



GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 owt.) 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. BUCK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

THE DEFENCE OF THE COUNCIL.

By far the most important as well as the most interesting item on the agenda of the Central Council at its Whitsuntide meeting was the question of the possibility of increasing the Council's efficiency and utility. The Hon. Secretary initiated the discussion by reading a paper, the whole trend of which was in justification of the Council's past, and giving one the impression that, though it is not faultless, any attempt to improve the Council or to increase its usefulness would be to risk catastrophe. The paper was well received—had the Council been composed wholly of critics, it would have commanded respect, coming as it did from so valued a member—but on closer examination it hardly carries conviction to those who believe that the work of the Council might be made, not only more interesting, but more effective. No one, we think, will deny that in the course of its existence, now extending over more than a quarter of a century, the Council has done some substantial work "for the good of ringing," but it is the paucity of results in recent years that has called forth the criticism to which the Hon. Secretary's paper comes as an answer.

With much of what Mr. Davies had to say every thoughtful ringer will agree, and to a large extent it is true that what failure there has been has been due to the fault of the Exercise outside, by failing to give the Council suitable work to do. But, whatever the cause, the lack of results from the last two or three Councils has been most marked. Putting aside the period of war-time hiatus, let us look for a moment at the preceding four years. The meeting in London, which inaugurated the ninth Council, was admitted by practically all to have been a barren meeting. Then, from the official record of the "Acts and Decisions of the Eighth Council, 1912-14," we find that four Committees were reappointed—their work during this period being carried on without the help of the Council—the Committee on Peal Values was dissolved and the Committee on Towers and Belfries appointed, the chief work of the last named resulting, not in action by the Council, but in the private publication by the President of a volume written by himself, Mr. E. H. Lewis and others, on "Bell Towers and Bell Hanging."

But what of all the rest of the work of the Council, which met in those three years in London, Newcastle and Winchester? Three years' labours resulted in four resolutions: (1) protesting against the Welsh Disestablishment Bill; (2) informing the Exercise that a peal of Minor should consist of at least seven true 720's, and that the bells should strike rounds only once at the end of each and

Continued on page 170.

CHARLES GARR, LTD.

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**



**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 write 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. GARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

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

BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

**IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.**

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.**

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKET;
BEST BELL ROPES,
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers:

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

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immediately go into the next: (3) declining to take part itself in the formation of a Benevolent Fund; (4) while recognising the value of peal ringing, expressing the strong conviction that the chief aim of all members of Associations should be the encouragement in all towers of ringing rather than chiming the bells for Sunday service and on the Festivals of the Church and their Eves. Can anyone honestly say that four resolutions like this, with the addition of a discussion, without a vote, on the subject of the possibility of an unfavourable change in the attitude of the general public towards bell ringing, as a result of the increasing number of peals rung annually, is an adequate result for the deliberations of three years? We think not, and it is when the average ringer comes to weigh facts like these that he comes to the conclusion the Council should either mend or end. In our view there is no need to end it—it ought to be and is capable of mending its ways.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

COLLINGHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Whit-Monday, May 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt.

*SERGT. E. MORRIS, A.S.C. <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE BRITTON 5
†EDWARD RICKITT 2	W. ARTHUR HUDSON... .. 6
WILLIAM CLARKE 3	EDWARD CROWTHER 7
ALBERT NORTH 4	HERBERT PEEL Tenor

Composed by JAMES FLEMING (Halifax).

Conducted by SERGT. ERNEST MORRIS, A.S.C. (Leicester).

First peal of Major on the bells.

* First peal in the method as Conductor. † First peal in the method.

WOOBURN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Monday, May 20, 1918, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qrs. 13 lbs.

*ALBERT DISERENS <i>Treble</i>	CHARLES V. HARE 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER 2	JOSEPH MILNER 6
GEORGE ALLDER 3	WILLIAM H. THEOBALD 7
WILLIAM T. HORNE 4	ALFRED B. PECK Tenor

Composed by F. DAY and Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. William Truss, who was born on March 18th, 1876, in the adjoining parish of Great Marlow, and was killed at Amiens, France, on April 12th, 1918.

* First peal.

