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FRIDAY, JULY 14th. 1933.

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BOW BELLS.

The dedication of Bow Bells last Friday was an event of first class significance in ringing history in London, and probably the most important since the opening of the bells at St. Paul's Cathedral more than fifty years ago. Certainly the restoration of no City peal of bells has excited so much general interest, and the importance of the occasion was sealed by the fact that the ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and by the presence of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs in State. The interest in the event is not surprising, for there are probably more 'traditions' attaching to Bow bells than to any other ring in the world, and for this reason they seem to have a warmer place in the heart of the citizens of London than any other peal. To the Londoner, London will be London again now that Bow bells can once more give voice; and they have returned to take their place in the scheme of things under the most promising auspices.

From the ringers' point of view the restoration of Bow bells is a matter of gratification. It is always a subject for regret when a great and renowned peal is lying silent through dilapidation, and the return of Bow bells to a state of usefulness is in itself a subject for satisfaction. Certain phases of the restoration have been much discussed in ringing circles, and the breaking up of Bow tenor has been openly condemned as 'murder.' But those who have heard the recreated bell admire her new qualities, and so great an improvement has been made that many who are competent to judge are now lamenting the fact that, when so many of the old peal were recast, there was not a clean sweep and an entirely new ring erected. It is, however, too late in the day to discuss such a question, and while restraining hands prevented more being done than was actually accomplished, Bow is in possession of a finer peal than it had before, despite the limitations enforced by the retention of four of the old bells. It should now be the aim of London ringers to see that full use is made of these restored bells. There ought to be a serious effort made by someone to get the bells rung for the Sunday services with some regularity. We know the difficulties of organising bands for ringing in London on Sundays, and Bow bells are no peal on which to start a company of beginners. It ought, however, to be possible to build up a band. It has been done with remarkable success at the neighbouring tower of St. Lawrence Jewry; it would be good to hear that someone competent had taken up the task at Bow. The bells have been restored to be 'used in God's service,' and it would be a thousand pities if they are heard only

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on 'paid' ringing days and in peals. Incidentally, we imagine the latter will be few and far between unless something is done to moderate the sound immediately round the church. That, however, is a matter that ought easily and speedily to be adjusted. What is of most importance is that Bow bells are restored and in that restoration have been made a better peal. They should now be re-enlisted into the service for which they are primarily intended.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt.

HERBERT T. PIPER Treble	THOMAS HILL 7
HERBERT KNIGHT 2	DANIEL T. MATEIN 8
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER... 3	BERT HORTON 9
ROBERT PICKERING 4	WILLIAM FISHER 10
JOHN C. ADAMS 5	THOMAS J. ELTON 11
*HOWARD HOWELL 6	HARRY BOSWELL Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by H. KNIGHT.

* First peal of Cinques. Rung to commemorate the jubilee of the above society.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN GATERS, 5171 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt.

FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... Treble	JOHN HOLMAN 6
DR. STEDMAN F. POOLE ... 2	JOHN P. FIDLER 7
JOHN S. SADDINGTON 3	PERCY HARRISON 8
JOHN GRUNDY 4	HAROLD J. POOLE 9
WILLIAM WEATHERBY 5	COLIN HARRISON Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER.

Conducted by H. J. POOLE.

Specially arranged for Mr. Weatherby, of Market Drayton, Salop; also a birthday compliment to Mr. Fidler.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT Treble	ROBERT MATTHEWS 6
ARTHUR J. MARTIN 2	SAMUEL GROVE 7
ROBERT G. KNOWLES 3	WILLIAM RANFORD 8
THOMAS W. LEWIS 4	HECTOR G. BIRD 9
SIDNEY T. HOLT 5	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Composed by SAM THOMAS.

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 1, 1933, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5055 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. 8 lb. in E flat.

*G. DENNIS DRIGHTON ... Treble	AMOS SMART 5
*STANLEY G. ROBINSON ... 2	ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... 6
†WALTER COPPERWHEAT ... 3	CHARLES M. WHITNEY ... 7
BURLEY P. MORRIS 4	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by Wm. J. WHITMORE.

* First peal of 'Treble Bob.' † First peal of Major. A jubilee peal for the Guild, the first meeting having been held at this tower on Raunds 'Feast Monday,' July, 1883. Also rung to commemorate the patronal festival and the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Robinson, of Raunds.

HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 1, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. L. GILBERT Treble	JAMES HAYWOOD 3
MISS LUCY M. KELLY 2	FRED WATKINSON 6
*LIONEL PARKIN 3	*AMBERN WILSON 7
MISS L. NOEL CAWTHORNE 4	*JOHN MARSHALL... .. Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by JOHN J. L. GILBERT.

* First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled in commemoration of that day 17 years ago when the Sheffield City Battalion won for itself and its city immortal glory in its futile attack on the bastion of Serre, and scores of Sheffielders fell in the attacks which began the Battle of the Somme.

WRAYSBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 5, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

*REGINALD RENN Treble	WALTER D. JOLLEY 5
MISS K. M. BRADFORD 2	†RONALD H. BULLEN 6
ALAN R. PINK 3	LEONARD STILLWELL 7
WILLIAM WELLING 4	*GEORGE W. ADCOCK Tenor

Conducted by Miss KATHLEEN M. BRADFORD.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. Miss Bradford's 25th peal and first as conductor.

ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 5, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A. J. PITMAN'S ODD AND EVEN BOB SIX-PART, NO. 12.

Tenor 17 cwt. 9 lb.

JOHN H. SWINFIELD Treble	EDWARD F. GOREY 5
MAURICE SWINFIELD 2	WALTER WALLACE 6
J. CHARLES DICKEN 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
CHARLES DRAPER 4	W. RICHARDSON DRAGE ... Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFIELD.

This composition is now rung for the first time and has 102 4-6's at backstroke.

WILLENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, July 6, 1933, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

ISAAC EVANS Treble	NORMAN G. LEECH 5
HARRY BOSWELL 2	JOHN T. DAVIES 6
WILLIAM T. EDGE 3	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 7
LESLIE C. TROBshaw 4	ARTHUR E. REED Tenor

Conducted by C. WALLATER.

Rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Albert Haddon, who was a former churchwarden of St. Giles', and was greatly interested in the ringers.

OXFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, July 6, 1933, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

*WILLIAM G. E. COLLETT Treble	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 5
†WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS... 2	*VICTOR J. F. BENNETT ... 6
†MISS M. E. REYNOLDS ... 3	WALTER F. JUDGE 7
FRANCIS E. MAY 4	RICHARD A. POST Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD A. POST.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Cambridge Major. † First peal of Major away from treble. First peal of Surprise as conductor and first attempt. All the band are resident in Oxford, and this is the first local peal of Cambridge rung in the city for 40 years, the last having been rung on March 23rd, 1893, at St. Peter's-in-the-East.

PRESTWICH, LANCAS.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 6, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

*HARRY MELLOR Treble	WILFRED J. MOSS 5
BOB BENT 2	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 6
EDWARD MAWBY 3	CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON ... 7
FRED DUNKERLEY 4	NORMAN HEAPS Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by N. HEAPS.

* First peal of Bob Major. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung for the first birthday of Miss Wendy Dulson.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(STOCKPORT & BOWDEN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, July 6, 1933, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt. 11 lb. in E.

WILLIAM BLACKHURST ... Treble	JAMES MILNER 5
JAMES FERNLEY, JUN.... .. 2	CHARLES OLLIER 6
JOHN H. BPIERLEY 3	TOM WILDE 7
WILFRED SEVENSON 4	JOHN WORTH... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by TOM WILDE.

Rung with the bells muffled as a token of esteem and respect and in grateful memory of the late Rev. A. T. Beeston, for many years hon. secretary and treasurer of this Guild, and 'father' of the local branch.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

PERCY NEWTON Treble	GEORGE MARTIN 5
EDGAR G. SWIFT 2	*THOMAS J. FOWLER 6
THOMAS S. GOODCHILD ... 3	ROLAND BIGGS 7
HARRY WINGROVE 4	FRANK CORKE Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by G. MARTIN.

* First peal in the method 'inside.' Arranged as a birthday peal for 'our George,' who was heartily congratulated by the band at the conclusion of the peal. It was his 350th peal and his 150th as conductor.

KIRTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

FRANK DEWEY Treble	J. EDWARD CAWSEY 5
GEORGE W. CREASEY 2	JOHN WALDEN 6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 3	FREDERICK W. STOKES ... 7
HAROLD MARCON 4	HAROLD WALKER Tenor

Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSEY.

First peal in the method on the bells.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 11½ cwt. in F sharp.

SAMUEL WARNE Treble	WALTER H. SMITH 5
*GEORGE N. IVES 2	*HARRY G. FELTON 6
ALBERT WIFFEN 3	BASIL REDGWELL 7
GEORGE WIFFEN 4	LEWIS W. WIFFEN Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

* First peal. The ringer of the 7th has now 'circled' this tower. Rung on the occasion of the annual Sunday School treat of the Parish Church and St. Paul's Church.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

*DENNIS SAYERS Treble	JOHN J. JEFFERIES 5
GEORGE E. LARGE 2	† WILLIAM LEWIS 6
*JAMES WOODYATT 3	*REGINALD WOODYATT 7
GEORGE HINTON, JUN. ... 4	GORDON W. CHECKETTS ... Tenor

Composed by MORRIS J. MORRIS. Conducted by GEO. E. LARGE.
* First peal of Major. † 100th peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

SANDAL MAGNA, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, July 1, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of St. Alban's Delight, Wragby Delight, Neasden Delight, London Scholars', Kingston, Sandal and Oxford.
Tenor 14½ cwt.

