



No. 290. Vol. XI.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1916.

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Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL'S POSITION.



The letter which appeared in our last issue, appealing for a leader of the Exercise, has drawn, as was only to be expected, a reply from the Honorary Secretary of the Central Council, who advances reasoned arguments why nothing officially has been done to answer those who have recently been complaining in the daily Press about the ringing of bells. As he points out, local complaints are unquestionably best dealt with locally by those who know the facts, but most ringers, we think, are of opinion that, in the case of an attack of a general nature, there should be someone holding a position of authority in the Exercise to take up the cudgels from the ringers' side, otherwise ringers may be judged by default, and outsiders may very justifiably argue that we have no answer at all to meet the case against us.

The recent agitation has been, perhaps, no worse than many others which have preceded it, but it certainly was of a type that, revived from time to time, might lead to a more serious attempt to suppress bell ringing of all kinds. It is for that that we have to be prepared, and it is certainly a surprise to us to learn that this is not a part of the Council's business. We were under the impression that one of the first reasons for the existence of this central body was to band together the various associations for the protection of the Exercise. We may be wrong, for it is a long time since the purposes of the Council have been fully explained and memory is not always reliable, but our impression has always been that a strong point in the late Sir Arthur Heywood's policy in establishing the Council was that there should be a body ready to hand, representing the whole of the ringers of the country, that could act if ever the need arose. The Honorary Secretary's letter, however, seems to negative this view, and we would therefore suggest that one of the things which the Council might well do when it next meets is to give a plain, straightforward resumé of what the Exercise may really expect of it.

Whether what has just appeared in the public Press was of sufficient importance to merit reply from a leader among ringers, may be a matter of opinion, but, however serious the attack might have been, apparently nothing official could have been done to counter it. This in itself seems to us a dangerous position, for while the Exercise was waiting for the Council to move, events might so shape themselves that the future of the Exercise would be jeopardised—to put it no higher than that. The lamented death of the President has left the Central Council headless, with no one in a position temporarily to fill the gap. To avoid the risk of such a position in future, the Council

(Continued on Page 138.)

St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

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SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

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BRACKETS.**

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BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

**BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers**

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

(Continued from page 137.)

might well make a new departure and elect a vice-president as well as a president. This, at any rate, would considerably reduce the possibility of the central authority being left without anyone as its titular head either for the conduct of its own business or to speak in the name of the Exercise if and when occasion arises.

MR. J. W. TAYLOR'S SECOND LOSS.

The deepest sympathy of the Exercise will be extended to Mr. John W. Taylor, of the Loughborough Bell Foundry, in the loss of another son in the fighting in France. Pte John W. Taylor was killed in action on the night of Friday—Saturday, Sept. 15th—16th, and was the eldest son of Mr. J. W. Taylor and the late Mrs. Annie Mary Taylor. He was born on March 26th, 1885, and was educated at Shaftesbury Grammar School and Nottingham University College, from whence he took the B.Sc. degree at London in 1904. After working with his father for some time, he went to Canada, and has been engaged in various parts of the Dominion, and also in California. He enlisted in the Canadian Contingent, and was sent to the front in June. Before going to Canada, about eight years ago, the deceased was beginning to be fairly well known among ringers. Pte J. W. Taylor's youngest brother, Second-Lieut. A. B. Taylor, was killed on July 11th last, and two other brothers are now at the front, while Miss Taylor is nursing at a hospital in France.

DEVIZES RINGER KILLED.

On Friday evening, the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, muffled ringing took place at the Church of St. James-the-Great, Southbroom, Devizes, in memory of Lance-Corporal Leonard Hunt, formerly of Devizes, who fell in action whilst serving his King and country in July last. He had been for some years a chorister and bell ringer at Southbroom Church, and his death is much deplored by those who knew him well, as he was steady and attentive to his duties, regular and punctual in his attendance in the tower. The muffled ringing was done by: H. Brownlee West 1, Alexander T. Weeks (aged 11) 2, Comer T. Mead 3, Thomas Weeks 4, Sidney Hillier 5.

