 3	GEORGE BAILEY ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE BAILEY.

KEMPSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Mar. 10, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 19½ cwt.

*ARTHUR I. BLIZZARD ... Treble	*F. ALBERT REA ... 4
*FRANCIS J. CUBBERLEY... 2	†ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY... 5
*HAROLD WILLET ... 3	CHARLES J. CAMM ... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES J. CAMM.

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Bob Minor.

HAWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

On Sun., Mar. 10, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Plain Bob, two of Oxford and three of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN I. ROBERTSHAW ... Treble	VERNEY BAIRSTOW ... 4
HERBERT HELLIWELL ... 2	ERNEST H. SIMPSON ... 5
STANLEY WHITEHEAD ... 3	ARTHUR BAIRSTOW ... Tenor

Conducted by A. BAIRSTOW.

WESTON, BATH.

On Tues., Mar. 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*TREVOR HAYWARD ... Treble	*ROGER FRY 4
*ERNEST WHITE 2	SEALY S. WOODBURN ... 5
*MICHAEL POWELL ... 3	*KENNETH MEDWAY ... Tenor

Conducted by SEALY S. WOODBURN.

* First peal.

LANGLEY MARISH, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Mar. 13, 1946, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Thelwall, St. Clement's, Childwall, Single Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt.

SQUIRE CROFT Treble	RONALD C. NOON 4
WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM ... 2	NORMAN V. HARDING ... 5
WILLIAM WELLING 3	FRANK H. HICKS Tenor

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

CLEWER, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Mar. 14, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*JAMES BROOKS Treble	†HENRY A. R. POSNITT 4
*DAVID PEARCE 2	WILLIAM HENLEY ... 5
†A. JAMES GLASS 3	*ALFRED G. EAGLE ... Tenor

Conducted by W. HENLEY.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles.

SILK-WILLOUGHBY, LINCS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 16, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENNIS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Court, Single Court, Plain Bob, Double Oxford, Single Oxford, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

BERNARD H. DALTON ... Treble	LEONARD P. WILSON ... 4
JOHN E. ALLEN 2	CUTHBERT T. H. BRADLEY 5
ALBERT E. SCOTT 3	JAMES H. MUSSON ... Tenor

Conducted by C. T. H. BRADLEY.

First peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

GOSFORTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Mar. 7, 1946, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT 3, SALTER'S ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHN ANDERSON 1-2	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 5-6
WILLIAM H. BARBER ... 3-4	*DENIS A. BAYLES 7-8

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

* First peal on handbells.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Mar. 10, 1946, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes.

AT ST. PETER'S HALL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

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

*MARY E. DAVIS 9-10

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

* First peal on ten bells.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Mar. 11, 1946, in Two Hours,

AT 6, CRANBOURNE ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents, five callings.

RONALD C. NOON 1-2	FRANK H. HICKS 3-4
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*WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM ... 5-6

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

* First peal of Bob Minor. First 'in hand' by all.

BURBAGE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Mar. 14, 1946, in One Hour and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT 'STEDMAN,' SKETCHLEY ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ALFRED BALLARD 1-2	*ERNEST MORRIS 3-4
FRANK K. MEASURES ... 5-6	

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First handbell peal of Stedman Doubles.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**MEETING AT STALBRIDGE.**

At a meeting of the North Dorset Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild at Stalbridge on March 9th there was an attendance of over 80 from Stalbridge, Gillingham, Mere, Zeals, Marnhull, Shaftesbury, Child Okeford, Shroton, Shillingstone, Bourtou, Sturminster, Newton, Stourton, Okeford Fitzpaine, Hazebury Bryan, Motcombe, Iwerne Minster, Cann, Stoke Wake and Stoke Trister. Members of the Cary branch of Bath and Wells Association joined the meeting, and other visitors from Evercreech, Ditchat, Castle Cary, Warminster, Yeovil, Chilcompton, Templecombe, North Cadbury, South Cadbury, Lytchett Matravers, Poole, Longbridge Deverill and Wincanton.

Service was conducted by the secretary, the Rev. J. Hutton read the lesson, and the Rector, the Rev. E. S. Merriman, gave the address. Tea was served in the schoolroom.

Dr. E. W. J. Hellins presided at the business meeting. The balance sheet showed income for 1945, £27 12s. 1d.; disbursements, £21 8s. 4d.; invested in Savings Certificates, £4 10s.; balance in hand, £1 13s. 9d. Commander Seaman and Messrs. H. Doel and M. Chilcott were elected members. It was arranged to hold the next meeting at Nether Compton on April 18th, and to invite the Ilchester Branch of the Bath and Wells Association.

It was reported that some encouraging response had already been made to the suggestion for repairing or augmenting bells as a fitting war memorial.

The methods rung included Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Single and Double Oxford, Double Court, Reverse Canterbury, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.**MEETING AT SPELDHURST.**

Thirty-five ringers from Buxted, Brencley, Croydon, Hartfield, Lamberhurst, Leigh, Rotherfield, Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells, Withyham and Wadhurst attended a meeting of the East Grinstead and District Guild held at Speldhurst on March 9th. After tea at the George and Dragon, Mr. B. Collison presided over the business meeting, at which six new members were elected, and Balcombe (April 13th) and Buxted (May 11th) were selected as the places of future meetings.