*CHARLES E. NETHERWOOD Treble	ARTHUR GILL 4
HAROLD CHANT 2	ERNEST COTT 5
ARTHUR PANTHER 3	DANIEL SMITH Tenor

Conducted by H. CHANT.
* First peal in seven methods.

TWYNING, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 1, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 11 cwt.

FRANK LAWRENCE Treble	SIDNEY T. HOLT 4
FRED HAWKES 2	WILLIAM RANFORD 5
THOMAS W. LEWIS 3	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Fred Hawkes.

ASHBOCKING, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, July 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE FARNISH Treble	GEORGE BENNETT 4
JAMES BENNETT 2	*WILLIAM J. GROOM 5
GEORGE PRYKE 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... Tenor

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

* First peal in seven methods. Rung as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

THORINGTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven true extents, each called differently. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

*ROBIN G. LONG Treble	*AMOS R. GARDINER 4
GEORGE A. ANDREWS ... 2	HORACE A. WRIGHT 5
*GEORGE A. BUTTON 3	ALAN R. ANDREWS Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal on the bells since they were retuned, quarter-turned and rehung with entirely new fittings by Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich, the tone and 'go' giving every satisfaction.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church on June 7th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Smith 1, A. King 2, T. Kendall 3, H. Walker 4, F. Walker 5, A. Rushton 6, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 7, A. Rookwood 8. Rung for the wedding of Mr. Inwood and Miss Gibbs.

SHARNBROOK, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Woodbine Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Oxford Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM SHARP Treble	HENRY W. GAYTON 4
WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... 2	PEARL INSKIP 5
ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... 3	CHARLES W. CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Neasden, Wragby, College Bob IV., Kingston, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure and Oxford. Tenor 8½ cwt.

SIDNEY HOUGH, SEN. Treble	FRED HOLT 4
*STANLEY ARDERN 2	JOHN WORTH 5
ADAM T. MARSLAND 3	JAMES A. MILNER Tenor

Conducted by JAMES A. MILNER.

* First peal in seven methods on an 'inside' bell. First peal as conductor in seven methods. Rung with bells fully muffled as a last token of respect to the Rev. A. T. Beeston.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 13 cwt.

*CHARLES JEFFS Treble	WALTER AYRE 4
*THOMAS A. BLOW 2	*JOHN MALYAN 5
STEPHEN H. HOARE 3	*FRANCIS KIRK Tenor

Conducted by FRANCIS KIRK.

* First peal in seven methods. It is over 25 years since a peal in seven methods was rung in St. Albans.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 4, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
IN ST. MARGARET'S BELFRY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATER'S, 5067 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

GEORGE STEDMAN MORRIS ... 1-2	*PERCY L. HARRISON 5-6
HAROLD J. POOLE 3-4	† COLIN HARRISON 7-8
ERNEST MORRIS 9-10	

Composed by the late J. E. GROVES. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS
Witness—Frederick E. Wilson.

* First peal with two working bells. † First handbell peal. A birthday compliment to Mr. Josiah Morris, father of the brothers Morris, who enters on his 67th year, the 'odd' changes coinciding.

BARNEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 9, 1933, in Three Hours,
AT 9, BEVERLEY ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

*GEORGE J. BUTCHER 1-2	GEORGE H. CROSS 5-6
† HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 3-4	EDWARD J. BEER 7-8
HARRY HOVERD 9-10	

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

Witnesses—Mrs. G. H. Cross and Mrs. E. J. Beer.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal 'in hand.' First of Royal 'in hand' by the ringers of 7-8, 9-10. First peal in Barnehurst and first in the method in the parish of Crayford.

DORE, DERBYSHIRE.—At Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples: J. W. Sykes 1, N. Westlake 2, Miss M. T. Bouton 3, W. Bingham 4, J. Marshall (Edinburgh) 5, W. Biggin (Norton) 6, C. Bates (Norton, conductor) 7, Miss J. Dugdell (first quarter-peal) 8.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

FALLING OFF IN PEAL RINGING.

The annual general meeting of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Winchester on Saturday, July 1st, when 100 members and friends visited the historic cathedral city from most towers in the two dioceses. The visitors included Mr. Rupert Richardson (Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild) and Mrs. R. Richardson. The business meeting was held in St. Maurice's Hall, with Mr. G. Williams, the Master, in the chair.

The Master's report stated that the Guild's work for the year 1932 must be considered satisfactory again as regards finance, although the amount to the general fund was a trifle less than last year. The balances in hand of the districts showed an increase. The annual and district meetings had been well attended, and it was gratifying to note the amount of young blood that turned up at most of these meetings, considering the number of present-day attractions. There was still plenty of room for missionary work for members in the districts, to try and bring in more of the unaffiliated towers. The peal records for the year were somewhat disheartening, considering the number of members in the Guild, proficient in the higher methods. This year's list showed only three Surprise peals, compared with twelve in 1931, and the total falling from 36 to 25. 'Let us hope and endeavour,' said the report, 'not to let the Guild go back this year from the prestige it has held in the past.' Bell restoration had been fairly active during the year. Christchurch had been augmented to 12; St. Mary's, Portsea, recast and rehung in new iron frame by Taylor and Co.; Romsey Abbey, eight retained, the third, fifth and seventh recast and all rehung in ball bearings by Mears and Stainbank, while other minor jobs were about to be taken in hand. Thanks were due to the Barron Bell Trust for the help they had given during the year. In conclusion, the Master appealed to the more advanced members to try and keep up the prestige of the Guild, both in peal ringing and good striking, not forgetting the latter as the most essential work of the Guild for Sunday service ringing.

The report was adopted, as was also the balance sheet, presented by the treasurer (the Rev. Evan Jones). The balance on the general account had been increased from £56 18s. 5d. to £59 18s. 9d., while the special purposes fund, which began with a balance of £25 10s. 4d., now had a balance of £35 14s. 10d., the receipts having included £15 transferred from current account and 9s. 6d. interest. The expenditure was £5 5s. to the Rev. C. D. P. Davies Memorial Fund.

The officers were re-elected en bloc as follows: Master, Mr. G. Williams; hon. secretary, Mr. F. W. Rogers; hon. treasurer, the Rev. Evan Jones; recorder of peals, Mr. C. E. Bassett; auditor, Mr. G. Smith.

AFFILIATION FEES.

The recommendation by the Executive Committee to alter Rule 7 was unanimously adopted. This now reads: 'That each tower in the Guild's area shall be invited to subscribe, through the incumbent and Parochial Church Council, an affiliation fee of 5s. annually.' The draft copy of the proposed circular to towers inviting them to pay these fees, which had been drawn up by the Master, treasurer, secretary and Mr. Pullinger, was approved, and sanction given to proceed with the printing of same.

Mr. E. Denison Taylor (Loughborough) was elected a life member and the election of Mr. F. Hopkins (Christchurch) was also confirmed. Several full members were elected from Alton, Fareham, Hambledon and St. Mary's, Southampton.

REARRANGEMENT OF DISTRICTS.

For some time past the question of re-forming the districts in the north-west corner of the Guild (embracing the towers in the Alton District and North Portsmouth District) had raised serious opposition from some members and also the Bishop of Portsmouth, on the ground that the proposed new district would cover part of two dioceses. At the last annual meeting a motion that the transfer of the towers should be made provided equal voting, many abstaining. A subsequent motion that the matter should be considered after the views of the Bishop of Portsmouth had been obtained was put and carried. As a result of this, the Executive Committee recommended to the general meeting, a resolution brought forward by Mr. G. Pullinger in the following terms: 'That the towers of Blackmoor, Bramshott, Buriton, East Meon, Froxfield, Hawkey, Liss, Petersfield, Privett, Steep and West Meon, all in the diocese of Portsmouth, be formed into a Petersfield District. That the towers of Alton, Bentworth, Binsted, Chawton, Froyle, Newton Valence and Selborne, all in the diocese of Winchester, be formed into an Alton District. These two districts to be united for administration purposes until such time as they are more fully developed, and to be known under the joint title as "The Alton and Petersfield District." That the isolated tower of Ropley in the Deanery of Alresford be transferred to the Winchester District. That the tower of Upham in the Deanery of Bishop's Waltham be transferred to the Portsmouth District.'

This resolution was unanimously approved, and to operate from January 1st, 1934.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Petersfield on Saturday, July 7th, 1934, and to invite the Bishop of Portsmouth to be the special preacher.

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF THE REV. A. T. BEESTON.

A FINE RINGER AND A GREAT SECRETARY.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death, at the age of 71 years, of the Rev. A. T. Beeston, hon. treasurer of the Chester Diocesan Guild, and formerly, for some 20 years, its secretary. Mr. Beeston, who retired a few years ago from the charge of New Mills Mission Church, had been living at Knutsford for about twelve months. For some time he had been in indifferent health, and he passed away on June 30th.

The funeral took place at the Knutsford Cemetery, on Monday week, after a service at the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar of New Mills, assisted by the Vicar of Knutsford, the Rev. E. Ealand. There were present many relatives and friends, the Chester Diocesan Guild being represented by the Rev. C. A. Clements (Master), the Rev. W. R. Ingham (secretary), Mr. T. Wilde (secretary, Bowdon and Stockport Branch), Messrs. J. Fearnley, A. Barnes, W. Gordon, S. Hough, N. Hough, J. Johnson, A. E. Marshall, A. T. Marsland, G. Smith and J. Webb.

At the conclusion of the service at the graveside, a course of Grand-sire Triples was rung on handbells.

