

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 313. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16th, 1917.

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



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, 1918.
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.

THE SEVENTH YEAR.

With this issue we enter upon the seventh year of "The Ringing World," and, though there have been occasions when the outlook has been happier, we are going forward with the utmost confidence that, despite the drawbacks of the present, the future holds a bright prospect for ringing and "The Ringing World." Many things have been hard hit by the war, and ringing has been one of them. The ever increasing demands for men has reduced the bands at the majority of towers to the merest skeleton of their former strength, and although in many cases gaps have been filled by young men and ladies, change ringing itself has suffered, because change ringers are not made in five minutes. But those who have been left behind have endeavoured valiantly to "carry on," and the efforts of "The Ringing World" have been directed to maintaining interest and preserving cohesion as far as possible throughout the Exercise.

One effect of the war, so far as newspapers are concerned, has been that many of the smaller journals have had to close down entirely. Increased costs, particularly in regard to the paper itself, and scarcity of labour, put out of the field numbers of papers devoted to special subjects, and even some daily publications have "put up the shutters" till after the war. But "The Ringing World" has held on, for we have realised what general dislocation and chaos, through lack of means of intercommunication, would be caused if ringing had no journal to keep it together during the dark days. The task has been a difficult one, and that our efforts have been appreciated is manifested by the large number of expressions of goodwill and loyalty which we have received since we announced the imperative necessity of increasing the cost of the paper to twopence.

It is true that there have been some who have grumbled, but there are many who have cheered us by their messages. We have not room, of course, to quote all these communications, but here are two that are typical: "We require 'the' paper now more than ever, and I applaud your decision to raise the price." "I am sure you are doing the right thing by increasing the price to twopence, and I hope all the ringers in the United Kingdom will support you." Then, too, there was that spontaneous outburst of approval at the Johnson Dinner at Birmingham when, with prophetic insight, the Hon. Secretary of the St. Martin's Guild said (at a moment when, unknown to him, the decision to charge more for the paper had been made), "the time might arrive when it would be necessary to increase the price of 'The Ringing World.'"

We believe that the feeling expressed in Birmingham is very generally felt throughout the country. The Exercise without a paper of its own, would be, if not a ship without

(Continued on Page 82.)

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sir,

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

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

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SINGLY,
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PEALS AUGMENTED,
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BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
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Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc. etc.

(Continued from page 81.)

a rudder, certainly a hull without engines; for we are egotistical enough to believe that, through our columns, effort in matters campanological has been directed, and there has been a driving power which has made itself felt. If "The Ringing World" was to go on, and the Exercise was not to be left without an organ, it was imperative to increase the cost; and we feel certain that ringers who have any enthusiasm for the art and any desire to see it continued after the war with as little set-back as possible, will realise that the extra penny per week which they are now asked to pay is only their contribution towards sustaining the future of ringing.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

From St. Alphege, Solihull:—

Pte John Bragg, Royal Flying Corps.

Pte E. C. Shepherd, 3rd Royal Warwicks

From Ansty, Leicestershire:—

Corpl. W. Bottrill, Military Mounted Police, Stanhope Lines, Aldershot.

TWICE TORPEDOED.

Mr. Herbert Dransfield, a member of the Earlsheaton band, who helped his company to win the Halifax and District cup six times, has, within the last six months had two alarming experiences at sea. Formerly a member of the West Riding, Dewsbury, and Salford Police Forces, he has recently held an appointment as a police inspector on board the Cunard liners. On Oct. 19th he was on the "Alaunia," when that vessel was torpedoed or mined in the English Channel, and he escaped with the loss of all his clothing and valuables. Immediately after the destruction of this vessel, Mr. Dransfield joined the "Orduna," and in December was transferred to the "Laconia." When the great ship was starting on her voyage at the end of December she collided with another vessel in the Mersey, and had to put back for repairs. On her homeward journey, at the end of February, she was torpedoed by a German submarine, without warning, and with some loss of life, as is already well known. The ship was attacked at 9.20 p.m., and it was nine hours before the boats, in which the passengers and crew got away, were picked up. The cold was intense, and there was a heavy swell on. All the passengers suffered much from the cold, and there were many of the crew who had been injured by the explosion of the first torpedo. Some of the ladies used their boots to bail the water out of the boat in which Mr. Dransfield got away. They were eventually picked up by a patrol boat, and landed in Queenstown about midday. Here Mr. Dransfield, who had again lost everything, managed to get some fresh clothes, and proceeded to his home in Dewsbury. Ringers will heartily congratulate Mr. Dransfield upon his two happy escapes, while commiserating with him on the losses which he has sustained. Mr. Dransfield served with distinction in the Dewsbury and Salford Police Forces, and in addition to being an excellent ringer, was a keen footballer, being a member of the old Dewsbury Rugby team in its palmy days.