Mr. W. Rogers called attention to the clashing of the Guild's meetings with those of the Eastern Division of the Sussex County Association. It was pointed out that the Guild had held its gatherings on the second Saturday in each month for 19 years, and the secretary Mr. C. A. Bassett, was instructed to get into touch with the association with a view to a mutual agreement.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT DUNSTABLE.**

A meeting of the Luton District of the Bedfordshire Association was held at Dunstable on March 16th, and was attended by members and friends from Bromham, Harrow, Harpenden, Houghton Regis, Luton, Linslade, Maulden, Totternhoe, Tilsforth, Toddington, Woburn and the local tower. A variety of methods were rung, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob Major, Double Norwich, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise. At a short business meeting held in the tower and presided over by the Rev. G. S. R. Dale, chairman of the district, Messrs. F. Jacklin, of Harpenden, and J. R. Mayne, of Harrow, were elected non-resident members of the association.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**MEETING AT ADWICK.**

At a meeting of the Doncaster and District Society, held at Adwick-le-Street on February 23rd, the Vicar of Adwick-le-Street, the Rev. S. A. Taylor, was elected a vice-president of the society, the question of the training of a new band at Hatfield was discussed, and some of the members agreed to help.

Messrs. B. Dodds and J. Grayson, of Sprotborough, and T. H. Foster, of Selby, were elected new members. Thorne was chosen as the place for the March meeting, and Fishlake for April.

The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and Plain Bob, Kent, Oxford, Little Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT CLAPHAM PARK.**

A meeting of the London County Association was held at St. Stephen's, Clapham, on March 9th, and was attended by between 40 and 50 members and visitors. After tea at a short business meeting two new members, Mrs. G. W. Massey and Mr. L. H. Bowler, were elected, and it was agreed that further ringing and business meetings would be held on the second Saturday in each alternate month.

The methods rung ranged from Grandsire Triples to London Surprise Major.

RINGING IN AUSTRALIA.**A NEW ASSOCIATION.***To the Editor*

Dear Sir,—During my association with the ringers in Australia I have discussed the possibility of forming a change ringers' organisation. Always two main difficulties have barred the way. First the lack of a central and suitable meeting place, and, secondly, the apparently insurmountable obstacle of sectarianism. Recently the belfry of Christ Church St. Lawrence was made available and a series of meetings was called.

From the beginning many varied opinions made decisions difficult, and in consequence several accepted rules were not in conformity with English ideas. Finally it was decided to inaugurate the New South Wales Association of Change Ringers and officers were elected. The association has not sought official recognition by the Church, but we hope a satisfactory understanding will be quickly reached.

To-day there are 40 members, who hold regular weekly meetings to study theory (Ringers' Handbook) and practise methods on handbells. Naturally weekly tower-bell practices are still held by the various towers.

Already we are able to report progress. The hon. secretary, Mr. W. M. Rowe, has called two quarter-peals of Grandsire Doubles, and on Sunday, January 27th, the association rang two 720's of Grandsire Doubles unconducted.

This new association is intended to operate over all New South Wales and not, as at present, in Sydney only.

I should like to ask a number of questions. (1) Can the N.S.W. Association be affiliated to the Central Council? If so, would it have the same rights as the associations in the British Isles?

(2) Would the association be required to have representatives at the Central Council meetings?

(3) If the association was not affiliated to the Central Council, would the Council assist with literature, advice, etc.?

(4) Would 'The Ringing World' publish the association peal and meeting reports, etc., if the association was not affiliated to the Central Council?

A. G. WILLIAMS.

PX104945, Mess 205, H.M.S. 'Nabberley,' c/o G.P.O., London.

[An association of church bellringers in Australia would be treated by the home Exercise on grounds of equality. It could apply for affiliation to the Central Council, which undoubtedly would be granted. It would then have the same right to be represented on the Council as English societies have. 'The Ringing World' always publishes reports of peals and ringers' activities from any source, provided they are of general interest and space will allow.—The Editor.]

Dear Sir,—While I was, in Melbourne recently I was privileged to attend the birthday celebrations of Australia's oldest ringer, Mr. James Lucas Murray, who became 84 years of age on February 12th. Twelve of his fellow ringers from St. Paul's Cathedral gathered at Mr. Murray's house, and after touches on handbells sat down to an enjoyable supper, which included a birthday cake complete with four lighted candles. Musical honours were accorded Mr. Murray, and all present wished him many more years of healthy retirement. After thanking the company for their good wishes, Mr. Murray tapped into reminiscent vein and recounted humorous stories of his early ringing days, and of the rivalry that existed between two Melbourne bands.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Murray conducted the first peal ever to be rung in Australia, Holt's Ten Part peal of Grandsire Triples, which was rung at St. Philip's, Sydney, on April 9th, 1890.

During an enjoyable 14 days' stay in Melbourne I was given a very hospitable welcome by the ringers and elected a member of the St. Paul's Cathedral Society. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, which was arranged for me at the Cathedral, unfortunately came to grief owing to the tenor rope breaking. On going aloft to fit a new rope it was found that part of the wheel had also broken away.

Early in February I spent a few days in Adelaide, and whilst visiting St. Peter's Cathedral was informed by the vergar that one of the churchwardens had bequeathed a sum of money for a peal of eight bells to be installed. This will constitute the first peal of bells in Adelaide, and the question of raising and teaching a band of ringers is likely to present something of a problem.

W. F. J. COPE, R.N.V.R.

Fremantle, W. Australia.

ESSFX ASSOCIATION**MEETING AT FRYERNING.**

A meeting of the South-Eastern District of the Essex Association was held at Fryerning on March 16th, at which 27 members attended from Great Baddow, Boreham, Broomfield, Chelmsford, Fryerning, Galleywood, Ingatestone, Maldon, Springfield, Stock and Harwich.

The service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. C. S. Trimble, and tea, provided by Mr. G. Camp, Mr. A. Bradley and the Rector, was served in the Parish Room.

Mr. F. Fitch, of Little Waltham, was elected a ringing member, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Writtle on May 11th.

A variety of methods were rung during the afternoon and evening, and Ingatestone bells were also available.