The Rev. A. T. Beeston, who was born at Wirksworth, Derbyshire, on December 2nd, 1861, learnt to ring a bell at a very early age, but it was not until the year 1895 that he took any serious interest in the art. Originally he intended to follow a commercial career and spent five years in business before entering upon a three years' course of preparation for Holy Orders. Ordained at Advent, 1890, in Durham Cathedral, he served in the parish of St. John, Hebburn, and in 1895 removed to New Mills, where his interest in ringing was stirred by the gift of a peal of six bells to the Parish Church in 1898. At the beginning of 1899 a company of seven commenced to learn change ringing unaided, and, despite the difficulties, in October, 1899, rang a peal in four Minor methods, Mr. Beeston having meanwhile rung his first peal—Bob Triples—at Wirksworth in the previous March, and his second, 8,288 Kent Treble Bob, at Bolsterstone, in May. His first peal of Double Norwich followed in December of the same year, Stedman Triples and Superlative in 1901, Treble Bob Royal, Stedman Caters and Cambridge Surprise in 1902 and Yorkshire and London Surprise in 1903. He took part in the first peals of Yorkshire and Peterborough Surprise and Double Oxford Bob Triples ever rung, and altogether had scored over 400 peals, which were rung in many counties in England, Ireland and Wales. For some years Mr. Beeston accompanied Mr. William Pye on his annual ringing tours, and in this way rang in many parts of the British Isles.

Capable as he was as a peal ringer, however, it was not in this that the Rev. A. T. Beeston rendered his greatest service to ringing. Having been hon. secretary of the Bowdon and Stockport Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild from 1904, he was appointed general secretary of the Guild in 1907, and filled the office with great success for something like 20 years, during which time he rendered valuable aid to the cause of ringing in the diocese by the encouragement and help which he gave to the members. It was due to him that the Norbury band took up the practice of Spliced Minor ringing many years ago, and thus opened a new avenue of interest in ringing. Mr. Beeston was a fine ringer and a great secretary.

As a member of the Central Council for many years, he did a large amount of painstaking work as a member of the Analysis and Records Committees, and his departure from that body, on his retirement from the secretaryship of the Chester Guild, left a sense of serious loss.

He was a lovable man, and his work for ringers and ringing was only one side of a life of service to his God and fellow-men. His memory will be perpetuated in the Chester Diocesan Guild through the gift, which he recently presented, of the Beeston Library.

(Continued from previous column.)

Votes of thanks to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral, the Rector of St. Maurice's and the Vicars of Hursley and Twyford for the use of the bells concluded the meeting.

Tea was served in St. Maurice's Hall, after which members attended the Cathedral evensong, which was followed by further ringing at the towers mentioned.

SOUTHAMPTON DISTRICT.

A very successful meeting of the Southampton District was held at Fawley on Saturday, when members were present from Bishopstoke, Brockenhurst, Dibden, Eling, Fareham, Farnborough, Fawley, North Stincham, Swanmore, Wickham and Winchester.

Good use was made of the bells, which are a nice ring of six. During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire, Bob and Stedman Doubles, Bob and Kent Minor were rung.

The Rector of Fawley was elected an honorary member, and three members of the local band joined the Guild.

After tea the bells at Dibden and Eling were available for ringing, and a good number of touches were brought round at both towers.

The next meeting will be held at Netley on October 14th. Due notice will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 426.)

THE PRESERVATION OF OLD BELLS.

Continuing the discussion on the motion by Mr. F. E. Dawe, with regard to the breaking up of old bells of historical interest and good tonal quality,

Ald. J. S. Pritchett suggested that the proposer and seconder should agree to withdraw it. Mr. Dawe, he said, seemed to be under the idea that valuable peals of bells were in some sort of danger. He (the speaker) did not think they were. He did not think there were any instances on record of good bells being wantonly interfered with. When they were recast there was always some good reason for it. He was interested in the case of Coventry. There, there was a famous ring of bells which ought to have been preserved if they could have been preserved, but they had been silent for many years, and it would never have been possible to ring them again in that tower. The only way to have made them available would have been to build a fresh tower. The question was what should be done to make them usable, as the people of Coventry wished them put to good use. In his opinion—ringing being out of the question—the second best use was made of them. Bells of historic interest were already protected in various ways, and Mr. Dawe's motion was an alarmist resolution, because it suggested there were people going about anxious to interfere with good bells and destroy them. He objected to the word 'destruction.' Did it mean recasting, or breaking them up and selling them for old metal? He deprecated the breaking up of any old bell for the sake of selling it as old metal for any other church purpose, but he had no fear at all that any good ring or individual bell was in any sort of danger, and he thought it was quite unnecessary to pass that resolution.

Major Hesse said he did not believe anyone would wish to break up an old bell that was also a good bell. He agreed that to compare Bow tenor with the eleventh at Exeter was utterly ridiculous—a better bell than Exeter eleventh was never cast by anybody; it was almost perfect, and taking out a few more pounds by tuning made her more perfect. There were some other bells in the West Country—like Queen Camel tenor—by Bilbie and Purdue, that no one with an ear for music would agree to breaking up, but they did not want to preserve an old bell when it was bad.

THE 'MURDERER' OF BOW.

Mr. C. F. Johnston said as betrayer of Coventry and murderer of Bow (laughter), perhaps he would be in order in replying to the mover and seconder. The motion said that the Council deprecated the destruction of bells renowned for their tonal qualities. The question of tonal quality might be a matter of opinion, but he endorsed the remarks of those speakers who said it was ridiculous to compare Bow tenor with Exeter eleventh. Bow tenor was an unsatisfactory bell musically. It was badly cracked in the crown. It was carefully inspected by the architect of the church and by the adviser of the Diocesan Advisory Board, who were both satisfied that to replace it in its existing condition would be suicidal. The fracture went right through the crown, and he asked the Council would the authorities have been justified in putting that 53 cwt. ringing tenor over the heads of a band of ringers? Mr. Young did not tell them that he had tried to prevent the recasting of the bell. He called it 'destruction,' but he (Mr. Johnston) would point out that the contour of bells had not altered appreciably for centuries. Was it, therefore, fair to say that the bell was being destroyed when the same metal was used to recast the bell? The only other thing to do would have been to retain it in the church or tower and have a new one, but that did not appeal to everyone in these hard times. There had been a suggestion made that a hole should be drilled at the end of the crack to keep it from extending and the bell rebung. That, however, was a process which he knew was a failure. He mentioned these facts, he said, in defence of the recasting of Bow tenor. The Diocesan Boards, he added, were watching these matters very carefully. None, he thought, would question the desire of them all to preserve bells of good tonal qualities and real historic interest, and the assumption that a bellfounder should want to break up a peal of bells for his own benefit was an insult to his honour. He proposed an amendment to the motion as follows:—

'That this Council deprecates the breaking up of church bells of proved good tone and of real historic interest, urges the Church authorities not to assent to their recasting except for the gravest reasons structurally or musically, and furthermore recommends that independent advice qualified to advise on historic, engineering and musical grounds be obtained in all such cases before action is taken.'

WATCHED BY ADVISORY BOARDS.

Canon Elsee said he thought the best measure would be for ringers in the various dioceses to take care that they were adequately represented on the Diocesan Advisory Boards. The Boards now were generally ultra-conservative. The difficulty was sometimes to get a scheme of real improvement carried through, but there were cases still where, perhaps, bells of antiquarian interest were allowed to disappear. Some time ago he came across a very interesting example of an old bell at a country hall in the place where the coal scuttle was usually kept, and from its shape he judged it to be a 13th

century bell. Later he mentioned the matter to Mr. Hughes and asked him if he knew the bell. He said he did and had sent it to the hall in question. It was a 13th century bell that was sent him from another part of the country as old scrap metal. Such a thing could not easily take place to-day, but there were cases where people had no idea that their old bell, which had been brought down from the tower and put in an out-house, had any antiquarian value at all. Advisory Boards, where they were aware of such things, were now very careful indeed to see that such vandalism was prevented, and he believed the bellfounders were equally keen to preserve anything that came into their foundries in that way if there was real interest attached to them. He did think it was important that ringers should see that their interests were represented on the Advisory Boards. In the diocese of Manchester he did not think ringers would have been represented on their Diocesan Board if he had not asked about it at the Diocesan Conference and pointed out that someone with knowledge of bells might be added. It was done promptly. There were, however, adjoining dioceses where there was no one on the advisory boards who had much real knowledge of bells, at all events from the ringers' point of view. If ringers would see to it that they had a properly qualified representative on the Advisory Board, he believed it would do a good deal to meet what was asked in this motion.

The proposer and seconder agreed to accept the amendment, which was put to the meeting and carried without dissent.

PEALS IN MORE THAN ONE METHOD.

The next three motions on the agenda related to peals of Minor. If the first of these was passed, said the President, he did not think it would in any way prejudice the other two. These two were very much the same up to a point, but one went further than the other, and he was going to suggest that when they came to them these two should be debated together. He thought it would be the simpler method, otherwise they would get a lot of overlapping. With regard to the first of the three, Mr. Newton, in whose name the motion stood, was unfortunately unable to be present, but he had sent a letter in support of the motion, and the best plan would be to read it. The motion was:—

'That this Council uses its influence to encourage five and six bell companies to ring their peals in more than one method. It also urges them to include, whenever possible, at least seven methods in their peals.'