PEALS: THEIR LENGTH AND STARTING-POINT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I am much obliged to Mr. Cave for his kindly criticisms and in partial reply thereto, after wishing him good luck, I beg to refer him to the article, under my name, which you were good enough to publish in "The Ringing World" for March 9th, and which left my hands before his letter was written. To this article I should like, with your permission, to make an addition. The plain course of Stedman Triples, as set out in Stedman, goes off from, and ends with, 2314567. In other words, according to no less an authority than the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, the plain course of Stedman Triples is a round block starting from, and ending with, a row other than rounds. Of course, there are other ways of avoiding the complexities of the usual starting and homing courses, but the way I am advocating is the simplest, and I think I have cited a sufficiently high authority for it.

As to the rival merits of peals on the various plans that have been proposed, I am almost entirely without Mr. Cave's experience as a ringer. But I have been an attentive listener to bell music for well over 50 years, and I have a very decided preference for peals with the heavy bells in the tittums position at every 18th six. To this I may add that it is not my opinion, nor ever has been, that peals with six working bells are in any way superior to four and five bell peals. The most that can be said of them is that they are much more difficult to obtain, the liability to internal falseness being so extraordinarily great that anyone attempting to obtain another extent peal without having thoroughly mastered the art of composing such peals, might as well put so much brass, steel, gold, ruby and shellac into a tumbling barrel, and expect them to come out a fuzee-keyless, spring-detent chronometer.

If Mr. Cave's military duties permit, I shall be glad if he will favour me with his further remarks.—Yours truly, GEORGE F. CLAYTON.

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

(Continued from page 78.)

ALDERMAN PRITCHETT'S REVIEW.

Alderman Pritchett, in submitting "Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild," said it had been his usual custom on that occasion to follow rather a beaten track, and to allude to those they had lost, those they had with them, those they would like to have with them, and so on, and be proposed to follow that course again. Unfortunately old Father Time and his scythe had been very busy amongst them, for their casualties had been almost as numerous, comparatively, as those caused by the machine guns amongst their gallant soldiers they had lost. Mr. F. E. Ward, a great ringer at Cheltenham before he came to Birmingham. Next, Mr. Baldwin, who was also for many years an invalid. He was the oldest member of the Guild, having joined it in 1868, so that he was a member for nearly half a century. Very few amongst that gathering ever stood up with him in a peal. He had rung with him, but never a peal, but there were one or two who had done so. The next was Mr. Painter. He was a vice-president of the Guild, and they all remembered how he used to tug away on the tenor at St. Martin's, and get warm on summer evenings. Then they came to the greatest loss of all, the loss of their general, Sir Arthur Heywood. He did not know how to express the feelings of regret at that terrible loss to the Exercise. Sir Arthur was a man, who, "take him all for all, ye shall not look on his like again," as a ringer, a composer, and, above all, an English gentleman. He was without peer, and they never would see such a man amongst them again. Among others who had gone were T. Collinson, H. Pratt, a ringer at Harborne, and Mr. C. E. Boutflower, who occupied the chair at one of their gatherings, and a gentleman for whom he had the highest respect. The next was his old friend Sam Spittle. About a fortnight before he died, he had the pleasure of shaking him by the hand for the last time, when to all appearances he was sound and vigorous, and his death came very suddenly, just before, or after, his 80th birthday. He also, on one occasion occupied the chair at that gathering. He (the speaker) ought also on that occasion to mention the terrible loss that Mr. John Taylor has sustained in the death of his two brave and gallant sons. He had the earnest and sincere sympathy of ringers throughout the country, and they were glad that the two remaining sons, who are also serving their country, were well, and they prayed, might be preserved to him. Lastly, said Ald. Pritchett, he would like to mention the man who taught him to ring—Mr. F. Palmer. Last year, they might recollect, he told them he was still living, at the age of 87. He died a short time ago at the age of 88.

A FITTING MEMORIAL.