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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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folk, and not to the Editor.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Subscribers are reminded that the present quarter ex-
pires with the issue of March 29th. Renewal orders with
remittance for the June quarter should be in the hands
of the hon. secretary on or before Saturday, March 30th,
to ensure prompt delivery. Subscriptions should not be
sent to the Editor.

Mr. Frank Barraclough, who rang the fourth in the peal of Treble
Bob Major at Penistone on March 16th, lost his right arm through an
accident some years ago.

Members of the Society of College Youths should note that the
ringing to-morrow will be at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, not at St.
Margaret's, Westminster, the bells of which are not available.

As will be seen in the Notices Column, the times of the Salisbury
Diocesan Guild meeting at Amesbury on March 30th have been altered.
Mr. Ernest Morris has now rung peals of Stedman Doubles, Triples,
Caters and Cinques on both tower and handbells; and peals of York
Surprise Minor, Major, Royal and Maximus on tower bells.

We are sorry to learn that the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards has had a bad
fall and sustained severe injuries to face and hands.

A report of a peal of Grandsire Doubles rung at Loders, Dorset,
on February 23rd, has been received without a conductor's name. We
shall be glad if it is forwarded to us.

CANON COLERIDGE.

Canon G. F. Coleridge attended a meeting of the Oxford Diocesan
Board of Finance for the last time on March 8th. The Bishop, paying
a tribute to his services, said that 50 years ago he and his church-
warden used to walk overnight nearly fifty miles from Crowthorne to
Oxford to attend a meeting, and then return immediately afterwards.

THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

March 17th, 1858. Chellis F. Winney born at Nayland in Suffolk.
1891. At St. Martin's, Birmingham, the first peal of Duffield
Maximus.

March 19th, 1868. At Duffield, the first peal of Duffield Royal.
1929. At Willesden, the first peal of Spliced Surprise Major in six
methods.

March 20th, 1920. At Birmingham, the first peal of Erin Cinques.

March 21st, 1923. At St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, Charles T.
Coles called the first and only five bell peal rung in the City of London.

March 22nd, 1802. At Southwark, the Cumberlands rang 1,104

Oxford Treble Bob Maximus. Still the longest peal in the method.

1858. Isaac J. B. Lates died.

1901. At St. Peter's, Brighton, Mr. George Williams called the

first peal of Bristol Surprise Major.

March 23rd, 1857. Elijah Roberts tapped on handbells 19,440

Treble Bob Maximus.

1887. At Birmingham, 9,020 Grandsire Cinques.

1898. At Aston on handbells, 8,888 Stedman Caters.

INSURANCE OF RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The following is a cutting I took out of one of the papers in 1934: 'Bearings' Insurance.—A novel insurance is being effected by the Comsborough St. Peter's Parochial Church Council, who have decided to insure the 13 bearers at the church against accident. The Vicar (the Rev. W. J. T. Rascoe) says that the insurance of bearers is a new departure in the insurance world. The policy covers the ringers against accident when carrying out their duties at the Parish Church, and in travelling to and from other towers—an amusing and up-to-date touch being given to the policy by the clause that the policy will not be operative if the men travel by air. The cost of the insurance to the Church Council will be 1s. per ringer, and the benefits include £250 in the event of death, £125 for the loss of a limb, and 32s. 6d. for a year in the event of total disablement.'

I think the latter should be intended to read '32s. 6d. per week for a year.'

I have heard plenty of talk re insurance of ringers, but this is the only case I have heard that has been carried out. S. BRIGGS.

54, Gerard Road, Rotherham.

Dear Sir,—The ringers at Bradford Cathedral are insured for accidents in the tower, and I think all ringers should be so insured. The insurance is an employer's liability policy and is cover for all church-workers, which includes 12 bearers, 24 choirboys, one clockwinder, one verger and, I think, two curates. If anyone would like further particulars, Mr. Simpson, churchwarden, Bradford Cathedral, would be pleased to supply them. E. H. RAYNER.

Bradford.

Dear Sir,—I have made inquiries, and with the help of one of the churchwardens at Wrotham, find that at Wrotham, where the ringers are volunteers, the church authorities have no legal liability under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, since the Acts apply to paid workers only. Quoting further from the same source, 'The position in respect of voluntary helpers is that they are regarded as recognising and accepting the risks associated with the work they undertake, and it is only in the event of a voluntary worker sustaining some bodily injury due to a defect in the premises, or to negligence on the part of the church authorities or their employees, that any legal liability can rest upon the church authorities.' (The church authorities' third party insurance would, I think, cover the above.) The Ecclesiastical Insurance Office, Ltd., have a scheme of personal accident assurance to provide for the payment of specified benefits to ringers who sustain bodily injury by accident while ringing, attending to the bells or while travelling to and from a church for ringing or practice. R. PALMER.

2, St. Mary's Road, Wrotham, Kent.

Dear Sir,—A few years ago I took this matter up with a well-known insurance company which specialises in church risks. I was informed that if the ringers were voluntary there was no liability attached to the church authorities.

The position with regard to paid ringers is different, inasmuch as should an accident occur the church becomes liable, therefore these ringers should be covered by an employer's liability policy, together with the other paid servants of the church, such as the organist, verger, etc. A. H. FOX.

122, Beverley Road, Kirk Ella, East Yorks.

[We thank other correspondents who have written on this matter.—The Editor.]

BROADCAST BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Paul Birkett is very optimistic if he thinks that the Central Council or anyone else can 'explain to the B.B.C. the place bells take in broadcasting.' The B.B.C. people know their job and the opinions of the persons they cater for. The fact that a few ringers would like to have a little more bellringing does not influence them in the slightest. Why should it? For the many thousands who listen one minute of the bells is quite sufficient. It is enough to give the required church atmosphere, and more would bore most of them stiff. Ringers do not realise that, though many people feel the charm of change ringing, a very little of it goes a long way when it has to be listened to intently. Occasional snort lengths of changes on the wireless do good to the Exercise and its reputation, but much of it would do a lot of harm. X.