Mr. G. R. Newton wrote in his letter that the resolution which he was submitting for the Council's consideration was the result of some serious thinking on the subject of one-method compositions, such as that of the Rev. E. B. James and others. He had no knowledge then that these were to appear on the agenda, and as they would be fully discussed later, he refrained from saying anything further on this subject. He hoped ringers of five and six-bell peals would not think that he wanted to be hard on them in bringing this resolution forward, and for those who could not master more than one method, he, and he was sure the Council, had full sympathy. There were, however, bands who continued to ring 5,040's in one method when they were well able to ring them in more. He did not say there was no merit in ringing peals in one method, especially if it was a Surprise method, but in his opinion the conductor was then the one person to whom the bulk of the credit was due. He went further and said that the band that could ring a 5,040 in one Surprise method could with very little practice ring peals in seven methods, which would not only be more creditable to them, but also more interesting and decidedly less monotonous. It should be the aim of every young ringer after ringing his first peal, should it be in one method, to persevere until he was able to ring a peal in at least seven methods. In his opinion, formed after close observation during the past few years, they seemed to be going backwards instead of forward. The peals of Minor and Doubles were not, generally speaking, of as good quality as they were years ago. They had, fortunately, and quite recently, those brilliant performances of the Cheshire ringers, who had achieved peals in at least 30 methods. The older members of the Council, he felt sure, did not forget the great fight that had to be made in order that their performances on five and six bells should be allowed to rank as a peal. This was one of the chief planks of the six-bell stalwarts and which swayed greatly in their favour, that a peal of Minor in seven methods required more ringing and was a greater achievement than peals rung in one method on the higher numbers of bells. It was not his wish to be hard on five and six-bell ringers, but this Council could, if it would, pass the resolution and so bring about in time what would be a great improvement in the quality of the five and six-bell peals that were rung.

'GOING DOWN HILL.'

Mr. A. Tomlinson seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mr. J. Hunt, who said he did not think it was Mr. Newton's intention to debar peals in one method to 'scratch' bands; neither was it to prevent men ringing a Surprise peal in one method, but it was intended for those bands who kept grinding out 720's of Bob Minor. They were in an age now when they seemed to be going down hill in this matter, and they should do their best to encourage a higher standard. There were very few ringers, who, if they could ring one method, could not learn to ring others.

The President said he thought Mr. Newton would wish his resolution to apply to the 'scratch' eight-bell men who went round to six-bell towers. In his days in Cheshire, when they used to ring six-

bell peals, they were ringers mostly from eight-bell towers, and, as far as his recollection went, they did not ring any peals in less than seven methods. He thought Mr. Newton wanted to put up the standard for everyone, and, after all, an eight-bell ringer who could ring one Minor method could quite easily ring seven.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith said a comparison of peals of Minor to-day with 40 years ago showed that the average standard had deteriorated. Out of 61 peals of Minor rung in the year 1893-4, no fewer than 48 were in seven or more methods and only one was in one method; whereas in 1932 only 107 peals of Minor out of the 408 were in seven or more methods, and no fewer than 155 were in only one method. That peals in seven methods were no real handicap to those who were just beginning peal ringing was proved by the fact that in the 48 peals rung in seven methods 40 years ago, no fewer than 52 ringers rang their first peal.

The Rev. Canon Parry, speaking as one who came from a small parish in a county with 600 parishes and where small parishes prevailed, said they had extraordinary difficulties in keeping a band together. They might bring them to ring a peal in one or two methods, and then, perhaps, the band broke up and they had to begin again. They were having to face that difficulty constantly. If the Council accepted the principle of the motion before them, it would be most extraordinarily difficult to ring a peal in seven methods in face of the obstacles they had to contend with. He knew the motion said 'where it is possible,' but he hoped it would not go forth that the Council 'urges' its adoption. He would prefer to see it passed as a recommendation and encouragement. He was afraid it would have a deadening effect on many country bands if they asked them to ring their first or second peal in more than one method.

Mr. A. E. Sharman said in Bedfordshire they very seldom rang peals in one method, and they did not encourage it. There was very little difficulty in learning two or three methods of Minor, if a ringer knew Plain Bob, and if he could ring Bob Minor, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and College Single he could go on and ring seven methods practically straight away. The Council ought to set a high standard, and no band ought to ring a peal of Bob Minor more than once.

Mr. E. M. Atkins said the difficulty in the country was to keep a band together in these days, and it was a great encouragement to some of these beginners to ring a peal, if it were only in one or two methods. The figures proved that there were a great many more active bands of six-bell ringers about the country, and he thought it would be a bad thing for the Council to say it was not pleased with the progress of these less efficient ringers. He would prefer to see the resolution amended to a recommendation.

Mr. P. J. Johnson asked whether they, as a Council of change ringers, could logically take up the attitude that when they had

learned to ring a plain course of Bob Minor it was the be-all and end-all of change ringing? Standardisation meant sterilisation, and unless they held up some inducement to the men to go forward and encouraged a spirit of enterprise, they would, as in most other things, go backward instead of forward. He saw nothing in the resolution to encourage their alarmist friends in the views they took. The resolution was to encourage progress; could they, as a Council, do anything less? ('No'). Logically they could not, otherwise they would simply be selling their birthright.

The Rev. H. Drake said the wording of the resolution was quite all right, and the Council could very well pass it unanimously. They did not want to do anything which might unintentionally discourage those who were learning. It was a meritorious thing sometimes to ring a peal in one method. In his opinion, the reason why they had gone back in the standard of peals of Minor was that there were now no points for peals (laughter). People were encouraged by the points to ring more methods than they did now.

The resolution, on being put, was carried by a large majority.

(To be continued.)

A LINCOLNSHIRE AUGMENTATION.

MEMORIAL BELLS AT WHAPLODE.

After a silence of upwards of 14 years, the bells of Whaplode Church, Lincolnshire, were heard again on Saturday, July 1st, when they were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln. The bells have been rehung in a new iron frame with ball bearings, after being retuned and the third bell recast in memory of Mr. H. C. Wright, who was killed in an aeroplane accident. He left a legacy of £200 to be spent in something for the church, and it was decided to rehang the bells. A new treble has been added in memory of Mrs. Eva Wright, an aunt of the above, and suitable memorial tablets have also been placed in the church. The work has been carried out by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and the 'go' and tone of the bells is admirable. Previous to the dedication the ringers taking part were entertained to tea by the ladies of the parish. Among those present were Mr. G. Ladd, secretary of the Elloe Deaneries Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild (who was present when the bells were rehung 45 years ago), and Messrs. J. T. Brown, R. Mackman and Mr. J. Oldham, representing Messrs. Taylor and Co.

After the dedication, the bells were rung in various methods from rounds to Cambridge Surprise. The ringing concluded with a well-struck 720 Oxford Treble Bob by A. Riggall 1, J. B. Hallifax 2, A. J. Farr 3, J. Curry 4, J. G. Ames 5, G. Ladd (conductor) 6. The weight of the tenor is 12 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lb. in F sharp.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The president of the Central Council (Mr. E. H. Lewis) and the hon. secretary (Mr. G. W. Fletcher) were among those present at the opening of Bow Bells on Friday.

A correspondent writes that both the C.C. and the B.B.C. lost a fine opportunity by not broadcasting the ceremony from Bow.

Mr. A. R. Gardiner, who rang his first peal at Thorington on Saturday, was a call change ringer for over 40 years before taking up-change ringing, and cycles the four miles from St. Osyth to Thorington almost every week for practice. He struck his bell almost faultlessly through the peal.

THE LIVERPOOL PEAL, 1814.

1814, June 4th.—St. Nicholas', Liverpool, 3,000 Grandsire Cinques, composed and conducted by Henry Cooper, at the opening of the new bells by Dobson.

1814, June 7th.—St. Nicholas', Liverpool, 5,016 Grandsire Cinques in 3 hours 36 minutes, composed and conducted by Henry Cooper. The last three bells were rung doubly manned. Cooper usually took a middle bell when calling Caters, Royal, Cinques.

Between the years 1811 and 1815 Cooper composed and conducted nine peals of Grandsire, varying from Triples to Cinques, including performances at Birmingham, Worcester, Aston, Droitwich, Kings Norton and Deritend.

1814, October 18th.—Joseph Riley, of Cheltenham, took part in a peal of Grandsire Caters at the opening of Aston bells, composed and conducted by H. Cooper. Joseph Riley was mentioned, in error, as belonging to Gloucester at the Liverpool meeting.

1822, September.—The St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, purchased a new peal book—Henry Cooper as the president. This society won a 20 guinea cup at the Liverpool opening. (See society's records and Morris' history.)

Henry Cooper was always keen on securing the services of the famous Sam Lawrence, as a 'back ender,' when tackling heavy jobs.

Mr. Newton will be interested to hear that his namesake, Joseph Newton, composed and conducted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus at Oldham on 6th March, 1832, which performance exceeded the celebrated peal at Birmingham in 1820. It contained 7,392 changes and was timed at 5 hours 14 minutes 32 seconds.

Both Mr. West and Mr. Newton failed to give us the DATE of and the NUMBER of changes in the peal they inquire about!

W. H. F.

Bow Day, 1933.

ROTHERHAM BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. Dawe's allusion to the above at the Central Council meeting, as reported in your issue of July 7th (page 426), I should like to point out to Mr. Dawe that before he makes aspersions he should be sure of his facts. If Mr. Dawe can remember what the peal of 10, as referred to by him, were like, then he must be more advanced in years than one would believe, for there is no record here of a 'St. Ann's tower' in this town.

He has visited, he says, 1,100-1,200 towers—all I can say is he has mixed some other with ours. The nearest reference one can find here to St. Ann's is a church in St. Ann's Road, Rotherham, and this is known as St. Stephen's Church, and has a peal of eight bells (by Warners). It cannot then be that. Presumably Mr. Dawe means 'All Saints,' which is the name of the Parish Church of Rotherham, and has been so known for 700-800 years.

Now for something about our old ten bells. In 1820, and whilst a ring of eight were still in our tower, it was reported in the local press that we were to have a HARMONIOUS peal of ten—that is when the tradition respecting our old ten began. (We ultimately got them 105 years later.)