STOKE-IN-COVENTRY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE STOKE SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 25, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, STOKE-IN-COVENTRY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

OSWALD J. HUNT... .. <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM T. COX 5
WILLIAM J. SMITH 2	JAMES F. CLARKE, JUN. 6
HUGH J. BALCOMBE 3	HERBERT KNIGHT 7
WILLIAM H. BRUNSDEN 4	CHARLES FREEMAN Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs Adolphus Roberts, on the occasion of their silver wedding. Mr. Roberts is now serving in Palestine.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer.**

50, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 185, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough Melbourn (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, May 17, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. T. COCKERILL, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 1-2	HERBERT LANGDON ... 7-8
CHARLES F. WINNEY ... 3-4	ALFRED B. PECK ... 9-10
HARRY R. PASMORE ... 5-6	THOMAS LANGDON ... 11-12

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE. Umpire: EDWIN HORREX.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, May 25, 1918, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT 97, EDENBRIDGE ROAD, BUSH HILL PARK,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

WILBY J. HAZELL ... 1-2	E. MAURICE ATKINS ... 5-6
MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... 3-4	JAMES PARKER ... 7-8

Composed and Conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.

Miss Parker's tooth peal. This is believed to be the first peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major rung "in hand."

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A NEW PRESIDENT.

The annual meeting of the Central Northamptonshire Association of Church Bell Ringers was held at Raunds on Whit-Monday, when the fine peal of eight bells at this historic church were placed at the disposal of the members by the Vicar, the Rev. C. C. Aldred. A service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the President (the Rev. R. Copeman, Rector of Stoke Albany), Miss O. Clarke being at the organ.

Following the service the annual business meeting was held in the Church Institute, when the Rev. F. H. Lang (Rector of Twywell, and one of the Vice-Presidents) was elected President for the ensuing year. He was supported by Mr. Owen Parker, J.P., O.B.E. (treasurer), the Rev. E. G. Atkins, Isham, the Rev. R. Copeman, the General Secretary (Mr. F. Wilford, Northampton), Messrs. T. Law, W. Perkins, W. Wilson, and F. Stubbs (District Secretaries), and about 50 members. Letters of apology were received from the Vicar (who was at Northampton with the Church Lads' Brigade), the Rev. Hugh Bryan, the Rev. W. St. George Coldwell, the Rev. H. E. FitzHerbert, the Rev. G. B. Dalrymple.

The balance sheet showed an increase credit balance of £11 11s. 11½d. and £10 worth of War Bonds have since been taken up.

The annual report showed that one peal had been rung during the year, 14 meetings had been held, and were well attended.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Northampton.

Mr. Owen Parker proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, and remarked upon the Vicar leaving Raunds, saying that what was Raunds' loss would be Northampton's gain. He also proposed a similar vote to the Rev. R. Copeman for his services.

The following bellries were represented: Northampton, Kingshorpe, Weston Davell, Burton Latimer, Cranford, Isham, Kettering, Finedon, Orthingbury, Earls Barton, Easton Maudit, Higham Ferrers, Thrapston, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Titchmarsh, Ringstead, Twywell, and the local ringers.

NEW VICE-PRESIDENT FOR KETTERING DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Kettering District was held on Saturday, May 11th, at Desborough. Although the attendance was small, an enjoyable time was spent. A short service was conducted by the acting Rector (the Rev. G. S. Kingsford), who gave a suitable address, the Rector, who is an hon. member, being away as a chaplain at the Front. At the meeting which followed, the members learnt with much regret of the departure of the President, the Rev. R. Copeman, for Bedfordshire. The Rev. E. G. Atkins—the Rector of Isham—was appointed to succeed him as Vice-President of the District. Seven new members from Isham (including four ladies) were elected, and Kettering was chosen for the next meeting, which will be the annual meeting of the district, and will probably be held on June 29th.

DANIEL PRENTICE FUND.

The following further contributions to the Daniel Prentice Fund were made at the annual meeting of the Norwich Association at Eye on Whit-Monday: Mr. F. Day (Eye), 5s.; Mr. J. Souter (Diss), 2s. 6d.; Mr. F. Knights (Norwich), 2s. 6d.; Mr. C. E. Borrett (Norwich), 2s. 6d.; Mr. T. Fitzjohn (Thetford), 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. E. Bason (Fakenham), 2s. 6d. Contributions should be sent to Mr. W. Mottis, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.