Dear Sir,—This subject was well to the fore on Saturday at Nottingham, when a meeting of the Southwell Guild congratulated the St. Mary's band on refusing to ring for a broadcast service on the previous Sunday. An attempt to get a stipulated time on the air was metted 'as the bells were only required for a background.'

The meeting decided to press for action by the Central Council and in the meantime to call on all ringers to follow the example of St. Mary's ringers. T. GROOMBRIDGE, Jun.

Nottingham.

BALL BEARINGS VERSUS PLAIN.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. H. W. Simmons seems to think that the saving of expenditure of energy caused by ball bearings is a good thing. So it is to some extent, but by no means entirely, because the expenditure of energy is itself one of the main causes of the fascination of bellringing. One of the greatest pleasures in ringing is in the amount and nature of the pulling needed. Bells can go too well, especially when they are light in weight and have a long draught of rope. Many an old-fashioned ringer has complained that the modern bell-hanger has taken half the enjoyment out of bell handling. The thing is far too easy now and schoolgirls can ring tenors. One result is that there is a lot of sloppy, slovenly ringing done. 'SENEX.'

Dear Sir,—This discussion takes me back to Moulton, October 14th, 1928. It was our harvest festival and the preacher was Canon H. E. Nolloth, late of Beverley Minster and an authority on bells, having been supervisor of the rehanging of York Minster bells.

After service he made for the belfry to watch the ringers. In conversation with them they told him the going was hard. They were perspiring. He remarked, 'You want ball bearings.' I may add, the perspiring was helped on by a swinging frame and oscillating tower, which kept outsiders from coming to ring a peal.

We had the bells rehung in 1931 and put on ball bearings to the great delight of the ringers. No more perspiring. The going was so easy that a band of girl ringers was formed under the tuition of the foreman, Tom Tebbutt, some of them ringing in peals.

Decidedly, after that experience, I vote for ball bearings.

J. M. TURNER, President, N.E. Devon Branch.
The Rectory, Washfield, Tiverton.

A MATTER OF FINANCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. E. C. S. Turner is surely right when he says ringers get their ringing too cheaply. They have free access to any tower for Sunday ringing or for practice, then when the ropes get worn out or the bearings want renewing, ringers are heard to complain bitterly that the so-and-so old parson takes no interest in the ringers. Why should he when the great majority of ringers take no interest in the Church and seldom attend a service? Then the peal ringers. What would happen if the bells were hung in the Town Hall and ringers had to apply to the civic authorities for permission to ring three hours non-stop? I don't think there would be as much peal ringing as there is now. Peal ringing no doubt affords great pleasure to the ringer, but little to the compulsory listener. When a party of ringers wish to ring a peal in a tower that is surrounded by dwellings, as so many of them are, surely it should be the business of the ringers concerned to get the bells blanketed or shuttered off so that they do not annoy the people who live nearby. A lot could be done in this respect by the various ringers' associations if these bodies were wealthier. It surely is time ringers paid something for the pleasure they get out of ringing and the annoyance they so lightly inflict on others. GEORGE N. BLAKE.

St. Albans.

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT NOTTINGHAM.

A meeting of the Southwell Diocesan Guild was held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on March 16th, and attracted over 40 members from Balderton, Bottesford, Bulwell, Daybrook, Derby, Newark, Nottingham (St. Mary's and St. Peter's), Retford, Lincoln, Sutton, Southwell and Ilkeston.

Canon Wilkinson presided at the business meeting in the belfry, at which the resignation of the vice-chairman, Mr. R. Narborough, was accepted with regret and Mr. Paling elected to the vacant office. Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., was appointed representative on the Central Council.

Broadcasting was well discussed on a motion to congratulate the band of St. Mary's, Nottingham, for refusing to ring for a broadcast service on the previous Sunday. Mr. Narborough had attempted to get a stipulated time 'on the air,' but obtained not only a refusal but the added information that the 'bells were only required for a background.' It was decided to press for action by the Central Council, and in the meantime to call on all ringers to follow the lead given by St. Mary's band.

The ringing ranged from Grandsire Triples to Kent Treble Bob Royal, and also included courses of Cambridge Surprise Royal and Bristol Surprise Major.

BRADFORD CATHEDRAL

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Vicar and churchwardens of Bradford Cathedral have placed a tablet in the ringing chamber to commemorate the ringing of the bells at intervals during V-Day, on which is inscribed the names of the ringers who took part. It was impossible to ring a peal that day, as there were thanksgiving services taking place up till midnight. I think there were 24 services, and it was estimated 12,000 people took part, a great occasion to keep in memory.

ERNEST H. RAYNER.

54, Thornbury Drive, Thornbury, Bradford.

INSCRIPTIONS WITH A SMILE.

BY JOHN P. FIDLER.
(Continued from page 113.)

An old, yet ever new, invocation graced the old tenor of Whitchurch Canonorum, and, like other old inscriptions we have come across, applies equally to-day as the day it appeared; whether they apply to-morrow remains to be seen, but human nature, being what it is, it most likely will.

'Harke when I call. Come to corch
All come to sarve God or come
Not at all. Anno Domini 1669.'

I do not expect anyone would complain if a similar inscription appeared to-day.

At Sherborne we get an invocation of another nature. It does not appear on a bell of the peal, but on an extra bell, which, as the inscription informs us, is the 'Fire Bell.'

'Lord qvnc the fvrious flame
Aris, rvn, help put out the same.'