He had asked him to promise him that they should ring a mourning peal at his funeral. That would have been a sacred obligation, and would have been carried out if the circumstances had permitted. They proposed, however, to commemorate him in another way. It was their intention to fix in the ringing chamber of King's Norton Church a brass tablet bearing his name, the date of his birth, the date of his death, and this simple inscription: "He taught us to ring." In that way they would honour his memory. It was nearly fifty years ago that he first got a notion of bell ringing from Mr. Painter, and at that time it was the custom to ring in the winter at five o'clock in the morning and eight o'clock in the evening. With one exception he had got to the end of his list, and the last was a lady, Miss Instone, one of the donors of the bells at Boldmere, who was buried that day. There was, continued Ald. Pritchett, only one wounded soldier in their ringing army, and that was their old friend, Mr. Jimmy Jones, who was stricken with illness two years ago. This year he missed very few peals. There was just the same number present (21) who knew Henry Johnson as were present last year. He had called to see Mr. John Smith at Tipton, and found him making good progress, and was told by him that Mr. Rock Small was very chary of going out on those dark evenings. He (the speaker) had no doubt that was why he was not there that night, and he made the suggestion that they should have a collection and present him with a flashlight, so that he could find his way there next year (laughter). Amongst those who were present they were delighted to see Mr. John Carter, and he specially desired to mention Mr. Vice-President Faux. He would, they would be interested to know, be 80 years of age on the next Thursday, and on their behalf he heartily wished him many happy returns of the day (applause).

There was not much to be said about ringing achievements, Ald. Pritchett added. There was one little good, however, that the war had done for St. Martin's Guild. It had caused a revival of double-handed change ringing. There were now at least twelve men who could take two bells in a course of Stedman Cinques. Several peals of Stedman Cinques and Caters had been rung during the year, and he thanked Mr. Groves for his perseverance in this direction, and for the efficient manner in which he had carried out his duties, as his (the speaker's) deputy during the year. It was rather wonderful that they should have had such large gatherings throughout the war. That was in it-

self the best augury of the continued prosperity of St. Martin's Guild. He was sure they might look forward to a glorious lease of fresh life, when this war was finished in victory, and peace reigned once more on earth. He coupled with the toast the health of their excellent secretary. He was reading a book the other day, and on the front page was a definition of "a friend." It said, "A friend is a chap what you knows all about, and you likes him all the same." Such a friend to them was Mr. Paddon Smith. He had the greatest pleasure in coupling his name with the toast, and in inviting them to rise and drink continued prosperity to St. Martin's Guild and Mr. Paddon Smith (applause).

Mr. A. Paddon Smith, in replying, thanked the company for the kind manner in which they received his name in connection with the toast. Mr. Alderman Pritchett had been good enough to refer to him as a friend, and to say that the definition of a friend was "A chap what you knows everything about, and you likes him all the same." He (Mr. Smith) did not know that they did know all about him, but he was glad to think that what they did know did not make him disliked. During the past year church bell ringing, except for Sunday services, had been practically abolished, but notwithstanding that their membership still kept good, and the subscriptions were up to the mark. Handbell ringing had prospered marvellously, peal after peal of Stedman Cinques having been rung, and great credit was due to the men who had stuck to it so well. It had undoubtedly helped to keep the Guild together, and it was very creditable that after 24 years of war they could muster like they had that night. It is not quite the largest gathering in their history, 117 sat down, against 121 last year. While they have one of the largest gatherings they sat down to fewer courses, the smallest number they had ever had, but he was told by members in different parts of the room that the quality and quantity of each course left nothing to be desired.

KINDRED SOCIETIES.

Mr. Harry Mason proposed "Kindred Ringing Societies." He said St. Martin's Guild was in the heart of a nest of ringing societies. Unquestionably the Guild was doing good work, and the good feeling that existed was shown by the fact that so many representatives from other districts were there. The Midland Counties Association was represented by Mr. Taylor, whom they were delighted to see again. They had already heard of the terrible loss he had suffered, so there was no small strain resting upon their friend, but he was sure he was doing the right thing in coming there that night amongst his friends. He trusted one of the results of his visit would be to build him up in the good faith and fellowship, which they all felt towards him and his family. He knew of no society which gave a warmer welcome to any kindred society that came among them, than St. Martin's Guild, which was in touch with the whole of England, and when they were in touch with them they were truly in touch with the whole of the ringing fraternity. Whether they came from north, south, east or west, there was always a hearty welcome to that excellent gathering.

Mr. J. W. Taylor, whose name was coupled with the toast, expressed thanks for the kind reference which had been made to the loss he had sustained. He did feel it, and it was partly for that reason that he came out that evening, as to him a few very old and dear friends would, he thought, to a certain extent, bring his mind back to past times, and very happy times, too. He was very pleased that the St. Martin's Guild continued to hold that annual meeting to the memory of the late Henry Johnson. It was now getting quite an old meeting, and it was one of those meetings which, he hoped, would be continued for many years. It was, he thought, a great pity that the College Youths should have allowed their annual gathering to lapse, for no matter what they suffered in their families, they ought to hold together and keep in touch with other societies, because they must, later on, bring in young blood—it might be both young men and young women. They wanted to keep up the love for ringing, and the older members must help the next generation. If they allowed meetings of that kind to lapse they would really be doing harm. He was very glad to have been able to come amongst them. The whole of the societies he had been in touch with honoured St. Martin's Guild, and particularly their old member, Henry Johnson. They looked up to them always to take the lead in 12-bell ringing, and they were an example for the whole country to follow and emulate.