HIGH WYCOMBE'S LOSS.

The death in action of Lieut. A. J. Bliss, of High Wycombe, has a pathetic interest to members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Although not a ringer, Lieut. Bliss, who was a devout Churchman, was keenly interested in the belfry, and, in conjunction with his brother, generously presented a tablet to record the peal of Stedman Cinques in March, 1914. This tablet is to be unveiled in the belfry on Sunday week at 3 p.m., by, it is hoped, the Bishop of Buckingham, and members of the Guild are invited to be present.

Lieut. Bliss, who was serving in the 7th Batt. Leinster Regiment, was killed on Sept. 9th, when attached to the Royal Irish Regiment. The ringers of High Wycombe rang the bells half-muffled at their weekly practice on Sept. 18th, and at a special meeting passed a resolution of sympathy with the family of the deceased officer.

MIDDLESEX RINGERS IN YORKS.

Ringers of the Middlesex Association have met at Richmond, Yorks, where they are stationed with their regiments. On Sunday week they rang, with local men, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor, with 7-8 covering: Pte E. W. Marshall (Barnet) 1, S. Thorpe 2, J. T. Frenchum 3, R. Todd 4, Pte M. F. R. Hibbert (Bushey) 5, Pte J. A. Trollope, Ealing (conductor) 6, J. Watkins 7, Pte — D. L. I. (Staines) 8. The ringers of 1, 5 and 6 are serving in the Yorkshire Regiment.

LATE NOTICES.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Canterbury District.—Next meeting will be held at Littlebourne on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Littlebourne and Bekesbourne Towers available for ringing. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting after at Littlebourne. Those requiring tea should send me their names by Wednesday, Oct. 11th, to 38, Marine Parade, Hythe.—Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Dist. Sec., Charlton Lodge, Elham, near Canterbury.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Stanton on Saturday, October 21st. Service will be held in Church at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. All intending to be present please oblige by letting me know on or before the Wednesday previous. The bells (6) will be available.—James Hemming, Branch Secretary, 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

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WANTED: A LEADER.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Under the above heading your correspondent "H. W. F." points out, truly enough, that we are at present without a leader who can reply with authority to criticisms against the Exercise. But almost in the same breath he speaks of our (at present) "acknowledged leader," and calls upon "our chief" to take up the reins. Whom does he mean? Our respected secretary, the chief servant of the Central Council and recorder of its resolutions, is the last man to arrogate to himself the functions of a President. And if the Exercise cannot patiently abide the unfortunate, but now unavoidable, delay in selecting a new President without falling (as "H. W. F." seems to fear) into anarchy, it will deserve such a collapse. Surely all can hold together and make the best of things as they are, without crying over spilt milk, or picking up casual stones to fling at the Council—a fascinating, but not very profitable amusement.

The Exercise, we are told, "lacks organisation." That is what the Central Council exists to supply; and the various local Associations might usefully consider what they can do to remedy this defect by a more encouraging attitude towards the central body under its new President, whoever he may be.—Yours faithfully,
T. L. PAPHON.
St. Albans, Sept. 30th.

THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES AND THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL'S PRESIDENT.

Sir,—Being the unfortunate individual who will have to take the chair for a few minutes at the opening of the next meeting of the Central Council, I think that I may be expected to say a word or two in response to the letter in your issue of this week from "H. W. F." Complaints against ringing appear from time to time in the local Press of almost every part of the country, and it is far better, should the complaints be genuine and really in need of reply, that such reply should be made by the local ringing authority, or by the Diocesan or County organisation. Those latter know the full circumstances of the particular case, and are, therefore, far more likely to deal with it satisfactorily. Even when the complaints arise in the London area the same principle holds good. So far as concerns the Central Council, it would be physically impossible for either its President or Hon. Secretary to fight all the battles against local grumblers throughout the length and breadth of the land, even if such a duty had been formally committed to them, which certainly has not been done. As regards the instances brought forward in the "Daily Mail," a paper which I scarcely ever read, I should have regarded myself as interfering unwarrantably in the affairs of the Surrey Association and of the Winchester Diocesan Guild had I, in my capacity of hon. secretary of the Central Council, written to the public Press regarding the ringing at Balham or Guildford.