It is a peculiar shaped bell, and I doubt whether there is another like it. Certainly the following does not describe it:—

'My sound is good, my shape is neat,
Twas Kingston cast me so compleate
1805,'

which appeared on the second bell at Bradford Abbas.

The year 1684 saw an unusual inscription, yet in the main is similar to many we have seen already.

'A wonder great my eye I fix where was
but three you may see six.'

It seems like a statement by a conjurer, who, by sleight of hand, transformed three into six. This appeared on the treble bell at St. Peter's, Shaftesbury.

Reference has been made to the inscriptions which praised subscribers and an inscription which does the opposite is a rarity; in fact one would think it non-existent, yet the following made its appearance at St. Benet's, Glastonbury:—

'Our tones would all have been moch
Deeper if contributions had been
Greater.'

Thus, ye subscribers to bell funds, remember St. Benet's, give liberally and give early; the more you give the better the job will be, no one gets something for nothing, but just what you pay for.

Thomas Janaway, in 1763, put an inscription on Bexley 3rd, which is as topical to-day as the day it appeared.

'Ye rulers that are put in trust
To judge of wrong and right
Be all your judgements true and just
Regarding no mans might.'

No one can fall out with these sentiments, nor with those expressed in the next inscription which Janaway put on Bromley Third ten years later.

'He and he only aims aright who
Joyns industry with delight.'

It is not often a god of music gets a line in a bell inscription, but on the seventh at Bromley Janaway gave us this:—

'The ringers art our grateful notes
Prolong Apollo listens and approves
The Song.'

Judging by the inscription on the tenor at Glington, Northants, they had one of those subscribers all bell

committees like to meet—one who says, 'Raise what you can and I will pay the difference.' The inscription is:—

'John Scott did pay for me
One hundred pounds and odd money.'

I do not know what the odd money was and can only surmise he had promised to make up the amount required to do the bells.

At West Haddon another keen worker gets a pat on the back, for the old second tells us:—

'Heare I had not hunge
Bvt for John Dalington.'

No doubt John was quite pleased with that one.

No matter where we go, we continually come across old inscriptions which apply to-day just as they did when produced, thus in 1834, the Oxford Taylors came out with this one at Helmdon:—

'Obey our call the right the good old way
Shun schism's wiles, nor from it ever stray.'

Whilst the tenor there, dated 1679, gives us:—
'That all may cvm and non may stay at hom
I ring to sermon with a lvsti bom.'

I should imagine we should read 'summon' for 'sermon' here. This is a fairly common inscription and summon is used frequently.

It is not often one finds an inscription which predicts an event, but on Marston Trussel third this appeared:—

'Marke Brewster Marchant gave
The great bell of this ring 1621.'

Yet on 'The Great Bell' we have the date 1623 and the inscription tells us Mark Brewster gave the bell. Do not start wondering how this comes about. Mark Brewster died in Moscow in 1612 and left money to buy the 'Great Bell.'

The ninth at St. Giles', Northampton, takes us back to the reign of George III., and reminds us of the loss of America and a previous European War. It was cast by Arnold in 1783, and presents us with:—

'The joys of peace our infant voice proclaim
With Holland, France, America and Spain,'

and yet it was not long after this that Napoleon started throwing his weight about, so much so, that we still are sorting the bits out. Here, again, we have an inscription which brings us back to earth with a bump. In spite of our progress, are we any further forward than when Arnold cast St. Giles' ninth?

Again an old but ever new inscription comes to light. It is on the fourth at Passenheim.

'A trusty frende is harde
To fynde 1585.'

Can anyone complain about this one? As far as I know, it has not been placed on any other bell. This would look better on a 'Wayside Pulpit' than 'Beer is man's enemy,' which was followed up by 'Make a friend of your enemy.'

Our next is not quite so good. It appeared at Towcester in 1725:—

'Ring boyes and keep awake for
William Henschmans sake.'

I am not going to say anything about this inscription, but will let you wonder what it is all about.

By his inscriptions on the old third and fourth at Wicken, Newcombe lets us know what an honest chap he was, and they read like some problem set on an examination paper. I shall not attempt to sort them out, or

I might come a purler, but here they are for those who wish to try:—

Old Third:—

'Tow hvndred waight was
I before aded to me was
Eyght hvndred more this is
No robing of a kirke bvt
Acovnted a good warke 1620.'

Old Fourth:—

'Fowr are torned into one yet
Loss the chvrch received none.'
'Three hvndred weight was
Added more and paid by Wickens
Patrons score 1619.'

During the period of the inscriptions' under review newspaper advertisements were unknown. Quite a number of founders used the bells to extol their merits. Some of these were justified, whilst others were mere puff. The third bell of St. Benet's, Cambridge, was given one of these vain inscriptions which did not justify itself. 'Of all the bels in Bennet I am the best
And yet for my casting the parish paide
Lest.'

This bell was cast in 1607, and certainly was not the best in St. Benet's tower.

Are all St. Benet's parishes poor? or are they still tainted with the Benedictine rule? St. Benet's, Glastonbury, as we have already seen, has a bell which mildly slates the subscribers. There is one thing to be said, nobody, or should it be no bell, can pass rude remarks about the ringers of England through whose efforts the bells of St. Benet's, Cambridge, were restored in 1931 to celebrate the Stedman Tercentenary. The tenor bell inscription is worth repeating:—

'This bell was broke and cast again as plainly doth appear

John Draper made me in 1618 which time churchwardens were

Edward Dixon for the one whoe stood by his tacklin
And he that was his partner then was Alexander Jacklin.'

I wonder what is meant by 'tacklin'? Had Edward Dixon been a bellhanger one would have assumed he was his hoisting gear. Perhaps it was the wherewithal to celebrate the casting of the bell. Anyhow, it rhymes with Jacklin, so what matters its meaning?