The fact that the old ten had the reputation of being harmonious did not make them so, any more than their reputedly being a maiden peal added to their musical qualities. Modern methods go to prove just the reverse. The reputation was zealously handed down though, and, among the old school, considered something to be proud of—until we got something far, far better, and in the opinion of those considered fit to judge—magnificent.

There was no historical interest attached to the old peal—the then founders evidently not considering any inscriptions that appeared on the previous eight to be worth reproducing.

In the paragraphs immediately preceding Mr. Dawe's reference to the above, he says, 'Any old ring of bells of any note at all were valuable.' Now our old ten were like that. ANY NOTE AT ALL, the numerous tonal defects, etc., being gloriously covered by their reputation only.

I thank Mr. Dawe for his referring to our present peal as 'magnificent'—that's the kind of peal we wanted.

I might inform Mr. Dawe that there is still another very old Ring of Bells in this town whose end is near—it has ceased to be either in harmony with the church or itself, and no amount of sentiment will save it—but it only happens to be a 'pub' of that name.

COLIN RYDER.

BOW BELLS RING AGAIN. DEDICATION BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY LORD MAYOR ATTENDS IN STATE.

The dedication and re-opening of the restored bells of the church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, London, took place on Friday with all the pomp of ecclesiastic ceremony and civic state. After six years' silence Bow bells once more gave voice over the City. The dedication was performed by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, and attended by the Lord Mayor of London (Sir Percy W. Greenaway) and the Sheriffs.

On Saturday there was a great gathering of ringers to hear and try the bells. Nearly 500 were present from all parts of the country, and over 300 actually had a turn



THE BEAUTIFUL STEEPLE OF ST. MARY-LE-BOW.

at the ropes during the afternoon and evening. There was a stirring service in the church, followed by tea, at which the ringers were the guests of Mr. Gordon Selfridge, and the day's proceedings concluded with a social gathering at the Cannon Street Hotel.

THE RESTORATION.

The story of the restoration of Bow bells has already been told. The bells became silent about six years ago at a time when other pressing work was needed to the fabric of the church and steeple. The result was that in 1930 an appeal was made for £15,000. As funds were available, the tower and steeple were renovated, substantial sums being contributed by the city Livery companies. The bells were restored by the generosity of Mr. H. Gordon Selfridge, who undertook to pay the entire cost of the recasting and repair of the bells and fittings on condition that the work was carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of the Croydon Foundry, on the lines proposed by them. At the time it was thought that the recasting of only two or three bells would be necessary, but in the end eight out of the twelve bells were recast, including the tenor. This latter is now a magnificent bell of 54 cwt. 12 lb. in B, and the old eleventh of 31 cwt. 2 qr., which has been retained, cannot 'live' up to her. Compared with the tenor, the 11th is short in weight,

which no tuning could rectify. The result is a noticeable difference in the 'body' of tone in the two bells, to the disadvantage, of course, of the old bell, and it illustrates the difficulty of getting a balanced peal when old bells are left in a minority among new bells if the latter are to come up to modern standards. Entirely new fittings have been supplied to all the bells, which have been rehung on ball bearings in the old frame, which has been strengthened with angle plates and anchored to a massive girder grillage. The ceiling of the ringing room has been lowered and a slight rearrangement of the frame has provided a better circle for the ropes. Everything in the equipment of the bells is of the most modern type, and the whole work has been designed and executed with the efficiency characteristic of the Croydon Foundry. The question of acoustics, however, has not yet been finally settled satisfactorily, and further adjustments, now that the effect of the bells has been ascertained, will be made. A serious problem, however, arises outside the tower, where the noise from the bells is overpowering. The Church authorities must do something to remedy this.

THE DEDICATION.

The historic church was filled with a congregation representing many phases of city life, when the bells were dedicated on Friday, and large numbers of people waited in Cheapside to watch the arrival of the Lord Mayor and to hear the new bells. The Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by the Sheriffs, aldermen and members of the City Council, the mace and sword bearers and the City Marshal in gorgeous uniform, was met by the robed clergy and moved in procession to their allotted seats. Another procession was then formed, headed by the choir, and including the Archbishop of Canterbury and some twenty or more clergy, with the Rector (the Rev. S. Gordon Ponsoby), and proceeded to the chancel. The service began with Psalms 122 ('I was glad when they said unto me: We will go into the House of the Lord') and 150 ('O praise God in His holiness'). Prayers were then offered by the Rector, and the lesson was read by the Lord Mayor from Rev. xxi., 1-7. Next came the hymn, 'Through all the changing scenes of life,' which was followed by the address.

The Archbishop of Canterbury based his address upon the text, 'There are so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification.' How many kinds of voices there are in the world, he said, we know better than any other generation in the world's history. It baffled thought to reflect that at this moment we had at hand an apparatus to hear sounds coming from all parts of the earth and passing on their unknown ways. All there, he thought, would agree that of all the voices in the world there were few that had more signification than the sound of church bells. Here in England they had reason to be proud of their church bells, more perhaps than in any other country. Some of them remembered hearing the great booming tones of the magnificent bells in the Low Countries, scounding over the market place, and some the almost unequalled beauty of the sound of the bells in old Russia, now, alas, silenced, and the metal out of which this rich music once came diverted to other uses. But in England their bells were more numerous and rich than in any other country. Indeed, one great writer said if he were asked suddenly, 'What is England?' he would reply, 'It is hearing the sound of the bells rising from the village church through the clustering trees and roofs, in the stillness of the summer air.' The sound of the bells in many of their cities and towns was equally impressive and he was using no exaggeration of language when he said that of all the bells of England—the great and famous bells of England—there were none better known than the bells of Bow. Every English child who had learned the story of Dick Whittington—and he hoped there were still some children of England who were educated in the old nursery tales; it would be a woeful thing if they were not—every English child, properly educated, knew that legend of the city of London, and the sound of these Bow bells had been familiar to the citizens of London for long centuries. It was even said in the days of old that no one who was not born within the sound of these bells could properly call himself a citizen of London. Therefore, it was that the bells of Bow had been almost a part of London itself. For some time they had been silent; in a few minutes their voices would be restored and London would hear again their old familiar sound. Was it too much to say that this was not only the restoration of Bow bells, but the restoration of a real part of the life of London?

POWER OF AROUSING ASSOCIATIONS.

What then, continued the Archbishop, was the signification of those voices of the bells? He was not going to speak of things so obvious as that they interpreted, as no other sound could do, the joys and sorrows of human life, but of that most wonderful signification of the bells, their power of arousing associations. He made bold to say there was no spell more potent to revive the associations of our conscious and sub-conscious life than the sound of the bells. As an illustration of this, the Archbishop mentioned that through the marvels of wireless, the chimes of Big Ben at Westminster could be heard all over the world, and only that week one correspondent in the West Indies and another in Arabia had told him that when they heard the sound of Big Ben, all that London meant came back with a sudden rush into their minds and spoke to their souls. Again when the bells of the famous Boston Stump were restored—by the generosity of those whose forefathers went over to the United States with the first pilgrims in the seventeenth century—were heard in Boston,

Massachusetts, he had been told how wonderfully and quickly and in a manner impossible through any other means, there came to those Bostonians in the United States the sound of the homeland from which their fathers had come. There was nothing which brought back to those who had lived in Oxford memories of happy days of irresponsibility, promise and hope, like the sound of the bells from the towers and spires of that city, which still, in spite of the clamour of modern life, spoke of the enchantment of the Middle Ages. So there in London, he ventured to ask, if any former citizens were permitted to be there—perhaps Sir Richard Whittington himself—these Bow bells would not in a more immediate and direct way recall the days of their past life in a manner which nothing else could do? And yet there was a second and bigger signification about which he ought to speak; it was that church bells summoned men to worship. There in the midst of the clanging of things seen and temporal the voice of the bells called men to the things unseen and spiritual. It was right, therefore, that they should rededicate these bells to the service of God, so that they would once again summon the citizens of London to worship or at least remind many of them of His presence in their midst; remind them of that other world so different from the world of their business. It was harder to hear the sound of Bow bells to-day than it used to be, for who could hear sounds so beautiful in the midst of the ceaseless discord of our modern traffic, this incessant and increasing hideousness of noise with which modern life seemed inevitably attended? It was harder in this modern life to hear the message of the church bells; so hard for us, in the midst of the increasing perplexity and pressure of this world, to think of the other world unseen.

Was it too much to fancy that, in a few moments, that beautiful church, one of the masterpieces of Wren, the great architect of London, might find again its own voice, make again its own appeal of asking them to join in thanksgiving for the magnificent generosity which had made the restoration of these bells possible, and help the Rector in carrying on his great work of restoring, decorating, heating and lighting of that great church? He asked those present, so far as each might be able to do it, to share in making that old church a living factor in the life of the City, but most of all he hoped there would always be a response to the summons of the bells. He trusted that more and more in the heart of that city the church bells would be heeded as they rang and that more and more of our people would listen to the summons, 'O come let us worship and fall down and kneel before the Lord our Maker.'

'THE CEREMONY

During the singing of the hymn, 'O God, our help in ages past,' the Archbishop, accompanied by the Rector, the churchwardens, Mr. Gordon Selfridge, Mr. Cyril Johnston and the vestry clerk (Mr. J. Trustram), proceeded to the tower, where the actual dedication was performed, the ceremony being heard in the church by means of amplifiers. Mr. Johnston, representing the bellfounders, handed the rope of the tenor bell to Mr. Selfridge, who gave it into the hands of the churchwardens, saying, 'I pray you receive these bells which have been restored, that they may once more call God's people to this His House of Prayer.' The churchwardens then handed the rope to the Archbishop, requesting him to rededicate the bells, which his Grace did, in the following terms:—

'In the faith of Jesus Christ we do solemnly set apart and rededicate these bells to the glory of God. In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.'