Though we honour the President of the Central Council as such, and look up to him as a person of influence and importance, we do not (nor have we the power to) invest him with any authority beyond that of chairman of the Council. To attempt to do so would be a grievous mistake. The Central Council is a body in which ringers take counsel together, and advise each other. The Council's President is the Council's leader, and as such, should always command the respectful attention of members of the ringing brotherhood, but to the world outside this may mean little or nothing.—Yours, etc.

Fretherne, Glos.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

CENTRALISATION A PRESSING NEED

Sir,—I am afraid, as you added a footnote to my letter last week, that I did not make myself clear. I was aware that there is at present no President of the Central Council, but I wrote with the presumption that there is a councillor who will, ex-officio, take the chair at the next meeting until the election of a new President. If my presumption is correct, then I think we should regard that gentleman as the acting President: if not, I should imagine that the senior remaining officer of the Council is at present our leader. At any rate, I fear that the need of centralisation is too pressing to wait until the next meeting of the Council.—Yours truly,
H. W. F.

THE CURFEW.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—With the return of normal Greenwich time the ringing of the curfew in many towers at 8 or 9 p.m. will be prohibited by the military regulations. Permit me through your columns to put forward a suggestion which has been made in this Diocese, that instead of discontinuing the custom of eight centuries and more, the curfew be rung ten minutes before the local time for shading lights in accordance with military regulations, or, where silence is enforced after sunset, ten minutes before sunset each evening. The curfew bell will by this means be restored to its original use.—Yours truly,
F. LI. EDWARDS.

Hon. Sec. Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

Kington Magna Rectory.

AN ISLE OF WIGHT RESTORATION.

The ring of eight bells (tenor 16 cwt.) of St. Thomas's Church, Newport, Isle of Wight, are now being restored by Messrs. John Warner and Sons, of the Spitalfields Bell Foundry, London.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**THE ANNUAL MEETING.**

One of the saddest annual meetings held by the Lancashire Association took place last Saturday, when Chorley was visited, for, only a few days before, the respected Rector (the Ven. Archdeacon Fletcher) had passed to his rest. As the funeral was arranged for Saturday, the ringing was, naturally, curtailed, but the rest of the Association's agenda was not interfered with. Those who were early noticed among the clergy present at the funeral service the Bishop of Whalley, Bishop Wheldon (Dean of Manchester), and others, as well as representatives of the County Council and various societies of which Archdeacon Fletcher was a member.

The ringers divided themselves among the towers where permission had been given for ringing until 4 p.m., when most of them got back to Chorley Parish Church for service. Some who could not get on the 'buses, either had to walk or wait an hour, which left them late at tea. The President (the Rev. H. J. Elsee) intoned the prayers, and the Ven. Archdeacon Howson, M.A., preached the sermon. The lesson was taken from 1 Cor. xv, 51, and the text from the 81st Psalm, 1st verse. The preacher mentioned that it was 40 years since the Association held its first meeting at Chorley, and remarked how it had grown since that time. He recalled the commencement of the Chester Diocesan Guild, which he remembered, as he was then living in the county. They met that day under a cloud; they met in a church which had lost its head, one who had been laid to rest at Tarlton that afternoon, a noted educationalist, and a much respected man. The preacher made a special appeal to ringers to assist in the forthcoming National Mission, and reminded them of the text, "Make a joyful noise," and to apply the lessons it taught to themselves. He mentioned a small bell which was removed from Manchester Old Church, or as they knew it to-day, the Cathedral, to Clayton Old Hall on the outskirts of the city, which bore a motto, "I am hoping and waiting for better things." He advised them to do their best, and hope and wait for better things.—The hymns sung during the service were "O God our Help," "Let Saints on Earth," and "The Church's one Foundation."