Down in Dorset we found some bells with socialistic tendencies, and at St. Mary's, Ely, we come across two more, but they are milder than the 'Darset' ones. On the fifth we have this:—

'I to the poor and needy am a friend
For whose relief I call you to attend,'

whilst on the sixth we find:—

'May our rich goodd and happy be
And our poor peace and plenty see.'

These were cast by Arnold, 1781. In 1946 both rich and poor would like to see plenty. Again history is repeating itself, for they were having a rough time in 1781, when George the Third was king.

In 1776 we lost America, but Fulbourn had a new ring of six which were cast out of the bells of All Saints' Church and St. Vigor's Church. Some years before, the steeple of All Saints' Church fell down, and in 1775 an Act of Parliament was passed to unite the two benefices. Two single lines of inscriptions put on the second and third bells briefly record the events,

Second:—'The ruins of All Saints were taken down.'

Third:—'And the parishes united.'

Still the inscriptions which record some important event in the history of the bells turn up; when Joseph Eayre cast six bells for Whittlesey St. Mary in 1758 he inscribed the fourth:—

'The five old bells into six was run
With additional metal near a tun,'

whilst that on the old fifth was a favourite of his that discouraged enthusiasm. This peal was made eight in 1803 by Osborn and Dobson.

When the Willingham bells were cast in 1755, the fourth bore a very premature inscription, alas; it tells us:—

'The first time these five bells
Rang was for Thomas Wallman's
Wedding.'

Thomas Wallman was a churchwarden at the time, and for some reason or other he never married. Was he full of hope when the bell was cast? Did the lady take offence when she saw the inscription and told him, 'You've had it, chum,' or whatever they said in those days? As poor old Tom is beyond recall we cannot have the answer.

Like a lot of inscriptions, that of the eighth at Wisbech, St. Peter's, is devoid of punctuation marks, which, at first glance, makes it seem all mixed up:—

'I praise the Lord the people call convoke the priests
The dead deplore plagues drive away and gladden
feasts.'

When I first saw this I wondered why the dead should deplore plagues. I could understand the dead gladdening feasts if the author of the lines was conversant with North Country practice, where it is a poor funeral is one is not buried with ham. On reading it again I saw the meaning. Just look through it again and you will see it.

Rudhall, when he cast the Quatt, Shropshire, tenor in 1700, departed from his stock inscription and gave this:—

'I call the quick & dead prepare
To chvrch & bed.'

Now, is the word 'bed' meant to have some reference to the ringing of the curfew, or is it meant to refer to the 'grave'? Quite possibly the former, because the dead have been called in the first line.

Very rarely do bells record local rhymes similar to the well known nursery rhymes on London bells, but the tenor of St. Leonard's, Bridgnorth, gives us one:—

'Up Severn and down Morfe
Say the bells of Bridgnorth.'

I cannot give the meaning of 'Up Severn and down Morfe,' but perhaps someone from the locality can enlighten us.

(To be continued.)

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION. MEETING AT MALVERN.

Over 50 members of the Worcestershire Association sat down to tea, provided by Canon Bartleet and Mr. Allsebrook, one of the churchwardens, at the meeting held at the Priory Church, Great Malvern, on March 18th.

Canon Bartleet presided at the meeting, and he and the warden were elected as honorary members. Ten ringing members were elected, and arrangements for the quarterly peal were left in the hands of Mr. Lawrence. Hanbury was chosen for the next meeting, with Suckley as an alternative. The collection for the belfry repair fund amounted to £1 5s. The methods rung included Grandsire, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob and London and Bristol Surprise.

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.

NOTICES must be received **NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.**

YORKSHIRE ASSN.—Eastern District. — Campsall (8), Saturday, Mar. 23rd. Service 4.15. Tea, 1s. 6d., at 5.—H. S. Morley, 45, Green Lane, Selby.

MIDDLESEX ASSN.—Brentford, Mar. 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea 5.30. Further ringing evening.—J. E. Lewis Cockey.

SURREY ASSN.—Annual, Beddington, Saturday Mar. 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.—C. de Ste C. Parks.

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

SUFFOLK GUILD. — Ipswich District. — Holbrook and Stutton, Saturday, March 23rd, 2.30 p.m.

HERTFORD ASSN.—Eastern Division.—Broxbourne (8), Saturday, March 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15.—G. Radley, 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Chalfont St. Giles, Saturday, March 23rd, 3.30 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

HERTFORD ASSN.—Northern District.—Royston, Saturday, March 23rd, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—Winscombe (8), Saturday, March 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business in Church Room.—E. J. Avery, Sandford, Bristol.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Ashover (8), Saturday, March 23rd, 3 p.m. Business 5.30.—H. L. Warburton.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Bury St. Edmunds District.—Rougham (6), 3 p.m., Saturday, March 23rd. Cups of tea provided. Bring food.—A. Gillings, Horringer.

DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSN.—Derby Branch.—Duffield (10), March 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea Bridge Inn, 5 p.m. Business in belfry 6 p.m.—Wm. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden.

KENT ASSN.—Canterbury District.—Ash, March 30th, 3. Service 4. Tea (1s. 6d.) to those who notify Miss J. Holman, 4, Lion Terrace, Ash, Canterbury.—B. J. Luck.

KENT ASSN.—Maidstone District.—Aylesford (8), Saturday, March 30th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Mr. C. H. Sone, Linton, near Maidstone.

LINCOLN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Annual, Boston (10), Saturday, March 30th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names by March 26th.—W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs.

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Farnham District.—Farnborough (6), Saturday, March 30th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea, Tumble-down Dick Hotel, 4.45. Names by March 27th.—C. W. Denyer, 11, Newhouses, Holly Road, Aldershot.