Mr. A. P. Smith gave the toast of "The Ringing World," and called attention to the quotation he had selected, and which appeared under this toast? "There, take the paper, see it." It expressed everything he wished to say. It was up to everyone of them to support Mr. Goldsmith, for he must be fairly "up against it." Most of them knew that the importation of paper was to be still further restricted, and he thought it quite possible that the price of "The Ringing World" would have to be raised to 2d. If it were found necessary he wanted to be able to tell Mr. Goldsmith from that meeting that he would not lose a single subscriber (loud cheers, and "Not one.") They did not know what they would do without the paper. They in Birmingham would not know what their brother ringers in London, Manchester and Bristol, and the rest of the country, were doing, and quite half the interest would be knocked out of their Exercise. He asked them to drink success to "The Ringing World" and its editor.

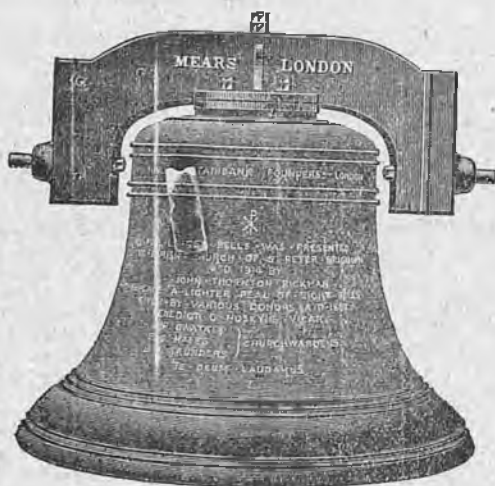
This concluded the speeches.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

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.

SHORT COURSE PARS.

Two more ringers from St. Alphege's Church, Solihull, have joined the army, making a total of eight from this tower. One has been killed, and one wounded.

Miss Annie Bolland, an enthusiastic member of the St. John's Church band, Devizes, was married on Feb. 27th to Mr. Frederick Romain. The bride and bridegroom left the Church to the music of wedding bells, and on the following day a touch of 336 Grandsire Triples was rung in celebration of the event at Acton, conducted by the bride's old school-fellow and friend, Miss Edith Jones.

Mr. John Heathorn, of Guildford, the oldest ringer in England, has now to keep his bed. But although decrepit in body, his mind is as lucid as ever, and it is interesting to hear him talk with first-hand knowledge of the old school of ringers who were ringing peals in the district well over a hundred years ago. He personally knew Isaac Willson, George Hutton, William Baldwin, and others, who are known to have rung peals at Holy Trinity and St. Nicolas', Guildford, and at Godalming. They probably rang other peals of which no record exists.

Service ringers at Dover and the surrounding district are invited to help maintain service ringing at St. Mary's, Dover (eight bells), commencing Sunday, March 18th, from 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.

Congratulations will be extended to Mr. J. E. Mackman, who has been granted a commission in the Army Service Corps.

The Central Council's Committee's Analysis of Peals for the year 1916 has been completed, and will be published in our next issue.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. MANCHESTER BRANCH AGAINST CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING THIS YEAR.

On Saturday last the Manchester branch of the Lancashire Association had a most successful gathering at Whitefield, members being present from the following towers: Ashton-under-Lyne, Manchester, Pendleton, Prestwich, Reddish, Radcliffe, Hyde, etc. Touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major, were rung.

At the business meeting, presided over by the vice-president, Mr. J. Ridyard, a hearty welcome was given to the visiting ringers.

Mr. Sam Wood, one of the Association's representatives, voiced an opinion, which was endorsed by the meeting, that it would be advisable to postpone the Central Council meeting this year, thereby relieving the various associations of what would be probably a hardship as regards expense, owing to decreased subscriptions, through so many men being away, and the increased cost of travelling.

Worsley was chosen as the next meeting-place, on April 14th, when a memorial tablet will be unveiled to the memory of the late Mr. Fred Derbyshire. The President, the Rev. H. J. Elsee, M.A., has kindly promised to be present at the meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and local company for the use of the bells.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HIGHGATE.

The monthly meeting held at St. Ann's, Highgate, on Saturday last, was well attended, in spite of the inclement weather, and ringing, in various methods, was carried on from 4 to 7.45 p.m.

At the business meeting at the "Bull and Last," Highgate Road, the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender) presiding, seven new members were elected, viz.: Mr. Albert Diserens, of Sunbury, a youthful exponent of the art with a future; Mr. J. Sykes, of Huddersfield; Staff-Sergt. Verrells, A.S.O., of Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, now quartered at Park Royal; Mr. A. S. Pettett, of Monument Buildings, E.C.; Mr. J. Bruce Williamson, of Ventnor, I.O.W.; Mr. Benjamin Thorpe, of Ashton-under-Lyne; and Mr. J. E. Baker, the genial steeplekeeper of St. Ann's, Highgate.