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

Tea followed immediately after the service, at the Institute, kindly lent for the occasion with the full use of all the rooms and bowling green, and, afterwards, in the same room the business meeting was held. The Archdeacon having another appointment, the Rev. H. J. Elsee thanked him for coming amongst them to preach, and welcomed him as the President of the Liverpool Diocesan Guild to the Lancashire Association, on the fusion of the two societies into one.

The President, in his address, offered the Association's sympathy to the family of the late Rector, and the motion was passed in silence. It was acknowledged by the Curate-in-Charge, who also referred to the fact that the late Sir Arthur Heywood was with them twelve months ago, while since that time they had lost 18 other members. He congratulated the ladies upon filling up the gaps in the various towers.

Mr. Banks presented the committee's report, which stated that they had a membership of 1,400, of which 1,164 were ringers living in the county. They had added 65 new members during the year, among whom were 14 ladies. It was difficult to state how many members they had serving with the colours, but about 150 names had been sent in, and others were coming with each letter. The income for the year was only £31 14s. 5d.—one branch had not sent a return—and the expenses amounted to £39, the chief items being the printing of reports. The peals recorded were 24, 14 have been rung muffled for local soldiers. Lord Kitchener, Archdeacon Maddon (Southport), the Vicar of Eekles, Mr. C. H. Hattersley, and others for local ringers in their respective districts. The report closed with a record of thanks to the various branch secretaries, who had the greater amount of the work of the Association to do.

As there was only one name submitted for each of the several offices vacant, the officers were re-elected with applause, and thanked for their past work.

Mr. Marsden, one of the original members who was at the meeting 40 years ago, was on the platform, and gave those present some interesting anecdotes of that meeting, which were listened to with rapt attention.

The choice of next year's meeting was between Oldham and Blackburn, and, on being put to the vote, the last-named place was selected, and, as one said after, it served Oldham right for not sending enough to win it.

The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the various clergy for the use of the bells, the organist, the committee of the Institute, the ladies, and, last, but not least, Mr. T. Lofthouse, for the way he worked to make everyone comfortable and happy in the sad circumstances under which the meeting was held.

HELPING HAND FUND.

A further sum of 5s. 6d. from the Flixton ringers has been received by Mr. W. Wolstencroft, Ashton-under-Lyne, towards J. Potter's "Helping Hand" Fund, making a total of £3 8s. 9d. The name of J. Watson given last week should have been J. Wilson.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

THE WARGRAVE OPENING.

THE TRUTH IS OUT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—A few words from one who knows may not be out of place concerning the opening of the new peal at Wargrave. I took my orders from the Rev. S. M. Winter in person, and in the church, and in sending the account of the bells, etc., to "The Ringing World," I asked the editor kindly to state plainly that visiting ringers would not be allowed to ring, as I knew several friends were coming, and I wished to save them losing time and money for nothing.

My orders were that the opening "peal" was to consist of just one whole pull and stand, and the ringing after the service not to last longer than a quarter of an hour, lest the noise of the bells should interfere with the playing of a string band on the Vicarage lawn, about 200 yards away. The Vicar told me as plainly as possible, and repeatedly, that only local ringers were to ring, unless it was absolutely impossible to get a sufficient number of local men present, and that bad ringing by local men would be preferable on this occasion to good striking by outsiders. These were my orders, and, although I did not like them, I faithfully carried them out. I tried all I could to get leave for an afternoon's ringing, but it was quite useless. All rules drawn up by Mr. Winter are as inexorable as the laws of the Medes and Persians, and show neither fear nor favour, nor regard for old-established customs. Of course, the Vicar was perfectly right in giving such orders, as an incumbent has full power to decide whether and when the bells in his charge shall be rung or not.