LEICESTER GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Kibworth, Sat., March 30th, 3 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Village Hall. Names for tea by March 27th, to L. W. Allen, High Street, Great Glenn.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover District.—Longparish, Saturday, March 30th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Names for tea to Rev. T. Marsden.—F. S. H. Marle.

BEDS ASSN.—Bedford District.—Milton Ernest (6), Saturday, March 30th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—L. H. Bowler.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Thorne, March 30th, 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to W. E. Critchley, 61, Church Road, Stainforth, Doncaster.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Saturday, March 30th. Tea 4.45. Business 6 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. E. E. Davis, 118, Sarsfield Road, Balham, S.W.12, by March 25th.

KENT ASSN.—Rochester District.—Practice at Rainham, Saturday, March 30th, 6.30 p.m.

DEVON GUILD.—South-West Branch.—Tavistock (8), Saturday, March 30th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Names for tea (1s. 6d. each) by March 25th, to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth, Devon.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Hardingstone, Saturday, March 30th. Service 4.15 p.m. Bring food.—R. S. Cowley, 83, Beech Avenue, Northampton.

SALISBURY GUILD. — Amesbury (8), Saturday, March 30th. Service 3. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea, and details of bus services not later than March 25th to Wm. Theobald, 243, Essex Square, West Harnham, Salisbury.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Cheltenham Branch.—Leckhampton (8), Saturday, March 30th. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30. Names by the 26th.—Walter Yeend, Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Bolton Branch.—St. Peter's, Halliwell, Saturday, March 30th, 2.30. Business 6.30 p.m. Tea provided. Names to J. F. Wood, 51, Melrose Avenue, Bolton.—Peter Crook.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD (Wirral Branch) and **LANCASHIRE ASSN.** (Liverpool Branch).—Childwall, Saturday, March 30th, 2.30 p.m. Service 5. Tea provided. Notify G. R. Newton, 57, Amphthill Road, Liverpool 17.—H. S. Brocklebank and G. R. Newton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual nomination meeting, Armley, March 30th, 3 p.m. Tea (1s. 9d.) and business 5 p.m. Names by March 28th.—H. Lofthouse, 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Dunster Deanery.—Annual, Old Cleeve (8), Saturday, March 30th. Service 4.15. Tea and business at the Village Hall 5.—Geo. Stacey, 6, Park Street, Minehead.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Taunton Branch.—West Monkton (6), Saturday, March 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to A. H. Reed, Mimosa, George Street, Taunton.

BRISTOL RURAL.—Alveston (6), Saturday, March 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Card for tea by March 25th to D. W. Gardner, 9, Cosham Street, Mangotsfield, Bristol.

LEICESTER GUILD.—Loughborough District.—Kegworth (8), Saturday, March 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.

SHEFFIELD SOCIETY.—Whiston (8), April 6th, 3 p.m. Names for tea (1s. 6d.) to N. Chaddock, 33, Brecklands, Broom, Rotherham.—H. Chaddock.

KENT ASSN.—Tonbridge District.—Brenchley (8), Saturday, April 6th. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Names by April 3rd to T. Saunders, East Peckham, Tonbridge. Practice, Tonbridge, Friday, April 5th, 7.30 p.m.—T. Saunders.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Bridgwater Deanery.—Wembdon (6), Saturday, April 6th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—R. Short, Quantock View, Chilton Trinity, Bridgwater.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Aston (12), Birmingham, Saturday, April 6th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea follows. Notify Mr. F. Price, 174, Marsh Lane, Erdington, Birmingham 23. Phone ERD. 0554.—T. H. Reeves.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Bristol City Branch.—SS. Philip and Jacob, April 6th, 3 p.m. Christ Church not available. Tea 5 p.m., St. Michael's Parish Hall. Notify for tea by April 3rd.—C. H. Wood, 1, Brunswick Street, St. Paul's, Bristol 2.

YORKSHIRE ASSN.—Western Division.—Horbury, near Wakefield (8), Saturday, April 6th; also Ossett (10) available. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5. Names to Mr. H. Pickles, 9, Co-operative Street, Horbury, by April 3rd.—Wm. Ambler, 40, Littlemoor, Queensbury.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. A. E. Millett's address after March 19th will be The Lawns, Wothorpe, Stamford, Lincs. (Telephone, Stamford 3180).

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THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

MEETING AT NEWHALL.

Over thirty members and friends of the Midland Counties Guild attended the meeting held at Newhall on March 16th.

The Vicar, the Rev. H. H. Wright, assisted by the Rev. F. J. Styles, conducted a short service, and Mr. B. G. Key was in the chair for the business meeting. Ten ringing members were elected, and meetings were arranged for Burton Parish Church on Easter Monday and at Barton-under-Needwood on May 25th. Mr. J. W. Cotton was elected representative on the Central Council.

Discussion took place regarding the design submitted by the committee for the Guild's certificate, and the matter was left over to a future meeting.

The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Plain Bob Minor and rounds.

The towers represented were Ashby, Burton (St. Paul's and St. Modwen's), Repton, Measham, Netherseale, Overseal, Lullington and the local company.

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT SHERBURN.

At a meeting of the Selby and District Society, held at Sherburn-in-Elmet on March 16th, about 24 ringers were present from Hull, Goole, Tadcaster, Hemingbrough, Selby and the local tower. The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob.

Tea in the Church Hall was followed by the business meeting, over which the Rev. S. Cuthbertson, curate of Selby Abbey, presided. The younger members are to be encouraged to express their views at future meetings of the society.

THE BELLS OF EUROPE.

It is announced that a thousand church bells looted by the Nazis from Belgium, France and Holland have been returned by the Control Commission.

QUARTER PEALS.