RINGERS' TRIP TO SHREWSBURY.

On Whit-Monday, the ringers of St. Giles' Church, Willenhall, accompanied by the Vicar (the Rev. T. H. P. Hyatt), and a few friends, spent a very enjoyable day at Shrewsbury. The party was met at the station by Mr. C. R. Lilley, several members of the St. Chad's Society, and Mr. Weatherby, of Ludlow. The first item on the programme was a visit to the museum, where the peal book of the famous Samuel Lawrence was of particular interest. The next place was St. Michael's Church, where the handy ring of six were set going to Stedman Doubles, and to call changes for the learners. Mr. Lilley then conducted the party to St. Chad's belfry, where the beautiful ring of twelve bells were at their disposal. The tone and go of the bells was greatly admired by all, Mr. Lilley being complimented by the Vicar on the good order in which bells and belfry were maintained. An adjournment was then made to the County Cafe for dinner, after which St. Alkmund's was on the programme. Having a few minutes to spare between dinner and ringing at St. Alkmund's, a walk through the Quarry grounds was enjoyed, the River Severn proving a great attraction, so great in fact that a boat was requisitioned, and St. Alkmund's forgotten, until the party were on their way down the river, with the Vicar at the oars. Returning safely, after an enjoyable trip, tracks were again made for the County Cafe, where tea was partaken of, and then to St. Chad's to ring for evening service, Stedman Triples and Grand sire Major being brought round, and bringing to a close a most enjoyable and successful outing. The visitors wish to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Lilley for his excellent arrangements, also the authorities of the churches who granted permission for the use of the bells.

PLEASANT AFTERNOON IN A SOMERSET VALLEY.

'NOVELTY' TOUCHES AT WRAXALL.

On Whit-Monday, a number of Bristol ringers, their wives and a few friends from other parts of the country, including Mr. G. Holmes, of the Cathedral Society, Sheffield; Mrs. Holmes; Mr. and Mrs. R. Whittington, and their son, of Cranleigh, Surrey; also Mr. H. Day, of Market Keeping, Lincolnshire, visited the village of Wraxall, which is situated in a beautiful valley, with a fine church tower, with an even finer peal of bells. The party were met at the belfry by one of the best of steeplekeepers, Mr. J. Windsor, whose jovial ways and willingness to do anything for ringers makes it always a pleasure to visit Wraxall. The bells were raised in peal, and the first touch was a well-struck three courses of Stedman Triples. Touches of Grand sire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Cambridge Major followed, the ladies especially distinguishing themselves in their ringing and striking. It was found that the composition of the party enabled a few 'novelty' touches to be rung, and they were as follows: A touch of Grand sire Triples, in which a brother and sister, father and daughter, husbands and wives, took part, the ringers being: Miss Windsor 1, Miss Brown 2, Mrs. R. J. Wilkins 3, Mrs. Whittington 4, R. J. Wilkins (conductor) 5, R. Whittington 6, J. Windsor 7, F. Brown 8. Another was a touch of Grand sire brought round by fathers and sons, viz.: R. Whittington, junr., 1, R. Whittington, senr., 2, Mr. A. Wilkins, junr., 3, Mr. R. J. Wilkins (conductor) 4, G. Condieck, junr., 5, G. Condieck, senr., 6, J. Windsor, senr., 7, H. Windsor, junr., 8. It would be interesting to know if the above formations of ringers have taken place before. After the ringing, the party, numbering about 24, visited the Battle Axe Hotel for tea, which was appreciated by all after their efforts in the tower on such a hot day. The outing was much enjoyed.

FOR MR. A. W. GRIMES' WIDOW.