The question of holding the Central Council meeting this year was discussed, and, on a motion being put to the meeting it was unanimously resolved, "that in the opinion of this meeting it is undesirable that the meeting be held this year."

The Master reported that Mr. E. J. Hardy, late hon. secretary of this Association, had been severely wounded in Salonica, and was now lying in hospital at Malta. Two local ringers at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, had recently been decorated with the military medal for bravery in the field (Messrs. Jones and Morley).

Notice was given that service ringing will be held at St. Luke's, Chelsea, from 6 to 7 p.m. commencing on Sunday, the 18th inst., and on alternate Sundays until further notice; also at St. Ann's, Highgate, from 5 to 6 p.m., the last Sunday in each month, when it is hoped that ringers will take the advantage of these opportunities, thereby assisting where the towers are considerably depleted.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Saturday, 14th April, particulars of which will appear in "The Ringing World" in due course.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the clergy and churchwardens of St. Ann's for their kindness in granting the necessary permission to ring; also to Mr. J. E. Baker, steeplekeeper, for having everything in readiness.

Touches on handbells in various methods concluded the proceedings.

SURREY RINGER DROWNED IN INDIA.

FATALITY CLOSES PROMISING CAREER.

News has been received of the death of Pte Henry John Dewey, R.A.M.C., who has been accidentally drowned at Secunderabad, where he was serving as an orderly in a convalescent camp. The deceased was the only surviving son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Dewey, of Earlswood Road, Redhill, with whom much sympathy has been expressed. The gallant soldier, who enlisted in April, 1915, went to France in July of that year, and twice returned to England. In August, 1916, he was transferred to India, after having done duty at Malta, and met his death on February 10th.

Pte Dewey began his ringing career early. When only ten years of age he used to go to Reigate with his father, and he commenced change ringing when he was twelve. He began on January 5th, 1909, at Nutfield Parish Church, where he rang his first 120 of Grandsire on the treble. At Horley, on January 17th, he rang 504 Grandsire Triples. His first touch of Plain Bob Minor was rung at Charlwood on April 4th; his first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on May 9th, at Pul-

8719



PTE. H. J. DEWEY.

borough; his first 720 of Plain Bob at Charlwood, on Sept. 26th. His record for 1909 was remarkable for one so young, comprising altogether Grandsire Doubles, 600 changes; Grandsire Triples, 8,346; Plain Bob Minor 1,920; total, 10,866. These changes were rung in twelve different towers. The deceased's first touch of Kent Treble Bob was rung at Nutfield on April 12th, 1910. On April 17th, 1910, he succeeded in ringing his first peal of Grandsire Triples, this being at St. Mary's, Billingshurst. On September 11th, in the same year, at Reigate, he rang his first course of Grandsire Caters. Owing to his work, he was then unable to take part in any further ringing for just on twelve months from this time, but started again on Oct. 1st, 1912, by ringing a peal of Bob Royal at Reigate. On Dec. 29th he rang his first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples with a bob bell, at Crawley, on the occasion of his 16th birthday. On the Boxing Day he had rung a peal of Grandsire Triples, at Reigate, and on January 27th, 1913, he took part in a peal of Plain Bob Royal in the same tower. Afterwards he rang in touches of Double Norwich, Stedman and Superlative, and his last peal, rung on Whit-Monday, 1913, was his first peal of Double Norwich Major. The last time in which he took part in any ringing was at the Cathedral, Manchester, during July, 1916. The deceased was a member of the Surrey, Sussex and Middlesex Associations, the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, and the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.

He was a prominent member of the Salford's Troop of Boy Scouts before joining the army, being a Patrol Leader, and one of the Salford's contingent which paraded before the King at Windsor Castle.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED.

To celebrate the 43rd anniversary of the wedding of Mr. S. Coley, 720 Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. for evening service on Sunday, March 4th, at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, by: S. Coley 1, A. E. Norman 2, A. T. Scrivens 3, W. H. Carrod 4, J. B. Collett 5, J. George (conductor) 6.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Southern District took place in Sheffield on Saturday, March 3rd. The ring of twelve bells at the Cathedral was raised about 3.30 p.m. About 30 visitors attended, and touches of Stedman Cinques, Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Grandsire, were brought round. The towers represented included Doncaster, Rotherham (Parish Church), Sheffield (Cathedral, All Saints', and Ranmoor), Ecclesfield, Norton, Chesterfield, etc. The ringing was terminated rather prematurely, by the breaking of a stay and difficulty with the gas, which took a good deal of persuading to keep alight.