He then handed the rope to the Rector, with the following injunction: 'Receive these bells that have been solemnly set apart from profane and unhallowed uses as a sacred trust committed unto thee as the appointed minister of Christ in this church, and take care that they be ever and only used in God's service and for His glory.'

Then, as the procession returned to the church, the great bells overhead pealed out for the first time, and London heard once again, after long silence, the sound of her famous 'Bow bells.' They were rung in rounds for about two minutes, the men who had this privilege being the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths: C. F. Winney, H. R. Newton, E. G. Fenn, H. R. Pasmore, T. Langdon, H. G. Miles, W. T. Cockerill, W. Rushton, C. S. Burden, T. H. Taffender, H. Langdon and A. B. Peck.

When silence once more fell, special prayers were offered by the Archbishop, and during the singing of the hymn, 'Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven,' a collection was taken for the Restoration Fund, for which £2,400 is still needed. The impressive service concluded with the Blessing pronounced by the Archbishop.

As the congregation dispersed, the bells once more pealed out and went into a well-struck touch of 1,059 Stedman Cinques, rung by C. F. Winney, F. M. Butler, E. G. Fenn, H. R. Pasmore, T. Langdon, H. R. Newton, W. T. Cockerill, W. Rushton, C. S. Burden, T. H. Taffender, H. Langdon (conductor) and A. B. Peck. Large numbers of people as they passed through Cheapside stopped to hear the bells, which were again rung in the evening to touches of Stedman Cinques and a course of Cambridge Surprise Maximus.

RINGERS' DAY.

300 TRY BOW BELLS.

Saturday was 'Ringers' Day' at Bow, and from the number who shared in the proceedings it was obvious that they looked upon the

gathering as a national event. All the afternoon the precincts of the famous church were thronged with ringers, who had come from all parts of the country. Under the supervision of members of the committee, they were marshalled into bands, and as many as possible tried their hand at the ropes. In some cases only rounds were possible, but courses of Stedman and Grandsire Cinques and three bob leads of Treble Twelve were rung. The same procedure was followed in the evening, and altogether some 500 ringers took part in the ringing. Other towers were also utilised during the day, among those placed at the disposal of the visitors being St. Giles-in-the-Fields (8), St. James', Clerkenwell (8), St. Clement Danes (10) and St. Martin's-in-the-Fields (12), but this last-named tower, having been brought in at the last minute to help relieve the pressure, and being available only in the afternoon before the facilities were fully known, was not used.

There was a wonderfully inspiring service in Bow Church at four o'clock, the spacious building being filled by ringers and their friends. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. S. Gordon Ponsoby), and opened with the ringers' hymn, 'Unchanging God.' No choir was needed to lead the singing, the voices of the great congregation filling the church with a wonderful volume of sound. Following the lesson, the Rector recited the prayers, one of which offered thanks and praise 'for all the benefactors of this Thine ancient house of prayer; and especially for those who have helped us at this time with the roof, the steeple and the bells.' After the hymn, 'O God, our help in ages past,' the Rector gave an address based upon the words, 'Make a joyful noise unto God' (Psalm 66, 1). He traced the history and uses of bells, and, referring to the growing importance of the position of bellringers, said it was of interest to him that they had met that day in Cheapside, where, as far as he could ascertain, the first Guild of ringers, known as the Scholars of Cheapside, was formed in 1602—before the great Society of College Youths, which was founded in 1637, and many other societies, one of which was the London Scholars, which in 1745 took the name of Royal Cumberland Youths. As the years went on the importance of the position of ringers in the organisation of the Church of England had been gradually recognised, and the ringers themselves realised the hallowed nature of their work.

The service concluded with the hymn, 'Now thank we all our God,' and the Blessing.

The ringers then made their way to Selfridge's Store, in Oxford Street, where they were entertained to a meat tea by Mr. H. Gordon Selfridge. Lt.-Col. C. C. O. Whiteley, O.B.E., one of the churchwardens of Bow, presided, and was supported by the Rev. S. Gordon Ponsoby, Mr. J. H. Clark (managing director of Selfridge's), Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Johnston, Mrs. A. Johnston, Miss Nora Johnston, Mr. E. S. Underwood, F.R.I.B.A. (architect), and Mr. J. Trustram (vestry clerk). The ringers present, who numbered over 450, represented the following Associations and Guilds: Ancient Society of College Youths, Royal Cumberland Youths, Bedfordshire Association, Chester Diocesan Guild, Ely Diocesan Association, Essex Association, Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, Guildford Diocesan Guild, Hertford County Association, Kent County Association, Lancashire Association, Llandaff and Monmouth Association, London County Association, Middlesex County Association, Midland Counties Association, North Notts Association, Norwich Diocesan Guild, Oxford Diocesan Guild, Peterborough Diocesan Guild, Salisbury Diocesan Guild, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, Society for the Archdeaconry of Staffs, Suffolk Guild, Surrey Association, Sussex Association, Warwickshire Guild, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild and the Yorkshire Association.

BOW CHURCH MICE.

After tea Lt.-Col. Whiteley proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Gordon Selfridge for his hospitality. He said when they knew that the ringers were going to honour them with their presence, the question arose as to how they were going to entertain them. Church funds were none too good in these days. They had all heard of the church mouse, and the mice in Bow Church were no exception (laughter). When the matter was mentioned to Mr. Selfridge, without a moment's hesitation he said, 'May I have the honour of entertaining them at my establishment in Oxford Street?' 'And, gentlemen,' said the Chairman, 'here you are' (applause). Mr. Selfridge, in his kindness and generosity, had, as they all knew, footed the bill for recasting Bow bells, and, speaking on behalf of the church, the Rector and the churchwardens, he could not find words to express their gratitude to Mr. Selfridge. Therefore, while they were enjoying his hospitality at that gathering, he (the chairman) would like to remind them that in Bow Church there was a great monument to Mr. Selfridge's generosity (applause). Unfortunately, Mr. Selfridge could not be with them that afternoon, but they had there his managing director, Mr. Clark, whom he would ask to express to Mr. Selfridge not only the thanks of the Rector and churchwardens and all connected with Bow Church, but of the company present that afternoon (applause). There was one other gentleman whose name he must mention, and that was Mr. Johnston, the founder of the bells (applause). As far as he knew, the bells were well and truly founded. They had heard the bells and Mr. Johnston had done his job right nobly. He thought those present would also like to say, 'Thank you' to him for organising that show. It had meant an enormous amount of work, and they were very grateful to him. He (the chair-

man) thought it was perfectly wonderful that ringers should have come there from all parts of the country, and many of them at considerable expense, and, on behalf of the church, he expressed appreciation of the honour they had done to Bow Church (applause).

Mr. Clark, acknowledging the vote of thanks, said Mr. Selfridge asked him to express his intense regret that he was unable to be present. Mr. Selfridge's interest had already been referred to; he could assure them that Mr. Selfridge was just about as proud that Bow bells had been reconditioned as they were who had been joyfully ringing them that day. Mr. Selfridge's interest in bells started when they erected the very beautiful clock on the front of their building. He made one or two visits to Croydon, and he (the speaker) also had the privilege of being present when the big four-ton hour bell was cast, and had the pleasure of throwing a humble coin into the metal. Mr. Selfridge had asked him to express a hearty welcome to them all and regret that, as it happened to be Saturday, they had not the opportunity of looking through the store. Mr. Clark expressed his personal pleasure at meeting so many bellringers. He was, he said, essentially British, and the chiming of bells was still one of the most musical things he could listen to. There was nothing more beautiful and nothing more delightful than to hear the strain of the bells while enjoying the beauty of the English countryside, and he had happy recollections of the bells of the church in his native town of Shepton Mallet in Somerset.

The Chairman thanked the staff of Messrs. Selfridge, who were working that afternoon and giving up their time for that party (applause).

Mr. C. F. Johnston, who was received with applause, proposed an 'omnibus' vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens of Bow Church for letting them have the use of the bells there, to the Rector for the impressive and beautiful service and for his arresting address. He (Mr. Johnston) did not think many of them could recollect many ringers' services so well attended, and, perhaps, so thrilling. Mr. Johnston also thanked the organist, who had given up his Saturday afternoon for their service, and the vestry clerk, who had had no small amount of work in connection with the arrangements. They also appreciated the presence of three of the churchwardens that afternoon. Their thanks were also due to the incumbents of the other churches where the bells had been placed at their disposal—St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, St. Clement Danes, St. Giles-in-the-Fields and St. James', Clerkenwell. He also thanked the steeplekeepers of those churches and expressed his own appreciation of the help given by the committee of well-known ringers who had assisted in the arrangements and who had been in attendance to control the ringing and make sure that everybody, as far as possible, got a pull. Mr. Johnston added that 28 Diocesan Guilds and County Associations were represented at that gathering and there were something over 450 ringers present. Mr. Johnston expressed regret that the pamphlets which it was proposed to distribute had not been received from the printers, but these would be sent on by post to all those who had applied for tickets. Proceeding, he said he appreciated the honour the authorities of Bow Church had done him in asking him to organise that day's meeting. He immediately set to work to collect ten or twelve ringers, used to organisation, and they readily gave their assistance. To them he tendered his sincere thanks (applause).

Mr. F. M. Mitchell (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths) seconded the vote of thanks, which was acknowledged by the Rev. S. Gordon Ponsenby, who said it was a great honour to have so many ringers from all parts of the country at their church. He welcomed them all very warmly and hoped they would sometimes have visits from some of them in the future. He expressed the great indebtedness of the church to Mr. Selfridge for his generous gift of the bells, and hoped they would long be rung for the welfare of the church and the glory of God (applause).