It has been decided to extend the closing date for the disposal of the five volumes of 'The Ringing World' (to be sold for the benefit of the widow and family of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes) until June 30th next.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Easter Day, for evening service, at St. Botolph's Bishopsgate, E.C., a quarter-peal of Grand sire Triples, in 45 mins.: W. J. Nelder 1, A. Dierens 2, W. G. Symonds 3, E. Fenn 4, W. A. Alps (conductor) 5, T. Walker 6, T. H. Taffender 7, A. S. Pettelt 8. Arranged to celebrate the birth of a daughter on that morning to the Rev. J. A. S. and Mrs. Bullock.

SHARNBROOK, BEDS.—On Easter Day, for Matins, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: W. Stock 1, W. A. Norman 2, J. P. Duffield 3, A. J. Barcock 4, Cadet W. Duffield 5, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 6. For evensong, 720 Bob Minor: C. Allen 1, A. J. Barcock 2, J. F. Duffield 3, H. W. Gayton 4, Cadet W. Duffield 5, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, April 7th for Matins 720 Oxford Bob Minor: C. Robinson 1, W. A. Norman 2, A. J. Barcock 3, H. W. Gayton (conductor) 4, W. Stock 5, E. P. Duffield 6.

DARTFORD.—Kent County Association.—On May 12th for morning service, at the Parish Church, 544 Stedman Triples: J. Whendon 1, R. Morgan 2, G. G. Ambrose 3, J. H. Cheesman 4, T. Groombridge, junr., 5, S. Bateman 6, T. Groombridge, senr. (conductor) 7, H. Simmons 8.

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Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.

STAINBANK,

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.



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

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Sussex County Association was held on Whit-Monday at Brighton. Members from a large number of towers in the county were present to the number of about 60. Ringing commenced at 10.30 a.m. at St. Peter's Church, where there is such a magnificent peal of ten bells, and continued during the day till 8 p.m. Service, held at St. Peter's Church, was well attended, and was conducted by the Vicar of Brighton (Canon F. D. Pierce).

The business meeting followed in the Church Room, the Master (Mr. E. B. Tompkins) being in the chair.

All the officers were re-elected, with the exception of hon. treasurer, Mr. Ellman Brown, of Shoreham, being elected to fill this place.

Mr. E. Lindup was elected to represent the Association on the Central Council.

The accounts were received and adopted, and considered satisfactory, as the Association is paying its way.

The proposed new rules, were presented by the sub-committee, and after various amendments, were agreed to.—A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Goldsmith for his help in drafting the new rules.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Brighton.

A vote of thanks was passed to the clergy for the use of bells during the day.

Several new members were elected, and ringing in the standard methods was enjoyed at St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' Churches by those present, especially from towers where members are very few, and hands are depleted owing to the war.

FATAL ACCIDENT

WELL-KNOWN SOUTH WALES RINGER KILLED.

A distressing accident, terminating fatally, occurred to Mr. John Cox, of Bridgend, Glamorganshire, whilst following his employment in a coal mine. By trade a miller, after leaving Newport, where he had been engaged in large flour mills Mr. Cox took up the charge of a small mill at Bridgend. He, however, gave this up a few years ago and went into the coal pits at Kenfig Hill, where he was killed. Of most genial disposition, he was much liked by all ringers that came in contact with him. Having moved to Kenfig Hill, which is a few miles from Bridgend, he has not been able to attend the Sunday ringing as he previously had done, but on all special occasions he could be called on when required. He had rung 21 peals altogether, including Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Minor peals, and has conducted peals in each method. His first peal was rung at St. Woolos, Newport, Mon. on April 19th, 1897, and his last he rang at Aberavon just before the outbreak of war, each of these being Grandsire Triples. He has conducted Holt's Original. Cut off in the prime of life, his loss is much deplored by the Llandaff Association, and to his sorrowing wife and family the deepest sympathy is extended.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

WAR MEMORIAL PROPOSAL.

The annual meeting of the Guild was held at Salisbury, on Thursday, 16th May. Only a small number were present, the meeting being solely for business. All officers were re-elected, also the four representatives on the Central Council. A committee was appointed for the purpose of raising funds for a memorial to ringers of the Diocese, who have laid down their lives in the war, and instructed to consider the form of such memorial and report to the next general meeting.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Whittington of Cranleigh, who became life members of the Guild.

Touchees of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung on St. Thomas' and St. Martin's bells.

KILLED IN ACTION.