The business meeting was afterwards held in the Westenholme Hall. Mr. G. Hawksworth (of Doncaster) presiding.

It was decided to offer Mr. F. Willey (of Sheffield) the vice-presidency of the district, to succeed Mr. T. R. Hensher, who has taken up residence in the North.—Mr. Willey, in accepting the offer, thanked all present for the honour, and said he would do all in his power to further the interests of change ringing at all times, and especially the Yorkshire Association, the magnitude of whose membership he emphasised.

He was unanimously declared duly elected, with applause.

The district secretary (Mr. A. Hague), whose term of office expires this year, and who is at present on active service, was re-elected to office, with Mr. L. Brightman as secretary pro tem.

The nine committee-men were re-elected en bloc, with the addition of Mr. Frank Shackleton, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. F. Willey being transferred from committee to vice-president.—Mr. J. T. Rew and Mr. D. Brearley were re-elected to serve on the general committee.

As no invitations were forthcoming, it was decided to hold the June meeting at Barnsley, providing the invitation given last year was still open. It was pointed out that ringing and lighting restrictions had unavoidably prevented the meeting being held at the time arranged. Ossett was put down as a reserve tower, the date to be either June 9th or 15th, as found convenient.

Mr. F. Willey moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Ven. Archdeacon Gresford Jones, M.A. (Vicar), and wardens, for the use of bells, and to the local company for necessary arrangements.—This was unanimously adopted.—Mr. J. T. Rew replied on behalf of the Cathedral ringers, and although, as he remarked, he had experienced some little difficulty in getting the meeting fixed up, he was very pleased it had been successfully arranged and enjoyed.—A vote of thanks to the chairman, to which he suitably responded, concluded the meeting.

DARTMOOR CHURCH BELLS RESTORED.

The ancient church and tower of Brent Tor is built on one of the highest Tors on Dartmoor, about 1,300 feet high, and visible from the sea at Plymouth, 30 miles off. It is erected on the edge of a cliff, a solid piece of masonry, to withstand the Dartmoor storms that howl around this unsheltered spot. The church has been restored with new oak, roof and seating. The tower, about 40 feet high, contained three mediæval bells, the beams and frames carrying which were rotten. One bell had fallen, and was broken. The three have now been recast, and extra metal added to make a ring of five, hung on new metal frames, mounted on rolled steel joists. The ring is a very pretty little peal, and the work has been admirably carried out by Messrs. Aggett and Sons, of Chingford, Devon. The tenor bears the following inscription, as on the old bell: "Gallus Vocor Ego Solus Super Omnia Sona." The other bells have shields and laver pots. From the church the Cornish and Devon hills can be seen for scores of miles, and we are asked to say that the keys of the church can be obtained at the Stag Inn below, the only one house near.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

The February meeting of this Guild was held at Stone-in-Oxney. The attendance was not very numerous, and the methods rung, several points below London Surprise—but he that expecteth much in these times is likely to get disappointed.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Woodchurch, on Saturday, March 24th.

A vote of condolence and deep sympathy was passed to Mr. C. Tribe, of Tenterden, in his sad bereavement through the death of his wife, who had proved herself a warm-hearted friend in entertaining visiting ringers.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of bells and permission for the meeting.

The towers of Aslford, Rye, Tenterden, and Woodchurch, were represented, and members of the local band were also present.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At St. John's Church, on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: G. R. Simmonds 1, A. J. Bennington 2, F. W. Richardson (conductor) 3, E. J. Fannett 4, J. Crowder 5, J. Law 6, E. B. Crowder 7, W. J. Jeffries 8.

MAFLEDURHAM, OXON.—On Sunday, Dec. 31st 1916, 720 Bob Minor: Air-Mechanic L. C. Griffith, R.F.C. 1, R. T. Hibbert 2, W. Hibbert 3, E. G. Franknum 4, E. J. Menday 5, Air-Mechanic J. Thomas, R.F.C. (conductor), 6.

DUFFIELD MAXIMUS.

The anniversary of the only peal of Duffield Maximus ever rung, occurs to-morrow, for it was, on March 17th, 1891, at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, that this performance took place. The peal (5040), composed and conducted by the late Sir Arthur Heywood, was rung in 3 hrs. 56 mins., by Thomas Reynolds treble, Job Joynes 2, Thomas Russam 3, Henry Bastable 4, William Kent 5, Arthur P. Heywood 6, Joseph Griffin 7, Bernard Wittell 8, John Buffery 9, John Howe 10, Alfred Thomas 11, William Wakley tenor. Of this band no fewer than seven have passed away, viz., the ringers of the treble, 2, 4, 6, 10, 11 and tenor.