A SOCIAL EVENING.

Later in the evening there was a large gathering of ringers in the Pillar Hall at the Cannon Street Hotel, where Mr. Howard Hicklenton, senior churchwarden of Bow, presided and a happy evening was spent. It was mentioned that among those present was Mr. J. W. Rowbotham, who rang the second bell when the ring of twelve was first opened at Bow in 1881, and had rung the second again that day. Mr. Rowbotham's health was drunk with musical honours.

Also present was Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., who had rung in the two long peals at Bow, the 6,048 Stedman Cinques in 1909 and the 7,392 Cambridge Maximus in 1925. Others in the 1925 peal who were present were Messrs. G. T. and A. Coles, G. R. Pye, J. H. Cheesman, W. H. Hewitt and J. E. Davis. Mr. Joseph Waghorn, sen., now 91 years of age, was also among the company, and a message of sympathy and good wishes was sent to Mr. E. Gibbs, who rang in a peal at Bow in 1890, and who is now in a nursing home.

The evening was spent with an entertainment provided by professional artists, and in handbell ringing, the latter including Stedman Cinques, Treble Ten, Double Norwich Major and Stedman Triples. More than all, however, it provided an opportunity for many old friends to meet again and enjoy each other's company for an all too brief time. The social was at the invitation of the churchwardens of Bow and was arranged by the vestry clerk (Mr. J. Trustram), to whom, as to the artists, thanks are due.

The whole of the day's proceedings had been admirably organised and passed off with the greatest success.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Yeovil on Saturday, July 1st, when nearly 100 members were present, the following towers being represented: Bath, Chilcompton, Pensford, St. Mary's, St. James' and St. George's (Taunton), Evercreech, Castle Cary, Butleigh, West Pennard, North Cadbury, Trowbridge, Martock, Ilminster, Doulling, Langport, Trull, East Coker and Yeovil.

Touches in various methods on the bells of the Parish Church were followed by a service in the church, which was conducted by the Vicar of Yeovil (the Rev. J. E. S. Harrison). The lesson was read by the steward of the Yeovil belfry (Mr. John Goodchild).

In the course of a short address, the Vicar gave a very cordial welcome to the members of the association, and said that since they last visited Yeovil the bells in the tower had been reconditioned and various improvements had been carried out. They were now in first-class condition, and, no doubt, would be a joy and a pleasure to the ringers present that day. Speaking of the ringers in that tower, the Vicar said he was indebted to them for the willing way their duties were carried out Sunday by Sunday, as, no doubt, ringers in other parts of the diocese were doing. The ringers were rendering most useful work to the church, and were doing it, he hoped, to the honour and glory of God and the worship in His Holy House, of which he hoped they all took the fullest advantage.

After the service the Vicar proceeded to the ringing chamber, where he dedicated a tablet which has been placed there to commemorate a peal rung on December 26th, 1932.

The members adjourned to St. John's Schoolroom, where they enjoyed tea.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The business meeting followed, and was presided over by the Master, the Rev. E. S. C. Lock, supported by the Vicar of Yeovil.

On the proposition of the secretary (Mr. J. T. Dyke), seconded by Mr. D. G. Taylor, Messrs. A. E. Coles, of Bridgwater, and J. Maddock, of Taunton, were elected honorary life members, as a mark of appreciation of their work in past years for the association. Mr. Maddock replied.

The report of the Master and the treasurer's balance sheets were adopted.

Calling on Mr. J. Hunt for an account of the proceedings at the Central Council meeting, the Master congratulated him on being elected on the Towers and Belfries Committee. Mr. Hunt's report was adopted.

The Rev. E. S. C. Lock was unanimously re-elected Master, and Mr. J. T. Dyke (Chilcompton) hon. secretary and treasurer. Mr. D. G. Taylor (Ilminster) was re-elected hon. auditor.

It was decided to hold the quarterly meetings at Milverton, Corston and Castle Cary, and the annual meeting at Taunton.

The Master proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Yeovil for the welcome he had given the association and for his kind words to them at the service; and to the organist and to the ladies who had provided tea.—Mr. W. J. Prescott seconded the motion, which was heartily carried.

The Vicar, in reply, said they had been delighted to have the association at Yeovil, and he hoped it would not be another five years before it met there again. He wished to join with them in thanking Mrs. Goodchild and the ladies who had helped her with providing tea.

Further touches were afterwards rung on the bells. The methods rung during the day included Grandsire, Stedman, Cambridge, Double Norwich and Kent.

'GREAT RINGING DAY.'

SAFFRON WALDEN'S COMMEMORATION.

By the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. L. Hughes, D.D., the 310th anniversary of Great Ringing Day was celebrated at Saffron Walden on Saturday, June 24th, it being the nearest Saturday to the festival day—June 27th.

The society opened the day at 9 a.m. with touches of London and Cambridge Surprise and Stedman Caters. Visitors began to arrive at 9.30, and the bells were going all the morning in the Surprise methods as well as in Stedman Caters and Cinques. The usual service was held at 12.30, and the Vicar preached a splendid sermon, in which he mentioned the history of Bow bells and Dick Whittington.

A hot lunch was served at the King's Arms, at which the Master of the Society, Mr. Alfred Pitstow, presided.

The bells were kept going all the afternoon and evening until 9 p.m. in methods on eight, ten and twelve bells, three plain courses of Cambridge Royal being successfully brought round. To close a good day's ringing, the handbells were brought out, and touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung. Among those present were Dr. E. L. Taylor (Sevenoaks), Mr. G. Dent (Potters Street), Master of North-West Division of Essex Association, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Cross (Barnhurst), Messrs. J. W. Jones (Monmouth), F. Ridgwell (Earls Colne), J. Ward (Melbourn), T. and G. Jordan and T. Watts (Stansted), W. Prior (Bishop's Stortford), A. Pye, Fiddler (Hitchin), Lucas (Tottenham), F. Hurrey (Stawston) and others. The society rang on the festival day at 7.30 p.m.

A YORKSHIRE RINGING CONTEST.**SHELLEY WIN BARNESLEY SHIELD.**

The Barnesley and District Association held a meeting and shield contest at Darfield on Saturday, July 8th. Only five bands entered for the competition and they were drawn to ring in the following order: 1 Sarnal, 2 Wath 'B,' 3 Shelley, 4 Wath 'A,' 5 Hoylandswaine. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., the test piece being 720 changes of Minor. All the bands rang through and finished about 7.30 p.m. Tea was served in the Schoolroom to a party of upwards of 40, who were joined by the Vicar (the Rev. A. E. Sorby).

The Vicar presided at the business meeting and gave the ringers a hearty welcome to Darfield. The Vicar takes a great interest in the bells and in bell hanging, and illustrated how the bells should swing as a protection to the tower.

Crofton was selected for the next meeting, to be held on Saturday, August 12th. It was impressed on all intending visitors to Crofton who wished to have tea that applications must be sent in, as, being a small village, it was a difficult problem to provide for extras.

The judges, Mr. G. Lewis and Mr. R. Thickett, then gave their report on the contest, which placed the teams as follows:—

1 Shelley, 55 faults, winners of shield and half-dozen knives and forks for each ringer.

2 Sandal, 88 faults, winners of salad bowls.

3 Wath 'A,' 89 faults, winners of fruit spoons.

4 Hoylandswaine, 162 faults.

5 Wath 'B,' 269 faults.

A vote of thanks to the judges for their services was moved by Mr. A. Goldthorpe, seconded by Mr. J. W. Moxon and supported by Mr. A. Panther. Both Mr. Lewis and Mr. Thickett replied.

Mr. Potter proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding, for the use of the bells and for presenting the prizes, and also to the ladies for providing such a splendid tea and to the local company for the arrangements made.—The Vicar replied for the whole.

Mr. R. J. Ricketts then moved that the best thanks be extended to the secretary (Mr. Panther) for the extra work done in trying to make the contest a success.—This was carried unanimously and accepted with pleasure.

A few visitors afterwards adjourned to the tower and kept the beautiful bells going until 9 p.m. To all subscribers to the prize fund the hon. secretary extends his best thanks.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**GUILDFORD DISTRICT MEETING AT GRAYSHOTT.**

Grayshott, situated on the border of the Guildford Diocese and, in fact, just in the county of Hants, has a light ring of eight, which was installed in the Parish Church about two years ago, but not until July 1st this year have the members of the Guildford District had an opportunity of holding a district meeting there. The weather was a complete success, but, measured by the attendance of district members, the meeting was only partially so.

Whisper it gently in the eight and ten bell towers of the district, apart from the local band, the number of members attending from these towers was only six! However, thanks to a contingent from a six-bell tower, who appear to have a very efficient motor convoy, the Panham District and the local band, the total ringers present numbered nearly thirty.

The usual service, conducted by the Vicar, was brightened by the attendance of the organist and a fairly large choir of boys. One gentleman from afar, who by means of rail and cycle had arrived on the scene early, was rather late for the service. It is understood that, in accordance with his usual custom, he had been bird-nesting round the bell frame!

At the business meeting, presided over by the Master (Major J. H. B. Hesse), Mr. R. J. Bailey, of the local band, was elected as a ringing member of the Guild, and Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, as a compounding member.

In proposing a vote of thanks to the Vicar, Mr. W. C. Ryde, of the local band, who made all arrangements, the organist and choir, the Master mentioned that although the bells had been in the tower for two years, no peal had been rung on them, and he expressed the hope that an opportunity for an attempt would be granted in the near future.

OVER, CAMBS.—At the Parish Church for evensong, a 720 Norwich Surprise (second observation): R. Smith 1, F. C. Ginn 2, C. Robinson 3, M. Ginn 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington 6.