I should like to know what "Sonning Deaneryite," in spite of his bombast, would, or could, have done had he been in my place. I heard nothing about expressions of approval from neighbouring ringers. Perhaps the incumbents of surrounding parishes may have sent congratulations on the re-opening of the church. Neither do I know anything about the Guild being invited. I am perfectly certain there was no official or special representative of the Guild present in the tower while ringing was going on.

With regard to the protest, a meeting of the ringers was convened on Sept. 6th, at which I was hauled over the coals for a bit of unpleasantness in the belfry, and after a short discussion I resigned my office. When I entered the room I saw a sheet of manuscript lying in front of the Vicar, and after another foreman had been elected, this was read out, and after a short discussion the foreman was asked to propose, and someone else to second, that it be sent to "The Ringing World." Owing to my hearing being defective, I knew nothing of what it was till I saw it in print, and certainly had no part in it in any way. I have no wish to make myself unpopular in other towers, which is my only chance of ringing now. I have been foreman at Wargrave 26 years, having been 36 years a ringer, and was four years organ blower and choir-boy previously. After 40 years as a church worker, I was allowed to resign without a single word of regret for the step I was taking, or of appreciation for past services. I am told the new foreman has to keep a record of ringers' attendances at divine service and Holy Communion. Is this usual elsewhere?—Yours truly,

WILLIAM J. FULLER,

Late Foreman at Wargrave.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESENTATIONS AT PENTRE.

A most successful quarterly meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at Pentre, Rhondda Valley, on Saturday last, members attending from Aberavon, Bridgend, Cardiff, Llandaff, Caerphilly, Newport and Pontypridd. The bells were available for ringing all the afternoon, and prior to the business meeting Grandsire, Stedman and Double Norwich were rung. In the unavoidable absence, through illness, of the Vicar (Canon Lewis), the business meeting was presided over by the Rev. C. Carson, who, on behalf of the Vicar, welcomed most cordially the Association to Pentre. He explained that the absence of the Master (Mr. W. Biss) was also through illness.—The new members elected included the Rev. C. Carson.

The Hon. Secretary then mentioned that one of the members, Mr. Peppin, of Caldecot, was unfortunately a prisoner of war in Germany, and suggested that a collection be made amongst the members present; the result was that a very useful sum was received, which will be sent to him in kind, through his parents.

The next meeting (the annual) will be held at Cardiff on Boxing Day.

This concluded the formal business, and a very interesting function then took place, two of the local ringers, Mr. Tom Page and Mr. Harry Crabbe being each presented by their tower band with a large, beautifully framed photograph of the Pentre ringers.—The Rev. C. Carson, in making the presentation, congratulated each of the recipients upon taking to himself a wife, and complimented the Pentre band upon their continued perseverance and unity.

An invitation was then given to go to the Vicarage for tea, where an excellent spread had been very kindly provided by Canon Lewis. At the conclusion of the meal, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his hospitality, and to the ladies for so kindly looking after the members. The tower was afterwards visited, and the bells rung, followed by a social hour with the local ringers. The meeting was a most pleasant one.

RINGER HEROES DECORATED.

Among the decorations won by ringers for conspicuous gallantry on the field are, as recorded in our issue of Sept. 22nd, the D.C.M. gained by Sergt. G. H. Head, of Wolverley, and the Military Medal awarded to Pte R. Green, of Allesley, Coventry.

The particular incident for which Sergt. Head gained his distinction has been described by his Lieut.-Colonel as follows: "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as a Platoon Commander at

choir since he was a boy of seven. He has been a member of the Territorials since he was 17 years of age, and was, of course, mobilised with them on the outbreak of war, and has been in France for some time. Congratulations upon his distinction have been sent to him by his fellow ringers. It is interesting to note that Sergt. Head's wife is a Red Cross nurse.

Pte R. Green, who won the D.C.M., and who learnt his ringing at



SERG. G. H. HEAD OF WOLVERLEY.