THREE-COURSE QUARTER OF TREBLE BOB.

A quarter peal of Treble Bob Major, in three courses, composed by York Green, was rung for morning service at St. Mary's, Bow, Stratford, on December 24th, by: A. Scrambler 1, T. Cranfield 2, B. J. Turner 3, Y. Green 4, W. Truss (York and Lancs. Regt.) 5, E. Hall 6, R. Sanders 7, H. Torble (conductor) 8. This 1230 has calls in all positions of the tenor, and is as follows:—

23456	M	In	Out	5th's	W	H
32546	2	1	1	2	1	1
43285	2				2	2
23456	2	4th's	In.		1	1

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

CHALFONT ST. PETER.—Recently, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: C. Johnson 1, J. Stone 2, G. Gutteridge (conductor) 3, E. Burnham 4, F. Bolton 5, J. Blackmore 6.

TIVERTON, DEVON.—At St. Peter's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: *Cpl. Edwards 1, B. Monday 2, *Pte Parrott (composer and conductor) 3, R. Grater 4, R. Grater 5, J. Elsworthy 6, F. Newcombe 7, *S. Bartlett 8. * First quarter-peal. Cpl. Edwards is from Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks. Pte T. Parrott, who comes from Winchester, received hearty congratulations at the close, having composed and conducted the first quarter-peal he has taken part in.

COGGESHALL, ESSEX.—On Sunday, Dec. 31st, for afternoon service, a touch of Bob Major, with the bells half-muffled, being the last day of the old year, also as a tribute of respect to the fallen heroes: R. Potter 1, W. Havell 2, A. Shufflebotham 3, F. Claydon 4, J. Sadler 5, C. Norfolk 6, E. Beckwith 7, D. Elliott (conductor) 8.

BUCKLEBURY, BERKS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, January 6th, for afternoon service, 504 Grandsire Triples: G. Pickett 1, W. Wigmore 2, B. Davis 3, Miss Stella Davis 4, Rev. E. M. Thorp 5, S. Chapman 6, J. Abery (first 504 as conductor) 7, G. Nailor 8.

SHREWSBURY.—Salop Guild and St. Chad's Society.—On January 1st, at St. Chad's Church, 504 Stedman Triples: W. H. Hughes 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Brooks 3, A. Fullick 4, G. Scarratt 5, W. Stockdale 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, H. Jones 8. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Dr. Pearce and Miss H. Clark.—On Feb. 5th, 238 Kent Treble Bob Major: 207 Stedman Caters. For evening service, 120 Kent Treble Bob Royal: G. Scarratt 1, J. Tudor 2, G. Boylin 3, W. Brooks 4, G. Jones 5, J. Sconce 6, W. Stockdale 7, W. Weatherby 8, A. Fullick 9, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 10. First touch of Treble Bob Royal on the bells.

OXTON, BIRKENHEAD.—Chester Diocesan Guild. On Sunday, afternoon, January 7th, at St. Mary's Church, Painswick, a date touch of Grandsire Caters (1917 changes in the tittums and hand-stroke position), in 1 hr. 30 mins.: T. Wright 1, W. Hale 2, W. Ryland 3, A. Wright (conductor) 4, Cornl. W. Ireland 5, G. West 6, T. Chappelow 7, W. Hastings 8, F. Cole 9, J. Singleton 10.

DAGENHAM.—On Sunday, Jan. 14th, for Matins, 720 Kent Treble Bob: Miss C. Playle 1, E. Hawkins 2, E. Butler 3, G. Baber 4, G. Playle (conductor) 5, P. Freestons 6. Also touches of Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob, W. Davis and A. Chaplin taking part. Rung as a farewell to E. Hawkins, who was leaving the next day to join up.

STOURBRIDGE.—On Sunday, Jan. 14th, at St. Thomas' Church, 720 Bob Minor, for morning service, by the following: Wm. Hand 1, W. A. Pugh 2, Ralph Moors 3, A. W. Dodd 4, C. Wm. Cooper 5, John Bass (conductor) 6.

ISLEWORTH.—At All Saints' Church, on January 14th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: H. W. Lidbetter 1, A. Diserens 2, Seaman G. Spencer (H.M.S. "Vivid") 3, T. Beadle 4, E. F. Coles 5, A. Beckensale 6, W. Tricker (conductor) 7, W. J. Dickens 8. Arranged for A. Diserens (age 15), of Sunbury, this being his first quarter-peal with a bob bell. G. Spencer, of H.M.S. "Vivid," was home on a week-end leave from Devonport.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On Saturday, Jan. 20th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1280 changes): J. W. Jones 1, T. J. Evans 2, W. Nurton 3, A. W. Brighton 4, A. J. Pitman (composer and conductor) 5, J. Evans 6, J. Cox 7, B. J. Toby 8.