OXHEY, HERTS.—On Tuesday, March 5th, 1,850 Stedman Triples: G. C. Tarr 1, C. W. Woolley 2, Miss P. Holmes 3, H. Hodgetts 4, J. Rootes 5, L. Tarr 6, H. Cashmore (conductor) 7, F. W. Brinklow 8. Also 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: J. Rootes 1, H. Hodgetts 2, Miss P. Holmes 3, G. C. Tarr 4, C. W. Woolley 5, L. Tarr 6, F. W. Brinklow 7, H. Cashmore (conductor) 8.—On Tuesday, March 12th, 1,264 Bob Major: J. Cleaver 1, Mrs. G. Savill 2, Miss P. Holmes 3, G. C. Tarr 4, F. Allaway 5, L. Tarr 6, H. Hodgetts 7, F. W. Brinklow (conductor) 8.

EATON SOCON, BEDS.—On March 5th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. A. R. Chamberlain 1, P. C. Bonnett 2, R. J. Houghton 3, A. C. Sinfield 4, C. H. Harding 5, C. E. Jeffries 6, L. H. Bywater 7, B. J. Stubbs (conductor) 8.

CHIPPING BARNET.—On March 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Pearl 1, W. Baldwin 2, W. Vince 3, E. Marshall 4, E. Hoare 5, R. H. Begrie 6, C. W. Ward (conductor) 7, G. Herbert 8. Half-muffled for Mrs. D. Casley.

WOODCHESTER, GLOS.—On Sunday, March 10th, 1,260 Grandsire and St. Dunstan's Doubles: W. Brunt 1, G. Latham 2, F. Garland 3, S. C. Thain 4, R. J. Thain (conductor) 5, R. Sharpe 6.

STREATHAM.—On Sunday, March 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: C. Potheary 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, A. Miller 3, E. E. Bish 4, T. W. Welbourne 5, B. Sutton 6, C. D. Nichol 7, S. Howard 8.

SOUTHBROOM, DEVIZES.—On Sunday, March 10th, 1,440 Bob Minor: A. T. Weeks 1, S. G. Grant 2, W. G. Mortimer 3, P. J. F. Hunt 4, F. J. Bealing 5, J. S. Weeks (conductor) 6.

BURBAGE, LEICS.—On Sunday, March 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Compton 1, W. Clough 2, C. Turner 3, A. Ballard 4, E. Clough 5, E. Rivitt 6, F. K. Measures (conductor) 7, J. Veasey 8.

EDENHAM, LINCS.—On March 15th, 1,264 Bob Major: D. Stainsby 1, A. Scott 2, B. Wade 3, A. Wade 4, A. Holmes (conductor) 5, F. French 6, Miss M. Gann 7, Dv. Stainsby 8.

QUEENSBURY, YORKS.—On March 16th, 1,264 Bob Major: Keith Brayshaw 1, Robert Butterfield 2, Derrick Taylor 3, Sam Blundell 4, Paul Birkett 5, Philip Whitaker 6, Gordon Benfield (conductor) 7, Dennis Roe 8.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.—On March 16th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: T. Garley 1, Brian Austin 2, Roy Summerley 3, C. W. Bird 4, A. Garley 5, H. Baxter (conductor) 6.

WEST HAM.—On Sunday, March 17th, 1,257 Stedman Caters: C. H. Hughes 1, Thomas H. Taffender 2, A. Prior 3, F. W. Housden 4, H. T. Andrews 5, R. W. Stannard 6, Richard F. Deal 7, Frank C. W. Knight 8, E. D. Smith (conductor) 9, J. MacPhail 10.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, March 17th, at St. Ebbe's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. H. B. Wilkins 1, Margaret L. Tutt 2, N. I. Alnatt 3, J. Higgins 4, R. Higgins 5, R. A. Post 6, W. F. Judge (conductor) 7, F. A. H. Wilkins 8.

BARWELL, LEICS.—On Sunday, March 17th, 1,248 Bob Major: T. Belton 1, W. P. Whitehead (conductor) 2, H. Knights 3, L. B. Hodges 4, E. R. Whitehead 5, C. R. Belton 6, P. Deacon 7, T. K. Deacon 8. Half-muffled for Mr. E. Green.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, March 17th, at St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Wilfred E. Box 1, Henry H. Fearn 2, John Scott 3, Herbert C. Spencer (conductor) 4, Cyril Taberner 5, James F. Harvey 6, George E. Fearn 7, G. William Critchley 8.

SUFFOLK GUILD.

MEETING AT MILDENHALL.

A meeting of the Mildenhall District of the Suffolk Guild was held at Mildenhall on March 9th. Forty-seven ringers from 20 towers were present, and the methods rung ranged from rounds to Bristol Surprise Major. The Vicar presided at the business meeting and was supported by the general secretary of the Guild and Mr. A. Gillings.

Mr. C. W. Pipe announced that it was proposed to add two trebles to the ring of eight at Mildenhall.

Mr. R. A. Wallace was elected district secretary, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Elveden in May. A collection for the fund to provide the new bells realised £4.

WOOTTON BASSETT.

PRESENTATION TO MR. L. A. WILSON.

Nearly 100 ringers from Calne, Chippenham, Hilmarton, Lyneham, Broad Hinton, Wroughton, Clyffe Pypard, Yatesbury, Bishops Cannings, Devizes, Bunsdon, Purton, Rodbourne Cheney, Stratton St. Margaret, Lydiard Millicent and Swindon were present at Wootton Bassett on March 16th, the occasion being the presentation of a wallet of notes subscribed by the ringers of the Calne Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild to Mr. L. A. Wilson on his 70th birthday. The presentation was made by the Rev. H. V. White, chairman of the branch. The ringing ranged from rounds to Double Norwich Major.

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