It is with much regret that we have to record the death of Mr. F. Causby (of Rushden), who was killed in France on April 20th. Deceased was well known among ringers in Northants, and had rung about 12 peals of Grandsire, Stedman Triples and Double Norwich for the Central Northants Association. He went to France with the 7th Northants in 1916, and came home on leave in September, 1917. After returning he was soon back in London with 'trench feet,' and had only been back in France three weeks when he fell.

As a mark of respect, the bells of St. Mary's, Higham Ferrers, were rung half-muffled, touches of Stedman Triples being brought round by W. Perkin (Irthlingborough), conductor; H. Chapman (Manchester), G. Randall, A. Martin, J. Martin, A. Everett, J. Garratt and A. Chapman (Higham Ferrers), G. Barford, P. Manning, T. Abbott, J. Muir, G. Eitee and H. Eitee (Finedon).

'BELL TOWERS AND BELL RINGING.'

Lady Heywood asks us to state that she will be glad to send a copy of Sir Arthur Heywood's book, 'Bell Towers and Bell Ringing,' to any ringer who can make practical use of it, who will write to her enclosing postage (4d.), addressed Lady Heywood, Dove Leys, Rochester, Staffs.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE PRESIDENT.

As mentioned in the summarised report of the Central Council meeting given in our last issue, the Council had sustained severe losses in members by death since its previous meeting, and a vote of condolence with the relatives of the deceased was passed.

Alderman J. S. Pritchett asked whether the Council could not find some way of perpetuating the memory of the late Sir Arthur Heywood. He suggested that it might be possible to institute a badge, to be worn by the President for the time being, which should bear a suitable inscription, saying that it was instituted in memory of Sir Arthur—a badge similar to those worn by Masters of City Companies, and, he believed, by the Master of the Cumberland Youths. It might also be arranged to leave room for the name of Sir Arthur's successors to be engraved upon it from time to time. He had no wish to rush the matter upon the Council, and merely threw out the suggestion for the consideration of the Standing Committee.

The Chairman said he was sure the Standing Committee would welcome the suggestion, as it welcomed any suggestion. It was very advisable that matters like that should not be sprung upon the general Council, but should come first before the Standing Committee so that they might put them into shape and bring them before the Council in proper form for discussion.

Alderman Pritchett thereupon moved that the Standing Committee be requested to consider the possibility of establishing some permanent memorial to the late Sir Arthur Heywood to commemorate his long connection with the Council.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee said he would like to second the motion, as he believed Sir Arthur Heywood's last appearance among ringers at a public function was at the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association, to which he went specially in connection with the commemoration of his (the speaker's) 25th year as President of the Association. He noticed then how far from well Sir Arthur looked, and although he afterwards received a postcard from him to say he was better, he (Mr. Elsee) could not help having misgivings whether they would again see him in his place at the meetings of the Central Council.

Mr. J. W. Taylor, who succeeded Sir Arthur as President of the Midland Counties Association, supported the resolution, which was unanimously carried.

THE COMMITTEES.

As already recorded the various committees were re-appointed, vacancies caused by the death of members being filled.

Mr. E. H. Lewis suggested that the Council should appoint a chairman for each committee, and make each chairman responsible for placing a proper written report of his committee's work before the Council. A great deal of the most important work of the Council was done by committees, but the Council seldom received more than a hurried verbal account of what had been done. It would be much more satisfactory if a written report was available, and, if possible, published before the meeting of the Council.

Canon Papillon, when reporting on behalf of the Literature Committee, fully agreed with the suggestion that there should be some one person in each committee definitely responsible for seeing that the work was done and done in sufficient time for the proper consideration of the Council. He thought it would also be an advantage if the Council would define a little more clearly what the business of the Literature Committee was. Was it simply to catalogue the titles of books bearing on ringing or was it to have—and this was a very important point—the general supervision of Press references to ringing? The Literature Committee grew originally out of the arrangements for calling more attention in the public Press to ringing matters, and one of the results was the publication of a series of articles in the 'Guardian,' subsequently reprinted in pamphlet form—which called the attention of the clergy in many parishes to the uses and purposes of bells, of which they were in blissful ignorance. He thought the committee should not only get information with regard to the literature concerning bells, but also obtain notices from time to time in the Press on ringing matters.