NOTICES.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Bristol, on Saturday, 17th March. Bells at 5 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. with ringing after.—Chas. J. Walton, Hon. Sec., 4, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Spring meeting will be held at Sturry on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available for ringing. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting after at the Swan Inn. A member will be elected at this meeting to serve on a sub-committee to consider the question of a memorial to all those who have fallen in the war and who have served in H.M. forces.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. Dist. Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available 3 to 8 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Tea at 6 p.m., 9d. each. Business meeting to follow.—E. J. Butter, Chadwell Heath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley Parish Church on Saturday, March 17th, 1917. Bells ready at 4.30.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 22nd, for handbell practice, and on the 27th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgely Road, Clapham, S.W.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A meeting of the above will be held at Woodchurch on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 3 o'clock till sunset. All ringing friends will receive a hearty welcome.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Margaret's Church, Rainham, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Half rail fares allowed. Please note subscriptions are now due.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, March 24th, at St. Thomas, Newhey. Bells ready at 2 o'clock until dusk. Meeting 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 9th. Full arrangements will be advertised in due course. All outstanding subscriptions should be paid at once, either to District Secretaries, or to G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., "Duffield," St. Albans.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday, April 9th. Further particulars in next week's issue.

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.

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On a recent Saturday a friendly gathering took place at Chalfont St. Peter, a useful ring of six (tenor 11½ cwt.), a good practice being made from 3 to 5 o'clock, when there were present Messrs. J. Blackmore (an old Petonian), W. Horne, Henley, Jones, Gutteridge, and Fussell, the Misses Cooper and Gudgin, and also members of the local company, the Revs. J. Fraser Amies, and C. J. Keet (curates), and Messrs. J. Stone (foreman), F. Bolton, and C. Johnson. Grandsire, Stedman Doubles, Oxford, Plain and Treble Bob Minor were rung, Mr. Amies (a former pupil of Mr. Holding, of Crewe) ringing the treble to a six-score.

Leaving the tower, an agreeable surprise awaited the visitors, an acceptable tea having been set out in the large Church Room (with good fire and light), adjoining the Churchyard. Here all the party put in a jovial couple of hours with a song or two, handbells and billiards. One of the experts at the latter game is now practising trench bagatelle, where balls of another shape and colour are employed in potting the Germans. The bells form part of a fine set belonging to the church (2½ octaves chromatic), and which were well handled by the local company in concert work at one time. A picturesque feature of the amusements was a lap touch of Caters, and the noted "Whittington" position on twelve bells. Letters were read from Messrs. Wel-ling, Buckland and Cropley, all newly joined up with the "More-men Brigade," and each doing well in khaki, as also were three of the local company now on active service—Messrs. Swann, Cox and Leslie. Mr. Amies made a genial host in the absence of the Vicar (the Rev. C. S. A. Whittington), who was in town on duty.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the St. Peter's Society for their kind hospitality, and to Mrs. Stone and Burnham for their homely attendance to our needs.

There comes a time in one's life when "conservation of energy" is as valuable as "concentration of the mind," and owing to the arctic conditions of the roads, I was compelled to forego a 25 miles' spin, in response to an invitation to meet at Amersham on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Here is the brief report sent me by one who was there "beside the roaring fire"—but I hardly know whether I may put all my initials to this contribution or two only: "We had a successful meeting at Amersham, in spite of very bad travelling and the severe weather. Those present were the Revs. J. F. Amies and E. Burnham (Chalfont St. Peter), G. Gutteridge (Fulmer), J. Barnes (Great Missenden), John Evans and Phil Evans (Hughenden), J. Blackmore (Beaconsfield), Wm. Henley (Farnham Royal), W. Horne (High Wycombe), together with Miss Mason, Miss Patrick, Miss Baker, and Mr. E. Redrup, of the local band—eight towers represented. Methods rung: Grandsire Doubles, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, and Kent Treble Bob Minor. Darkness setting in did not allow anything further being done. Ten of the company, the male section, sat down to tea at the Crown Hotel, and afterwards spent a pleasant hour seated round a roaring fire. George Gutteridge was the hero of the outing, having to bike ten miles each way over frozen snow. Messrs. Henley and Blackmore walked the last two miles to the tower with a punctured bike—the repair being effected not at a cycle shop, but at the brewery, while Mr. John Evans' noble little mare, faithfully hauled three heavy burdens there and back again, the O. St. Peter contingent having lamp trouble previous to the homeward journey. How does that stand towards keeping up the reputation of East Berks and South Bucks boys? I need scarcely add the absence of the genial hon. sec. was regretted."

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