PTE. R. GREEN OF ALLESLEY.

Ovillers-la-Boisselle on the night of 18th and 19th July. He led his platoon most gallantly into the German trench, and when, for reasons beyond his control, a retirement was ordered, he brought in his platoon in a steady manner, and subsequently went out again and assisted some wounded men to rejoin the company."

Sergt. Head has been a ringer at Wolverley, and a member of the Worcestershire Association for several years. Although he has only rung one peal, he was, until the war broke out, a regular attendant at Sunday service ringing. He has also been a member of the village

Allesley, and rang several peals of Doubles and Minor, had been in Canada a few months when war broke out. He immediately joined the Dominion Forces, and came over with the second Canadian Contingent. Although only just 21 years old, he has been in France twelve months. The act which gained the Military Medal was a particularly plucky one. He succeeded in establishing and maintaining a telephone post under the German barbed wire, and also showed conspicuous bravery in carrying a wounded man back to his own trenches under heavy shell and machine gun fire.

BEDFORDSHIRE'S NEW PEAL OF SIX.

The dedication of a restored tower and new ring of six bells marks the completion of an extensive scheme of restoration, costing over £3,000, which has been carried out at the noble Parish Church of Eaton Bray, near Dunstable. Originally the church contained a peal of five bells, with a tenor 14 cwt. in F. Two of them were dated 1650, but the bells had been unringable for years. Now the two heaviest have been recast into three light bells, making a very handy and musical ring of six in A flat, with a 9½ cwt. tenor. The work has been carried out very efficiently by Messrs. Bond, of Burford, Oxon. The dedication was performed by the Bishop of St. Albans, and prior to the service a band from the Priory Church, Dunstable, rang a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor, and a course of Kent Treble Bob: E Franklin, junr., 1, E. Franklin, senr., 2, A. King (Luton) 3, G. Heley 4, Canon W. W. C. Baker (conductor) 5, A. E. Sharman 6. After service 120 Grandsire Doubles was rung, and the bells lowered in peal. The "go" and tone of the bells were much admired.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

The quarterly meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, held at Coseley on Saturday week, was moderately attended, between 30 and 40 members and friends assembling. Favoured with nice weather, the meeting was a successful and happy one. At the service held in church (at which the Society's Form was used), the Rev. J. L. Lamplugh, B.A., delivered an inspiring address, in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar (the Rev. J. A. Price, M.A.), who is deputed as a messenger in connection with the Mission of Repentance and Hope.

A bountiful tea was served in the schoolroom by Mr. A. Law and friends, to which full justice was done. At the subsequent meeting four new members were elected, viz., one honorary, one life and two performing members.—The next meeting was arranged to take place on January 13th, at Rushall.—A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the

use of the bells; to the Rev. J. L. Lamplugh for his address; and to the ladies who waited at the tea tables, was carried with acclamation.

The bells were made good use of during the afternoon and evening, when various methods were rung, including a course of Cambridge Surprise. Not the least notable performance was that of a touch of Stedman Triples, conducted by Miss Edith K. Parker, who was on a visit to the Midlands, as previous records testify.

WEDDING BELLS.

PRESENTATION TO WELL-KNOWN GUILDFORD RINGER.

The ringing chamber at Holy Trinity, Guildford, was the scene of a very interesting little ceremony on Tuesday evening of last week, when the Rector (Rev. E. C. Kirwan, M.A.) attended for the purpose of presenting, on behalf of the Holy Trinity Society, a silver-plated teapot to Mr. Maurice Smither on the occasion of his approaching marriage. The teapot, which is of handsome design, was supplied by Mr. J. Comber, and had been engraved at the Rector's expense, with the following inscription: "Presented to Mr. M. Smither on the occasion of his marriage, Sept. 28th, 1916, by the Holy Trinity Society of Change Ringers, Guildford."