When the report of the Legitimate Methods Committee was under consideration, the Hon. Secretary said it would be remembered that at the last meeting, he asked the committee to reconsider certain of its rulings with regard to the legitimacy of methods. He was afterwards criticised for the length of time he occupied in putting his views before the Council. He now apologised for taking up so much time, but he had no idea when speaking that he had been so long. Since then, with the consent of his seconder, he had withdrawn the motion, and, instead of again bringing it before the Council, he had written a pamphlet on the subject, under the title 'Lead Finds,' and this could be obtained from him at the price of 1s., just sufficient to cover the cost of production.

BELL FRAMES.

Speaking for the Towers and Belfries Committee, Mr. Lewis said their work was held up for the duration of the war. He had seen it announced in 'The Ringing World' that the committee of the Royal Institute of British Architects, who were conducting an investigation

into the matter, had also held up their work, although it was stated that they had sufficient data in hand for a short paper. He did not know whether that paper would appear during the war. Mr. Lewis added that, during a short holiday last year he visited one of the towers, stated by the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings to have been damaged by a rigid bell frame. The society had mentioned six such towers, but he found that this one was the only one that had got a rigid frame. In the others the bells were mounted on girders without cross bracing, and they were the most excellent form of springs. In the case referred to it was a rigid H frame. After the architect had condemned the frame as having done damage to the tower, the top ties were cut, and the local ringers said the bells went as well after the ties had been cut as when they were fixed, and they had less trouble in keeping the frame in order than they had with the subsequent wooden frame. It seemed as if whenever there was trouble with a crack in the tower architects put it down to the bell frame every time, whereas there were a hundred other possible causes, of which no mention was ever made.

The Hon. Secretary said in the tower of the church at Deane (where he has recently become incumbent), there were some cracks that were put down to the bells, but a few weeks ago he had his old friend Mr. Phillott, a well-known ringer and architect, to see him, and he gave it as his opinion that the bells had nothing to do with the cracks, but that the cause was a small settlement of the tower, which showed as Mr. Lewis had said, how everything was put down to the bells when it might be due to any one of a hundred other causes. He had discovered that every ten or fifteen years there was an overflow of springs in the neighbourhood, and then there was often a foot of water round the tower, which was quite sufficient to account for the settlement of the building.

After the adoption of the reports of the various committees, Mr. Lewis proposed a motion embodying his suggestion that the Council should elect a chairman for each committee, who should be responsible for the presentation of a written report of the work of the committee, and that, if possible, the report should be circulated among the members of the Council, or published, before the Council meeting.

An amendment was submitted instructing the committees to elect their own chairmen, and this was agreed to, Mr. Lewis observing that he did not much mind how the chairmen were elected as long as the object of their election was secured.

THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL.

The following had been placed on the agenda by the Hon. Secretary: 'What are the means most likely to conduce to the greatest utility and efficiency of the Council and, if thought desirable, to move a resolution thereon.' The Hon. Secretary read the following paper on the subject:—

During the past two or three years various criticisms have been levelled at the Council. It does this or that that it ought not to do and it leaves undone this or that that it ought to do. Its debates are not interesting. Its debates are too technical. It debates and acts not. It has never done ringers any good. Its meetings are not worth the expense entailed in travelling to them. If change ringing is the object of attack in any part of the country, the Council should take up the cudgels. The Council should act as a labour bureau for the Exercise. The Council should act as a benevolent fund for the Exercise. The Council should become a legislative body, instead of contenting itself with being as it always has been merely an advisory one. Many other complaints have been urged against the Council but these few will suffice as specimens. I do not say that the Council is faultless. I do not say that it cannot be improved. I do not say that everything that has been said of it by way of criticism is wrong, but I do say that of the plights I have mentioned most will not stand examination, and that even so far as they are true the fault does not lie with the Council. Some of them are mutually contradictory. It has been said, on the one hand, that the Council should have on its roll the 'best ringers.' In some ways I quite agree with this, but not without reservation, as I will explain presently. It has also been said that the debates are too scientific, too technical, too abstruse. Now if you insist on having the 'best ringers' it follows of necessity that these are precisely the men capable of discussing the technical and so-called abstruse questions. Are you going to elect them and then muzzle them? If so, they will decline election, and you will not get the best ringers. And not only so, but if such subjects are not to be threshed out at the Council, where are they to be brought forward? Ruling them out you degrade the Council at once to a second-rate assembly. It loses respect, and good-bye to it. But this is not the only remark I have to make on this point. I have yet to learn that the Council was instituted to provide interesting debates for its members, or even for visitors. We meet here for business and not for pleasure. The Council is not a concert, nor a penny reading, nor (may I add?) even a sermon. I do not deny that an occasional variation in the way of a debate on a lighter subject is otherwise than pleasant when the stiffer work has been done. It is, of course, also delightful to meet friends, and in this way the Council is most agreeable but it is first of all a meeting for business and not for pleasure. For enjoyment of it in its latter aspect the conversation in the evening is the proper occasion, and most enjoyable it has practically always been.

THE GOOD OF RINGING.

Let me notice one more of the objections aimed at the Council. It has been said of it that it has never done ringers any good. When I first heard this remark I confess that I was quite taken aback, as it had never occurred to me that the Council was instituted for the good of ringers. I always thought that it was for the good of ringing—a very different thing. Let us look for a moment a little more closely at the phrase, 'the good of ringers.' It is really illuminating, and throws a light on not a little of the dissatisfaction that has been expressed in regard to the Council. The 'good of ringers.' This may have more than one meaning. It may mean greater facilities for learning and practising the art. As regards learning the art I hold that the Council has distinctly worked for their good, if in no other way than at least by its publications—its 'Glossary' and its 'Collections of Peals.' As regards practising the art, it has published its model sets of rules for a local company and for an Association, thereby tending to smooth the way for friendly relations between the clergy and ringers, and for setting ringing upon a proper and dignified footing among the energies of the church. And where ringing is thus respected and honoured there ensues without fail a proper regard among church authorities for the preservation of bells and their fittings, and for the cleanliness, comfort, and well-lighting of belfries. This is all for the good of ringers, and in all these ways I strenuously assert that the Council has worked and is working for the good of ringers. But I fear that some who have employed the words 'the good of ringers' have had in mind the good of the pockets of ringers. It is some such sense of the words that is at the back of the cry for benevolent and such funds. This brings me to two observations. The first is that with which I began, viz., that in this sense the Council was founded not for ringers, but for ringing. It is for the good of ringers, so far as concerns their ringing, but not beyond that, as far as I know. My next observation is a very important one—at least, in my opinion, and I have thought a good deal about it. It is this. Once let the Council embark on the management of a benevolent fund, or allow itself to take over the management of any money, on trust, or for any purpose other than those of its own work as a Council, and—mark my words—you seal its death warrant. Instead of being, as it has hitherto always been, an assembly for the deliberation of questions connected with the science and art of change ringing, and of the best ways and means towards its advancement, and the right and proper appreciation of ringers as church workers, it would become torn into factions of money questions, and would in this way go from bad to worse, and end in disruption. No, if the Council is wise it will refuse to listen to those who would have it undertake money schemes and the custody of money. It is quite another matter for it to express approval or disapproval of such schemes if undertaken by other bodies of ringers instituted or elected for the purpose. It has expressed such opinion in the past and may very well do the like again.

(To be Continued.)

REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

In acknowledging his election to the Presidency of the Council, the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey has written the following letter to the Hon. Secretary:

Trinity College, Cambridge.
May 25th, 1918.

My Dear Davies,—

Thank you for your very kind letter. Can you in any way express to the members of the Central Council my gratitude for their unanimous election of me as President, and my deep sense of the honour which they have conferred upon me? As you know, I was hoping to be able to attend the meeting last Tuesday, and I was very sorry that at the last moment I was prevented. If I had been present, I fear I should have asked to be excused from the office for I hoped that the Council would elect someone younger, abler, and more vigorous. As, however, they have done me this great honour, I feel I must not refuse after the election is over. I can only say that I will endeavour to do my best to carry on, for a short time, the work which was so excellently done by my dear friend Arthur Heywood.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) A. H. F. BOUGHEY.