The Hon. Secretary, in introducing the object of the meeting, pointed out that those present were really taking part in a ceremony of more than local importance, in view of the fact that the name of Maurice Smither, in association with that of Alfred Pulling, would be familiar to a very large number of ringers outside Guildford.—The Rector, with a few well-chosen remarks, handed the teapot to Mr. Smither, who expressed his surprise at receiving such a gift, and his thanks to the society for an article which combines both beauty and utility.

Owing to the restrictions under the Defence of the Realm Act it was impossible to ring the church bells, but a capital touch was rung upon handbells by: S. Radford 1-2, M. Smither 3-4, C. Hazelden (conductor) 5-8, Mrs. Hazelden 7-8.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on October 19th for handbell practice, and on the 10th and 24th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Sawston (1½ miles from Whittlesford Station, G.E.R.) on Saturday, October 7th. Bells (eight) available from one o'clock. — A. E. Austin, Acting General Secretary, 4, Hills View, Great Shelford, Cambs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Headcorn, on Saturday, October 7th. Bells available at 2 o'clock. A special service will be held in the Church at 6 o'clock. Tea provided by the Association at 6.30. A general meeting will be held after tea for the election of officers, etc., for the ensuing year. — C. Tribe, Hon. District Secretary, British School Villas, Tenterden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The annual district meeting for the election of officers will be held at Great Bentley on October 7th. I shall be glad to receive outstanding subscriptions for 1916.—B. Redgwell, Hon. District Secretary, The Street, Rayne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, October 7th, at Whitworth Parish Church. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, 132, Morton Street, Middleton, Lancs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The half-yearly meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at Wrotham on Saturday, October 7th. The bells will be available for ringing from 3 to 8 o'clock. A short service will be held at 5 p.m. Tea, provided by the Rector, at 5.45. Business meeting after. — Stephen Hazleden, Lower Street, East Farleigh, Hon. Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingborough District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Easton Mauditt on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 4.30.—W. Perkins, District Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Late the St. James' Society).—Established 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, 7th October, commencing at 3.30 p.m., until dusk. A business meeting will follow at the Earl Derby, King Edward Road. A hearty invitation is hereby extended to all ringers.—T. Walker, hon. sec

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Worcester, on Saturday, October 14th next. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea provided by the Vicar in the Jubilee Room for those only who notify me by the Wednesday previous.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Havant on Oct. 14th. By kind permission of the Rector, bells available at 2.30. Service at 6 o'clock; ringers' own form of service will be used. Tea and business at the Institute after; tea, 3d. to members, 1s. to visitors. Members requiring tea let me know not later than Tuesday, Oct 10th.—E. J. Harding, District Secretary, 76, Carnavon Road, Portsmouth.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Church (Kirk) on Saturday, October 14th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. Tea will be provided for visitors (who notify their intention of being present to Mr. L. J. Williams, 10, Canal Street, Church, on or before October 7th) at the invitation of the Rector.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14th, 1916, at Wellington, Salop. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Belfry Prayer at 4 p.m. Tea at 5, meeting and ringing after. Please reply by Oct. 9th.—Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting on October 14th at Shoreditch. Tower open 2.30. Tea to those who notify me by October 10th.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, October 14th. Bells available 3.30. Tea at the Church House at 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Thrapston District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Woodford on Saturday, October 14th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. — F. Stubbs, District Secretary, Grove Street, Raunds.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Eynsford on Saturday, October 21st. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service and address by the Rev. M. C. Elphinstone (Vicar) at 6 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. The Vicar has kindly promised to provide tea, and it is essential that all who intend being present should notify me not later than Tuesday, October 17th. — T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Combined practices will be held at Cranleigh (8 bells) on the first Saturdays in October, November, and December; at Bramley (6 bells) on October 21st; at Godalming (8 bells) on November 18th; at Wonersh (6 bells) on December 16th. Bells available from 3 till dusk.—John J. Jones, Hon. Secretary.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

RINGING PRACTICES, ETC.

WEST EALING.—The bells of St. Stephen's Church will be open to members of the Middlesex County Association and friends for a united practice on Saturday, October 7th, from 3.30 to 5 p.m.

ALFRETON, DERBYSHIRE.—Weekly practices have been arranged at the Parish Church for the winter months, on Saturday afternoons, commencing at 3.30 on October 7th, 1916. All ringing friends will be welcome.—F. Watkinson, Secretary, 18, Park Street, Alfreton.

ST. BOTOLPH'S, BISHOPSGATE, E.C.—Owing to the restrictions imposed by the Defence of the Realm Regulations there will be no ringing on Sunday evenings until further notice. Sunday morning ringing will remain as hitherto.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, PUTNEY.—The tower will be open for practice between 3 and 5 o'clock on Saturdays until further notice. Ringers welcome.

BIRTH.

PORTER.—On the 25th September, at 1, Canonbury Mansions, Canonbury, the wife of Lawrence B. Porter, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

LAWRENCE.—On September 11th, killed in action in France, Stedman William (Sergeant 8th Middlesex Regt.), the eldest son of William and Alice Lawrence, of "Auburn," Wimborne Gardens, West Ealing, aged 26.

TAYLOR.—Killed in action, about midnight, September 15th-16th, Pte. John Wm. Taylor, of the Canadian Contingent, B.Sc. London, eldest son of Mr. J. W. Taylor, bell founder, Loughborough, and the late Annie Mary Taylor, aged 31 years.

WHITBREAD.—St. Albans, on September 18th, 1916, Charlotte, the beloved wife of Edward Whitbread, aged 46.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

WORKING FOREMAN BELL MOULDER required.—Apply "Founder," Ringing World Office, Woking.

WANTED, GOOD HAIR CUTTER AND SHAVER.—Young man ineligible for the Army, 10 or 8 bell ringer preferred.—Apply to Edwin Shepherd, 160, Sidwell Street, Exeter.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD.**

A quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held at Chesterfield on Saturday week, and, considering that there were no excursions, was very well attended, representatives being noticed from Burton-on-Trent, Bolsover, Cotgrave, Darley Dale, Derby, Duffield, Ilkeston, Loughborough, Mansfield, Sheffield and Staveley, in addition to the local ringers. The bells were available for ringing during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going in a variety of methods. The Association handbells, in their new box, were in the belfry, and were left in charge of Mr. A. Knights until the next meeting.

The general business meeting was held in the Vestry of the Parish Church, the President (Mr. J. W. Taylor) taking the chair, supported by the Ven. Archdeacon E. F. Crosse, and upwards of 30 other members.—Two new members were elected.

The "Roll of Honour" was handed round for inspection, the Hon. Secretary asking that names of members who have joined H.M. Forces, and whose names were not already on the roll, should be sent in to him, care being taken to give correct particulars of rank and regiment, so that the roll may be full and complete.

The President said the question of a memorial to the late Sir Arthur Heywood had been discussed in committee, and it had been thought advisable to postpone the matter until the next meeting.

The attention of the meeting was also drawn to the unsatisfactory state of the finances of the Association and the difficulty of getting in the subscriptions, the President asking those present to carefully consider the question with a view to some action being taken at the next annual meeting, to improve this matter.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. E. White) moved a vote of condolence with the President, whose eldest son had recently been killed in the war, and thanked him for coming to the meeting, the sad news having reached him only two or three days before.—The vote was accorded by the members rising in their places.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and vestry, and for his presence at the meeting, was passed, on the proposition of Mr. J. W. Taylor, seconded by Mr. J. P. Tarlton. — The Vicar, in reply, said it gave him very great pleasure to welcome the Association to Chesterfield, and he hoped the members of the Association would always think of Chesterfield as a place where they would be made at home in the belfry so long as he was the Vicar.

HELD OVER.

We are unavoidably compelled to hold over the reports of two or three meetings and some letters to the Editor. These will appear next week.

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