LADY RINGER AS RED CROSS NURSE.

ROLL OF HONOUR OF ST. GILES' SOCIETY, READING.

The St. Giles' Society, Reading, has lost the services of a very active member, in Miss E. Goodship, who has offered her services to the King and country as a Red Cross nurse. Miss Goodship has been a member of the society for several years past, and her services will be greatly missed. The members are naturally very sorry indeed to part with her, but nevertheless wish her every success, and hope they will soon welcome 'peace' and the return of their brother and sister ringers. Miss Goodship's brother served as an officer in the army, and is now a prisoner of war. The following is the society's roll of honour: A. Baker, A. Bailey, R. Bishop, W. Dormer, A. Durman, wounded; G. Goodship, prisoner of war; E. Haynes, H. Osborne, G. Wheeler, C. Higgs, A. Phillips; F. Griffin and H. Smith, killed in action; L. T. Osborne, L. Leach and A. J. Harding, discharged.

NOTICES.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Martley on Saturday, June 1st. Service at 5 p.m. prompt; business meeting afterwards. The bells will be available. Tea at the Rectory. Motor from "Reindeer," Worcester, 3 p.m., returning from Martley 8.30 p.m.; fare, 2/- return.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Sec., Madresfield, Malvern.

LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at the Parish Church, Slough, on Saturday, June 1st. Ringing from 3.30; service at 5.30; tea and meeting at 6.15. Members and friends cordially invited.—E. K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at Shenley on Saturday, June 1st. Service at 3.30 p.m., with business meeting to follow. Bells (6) available both at Shenley and Loughton from 2.30 p.m. No tea can be provided.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The spring meeting will be held at Bennington as usual on June 1st, when the bells will be open, by the invitation of Canon Mills, during the afternoon and evening. Canon Mills will kindly provide tea as far as provisions are procurable, but no sugar. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Dist. Sec., Little Munden, Herts.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The June meeting will be held at North Wingfield on Saturday the 1st. Eight bells. Clay Cross Station, Midland Railway. A good attendance is particularly desired.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mellons (Mon.) on Saturday, June 1st, at 4.30. Bells (6) available. Tea will be provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and John W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The usual monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 1st, at Todmorden Parish Church. Bells ready from 3 o'clock; business meeting at 6, when the Vicar (Rev. S. Aspin) will preside.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 1st, at St. Peter's, Staines. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Tong on Saturday, June 1st, 1918. Bells will be available from 3 to 9 p.m. A business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall at 7 p.m.—Win. Gage, Hon. Sec., 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on June 4th and 18th for general business, and on the 13th and 27th for handbell practice, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Estab. 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Mortlake, on Saturday, June 8th. Ringing will commence at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the Vestry at 8.15 p.m. All ringers welcome.—C. Walker, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on Saturday, June 8th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m.; tea and business meeting to follow. Members requiring tea are asked to let me know by June 3rd. All ringing friends welcome. Outstanding subscriptions would be greatly welcomed.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of the above Guild will be held at Christ Church, Coseley (Staffs), on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.30, conducted by the Rev. J. A. Price, M.A., Vicar and Vice-President. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley Parish Church on Saturday, June 8th, 1918. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Deane, Bolton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Kingsdown, on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; service at 4 p.m.; to be followed by business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Branch Sec., 16, Queen's Road; St. George, Bristol.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—The next meeting will be held at Worplesdon on Saturday June 8th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock; service at 5; tea at 5.30 on the Rectory lawn, bring your own rations; 9d. will be allowed towards cost.—J. J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The next meeting of the above Association will be held at Wath on June 15th. Ringing from 3 o'clock till 9. Business meeting to be held in the Institute. Subscriptions now due, and to be paid to Frank Willey, Vice-President and Sec. (*pro tem.*), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting and six bell contest will be held at Meltham, near Huddersfield, on Saturday, June 15th, 1918. Tenor 13½ cwt. Draw for order of ringing at 3.45 p.m. Tea will only be provided for those who send in their names to me not later than June 10th.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Flixton, on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available during the afternoon and evening. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

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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