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NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

Notices must be received not later than Tuesday.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 27th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 20th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 25th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual festival at Swansea, Saturday, July 15th. 10 a.m. to 2.45 p.m., 5.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.: Tower of St. Mary's Church (8 bells) open for ringing. 3 p.m.: Service in St. Mary's Church, Swansea (Preacher: Canon W. T. Havard). 4 p.m.: Tea at Curran's Restaurant, Heathfield Street (by kind invitation of Canon W. T. Havard). 4.30 p.m.: Business meeting.—L. T. Havard, Hon. Sec., 5, St. Mary Street, Brecon.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The next meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, July 15th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea by kind invitation. Business meeting after tea.—Stanley J. T. Shellock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 162, Barnsole Road, Gillingham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival.—This will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 15th. Service in Cathedral at 11.15 a.m. Preacher: Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge. Business meeting in Chapter House immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church Hall at 1.30 p.m. Tickets, 2s. each to members; 3s. to non-members. A collection will be taken at the service for the Restoration Fund. The G.W.R. and the L.M. & S. Railway will issue cheap tickets to Oxford from any station in the diocese. Will members please note that vital business will come before the meeting on this date.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Brasted on Saturday, July 15th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea (by kind invitation of E. H. Lewis, Esq.) at Moorcocks after service, followed by business meeting.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE HERTFORD ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting of these associations will be held at Hadley, near Barnet, on Saturday, July 15th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea at 5.45, 1s. each. Barnet bells open for ringing from 3 to 4.30 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4; W. Nash, North Mimms, Hatfield, Hon. Sees.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—A practice meeting will be held at Flixton (8 bells) on Saturday, July 15th. Tower open for ringing at 6 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec.

HALIFAX ASSOCIATION will hold the annual meeting, and a six-bell contest, at Meltham on Saturday, July 15th. Draw 2.45 p.m.—L. Hargreaves, Hon. Sec., 30, Bankfield View, Halifax.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The July quarterly meeting will be held at Monk's Kirby, near Rugby, on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (8) available during afternoon and evening. Tea at the Denbigh Arms, with business meeting to follow.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., Green Ways, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Milton on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Usual arrangements.—F. Browning, 10, Butts Hill, Bugbrooke, Northampton.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD AND HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bridgnorth District.—A combined meeting of the above will be held at Bridgnorth on Saturday, July 15th. Bells, St. Leonard's (8), St. Mary's (6), available at 3 p.m. Tea, at the King's Head Hotel, at 5. Please send word to Mr. H. E. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton, or Mr. G. Case, 22, Severn Street, Bridgnorth.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—A meeting will be held at Chobham on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—Kathleen Eastes, Hon. Sec., Holly Brox, Ottershaw, Chertsey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Harlington on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) available from 3.30. Short service at 5. Tea in Church Hall about 5.30 p.m. Next meeting at Ruislip on Saturday, August 19th.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath, Middlesex.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—A meeting will be held at Ringwood on Saturday, July 15th. Bells available from 2.30.—G. Preston, Christchurch.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Whiston on Saturday, July 15th. Bells at 2.30. Service 4.30, conducted by the Rector. Tea and business meeting to follow.—F. Barber, Branch Sec., School House, Gordon Road, Wellingborough.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Stanfords-on-Soar on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (8) will be available at 3.30 p.m.—D. S. Collins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—Quarterly meeting at Highclere, Saturday, July 15th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea, 5 o'clock, at the Red House. Please notify Miss I. Knapp, Church Farm, Highclere.—Rev. F. S. H. Maile, Hon. Sec., Newtown, Newbury.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held tomorrow (Saturday), July 15th, at Alsager (8 bells). Ringing from 3 p.m.—R. D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Kirkby Lonsdale tomorrow (Saturday), July 15th. Bells (6) at 2 p.m. Tea, 1s. 3d. to all who notify Mr. J. H. Wearing, Fairbank, Kirkby Lonsdale.—E. Swain, Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A mid-week meeting will be held at Dunmow on Wednesday, July 19th, at 3 p.m. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. Those intending to be present kindly advise me.—H. A. Wacey, 73, Rye Street, Bishops Stortford.

BRILL, BUCKS.—The ring of 6 bells, restored and rehung in a new oak frame, will be dedicated on Thursday, July 20th, at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be obtainable. Service in church at 7.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., Central Bucks Branch of Oxford Guild.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at Beddington on July 22nd. Ringing 3 to 5 p.m. Tea at Harvest Home 5.15. Business, ringing and social hour to follow. A nice run out to verdant fields. P.C.s re tea appreciated by J. Herbert, Hon. Dis. Sec., 17, Grimston Road, Fulham, S.W.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Freshwater on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea, 5, at Gillings' Tea Rooms, Station Road, by kind invitation of the Rector, followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome. Will those who require tea kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, July 18th?—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., Collingwood, 23, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.O.W.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Summer Festival at Leatherhead and Ashted, Saturday, July 22nd. Ringing at both towers from 2.30 p.m. and after tea. Service at Leatherhead at 4.30 p.m. Meat tea (1s. 6d. per head) at the Institute, Leatherhead, at 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea must be sent to me not later than Tuesday, July 18th.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover, Hockering Gardens, Woking.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Kirdford on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available from 2 o'clock till 9. Short service 4.30. Tea, 5.15, at the Half Moon, 1s. each. All those intending being present kindly advise me by Tuesday prior to the meeting.—A. W. Groves, Amherst, Dominion Road, Worthing.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church, Lytham (8 bells) on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool, S.S.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All requiring tea please notify by July 18th to Major J. G. Stilwell, Yateley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton-on-Trent District.—The next district meeting will be held at Netherseal on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. All those requiring tea must please inform Mr. W. Woodward, Clifton Road, Netherseal, not later than the 20th. A good meeting is requested.—A. Sharp, 194, Uxbridge Street, Burton-on-Trent.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Willoughby (6) on Saturday, July 22nd. Members please note alteration of date.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury and District Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Adderbury, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting. Banbury (10) and Deddington (6) will be available in the evening. Good bus services. For tea, kindly notify.—E. Pearson, Hon. Dis. Sec., Deddington, Oxford.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Moreton Corbet, Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. All requiring tea to notify me by Tuesday, July 18th.—R. R. Pole, Assistant Hon. Sec., 88, North Street, Shrewsbury.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Somerton on Saturday, July 22nd. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow. Please notify me not later than Tuesday, July 18th, for tea.—F. Farrant, Hon. Local Sec., North Street, Martock.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Burbage on Saturday, July 22nd (not Stoney Stanton as arranged). Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea (1s.) and meeting at 5 p.m. All members and friends cordially invited. Any collections for Sir A. P. Heywood's Memorial Fund may be handed in at this meeting. — A. E. Rowley, Local Hon. Sec., Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at North Mimms on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at the Churchyard Cottage at 1s. per head. A fete is also being held in the park adjoining the church. All welcome.—W. Nash, Dis. Sec., North Mimms, Hatfield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Penn (6 bells) on Saturday, July 22nd, at 3.30 p.m. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head for those who notify me not later than July 18th. — A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Stone on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea after service. All ringers welcome.—H. W. Fussell, Fortfields, Dursley.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A quarterly district meeting will be held at East Meon on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service in Parish Church at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Those requiring tea please notify me by July 20th. West Meon bells (8) available from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. All ringers welcome. — A. T. Greenwood, 14, Cobourg Street, Portsmouth.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Limpsfield Chart on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells at 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Please notify for tea July 18th.—G. F. Hoad, Dis. Sec., 20, Warren Road, Reigate.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Surfleet on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by July 17th?—George Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Sunderland on Saturday, July 22nd. Ringers, please meet at St. Ignatius' Church at 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 in St. Ignatius' Institute. Those requiring same please advise Mr. G. S. Taylor, 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland, by July 20th. Bells available at Holy Trinity after tea. All ringers are welcome.—F. Robson, Hon. Dis. Sec., 6, Water Street, West Hartlepool.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Raunds on Saturday, July 22nd, also to celebrate the jubilee of the Raunds, Wellingborough and District Society, founded in 1883, later the Central Northants Association, now the present Guild. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Those requiring tea must advise me by Tuesday, July 18th. — J. Nickerson, Halford Street, Thrapston.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The next meeting will be held at Great Glen on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Short service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. Leonard W. Allen, High Street, Great Glen, by Thursday previous latest. Come and make a real good meeting.—Ernest H. Bagworth, Dis. Sec., 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—Branch meeting at Runcorn on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells ready at 3. Please advise if tea required not later than the 19th.—John E. Ashcroft, Post Office, Grappenhall.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.—Ring of six, tenor 14 cwt. Frame and fittings restored and bells recast by Gillett and Johnston, Croydon. Dedication, Thursday, July 27th, at 8 p.m. by the Lord Bishop of Barking. All ringers welcome.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, July 29th, at St. Michael's, Mottram-in-Longdendale. Bells ready 3 p.m. A good attendance, please.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—By the invitation of the President (Canon C. C. Marshall) and the ringers of St. Chad's, Far Headingley, Leeds, a summer meeting will be held at the above tower on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in the Schools at 5 p.m. No committee meeting or business meeting. The Vicarage gardens will be open to all ringers and friends. Please send in names for tea to Canon C. C. Marshall, St. Chad's Vicarage. — J. E. Cawser, Hon. Gen. Sec., Grange Villas, Ravenfield Common, near Rotherham.

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KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The next meeting will be held at Appledore on Saturday, July 29th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.45, followed by tea. Travelling allowances at this meeting. All ringers welcome, and a good attendance is looked for. A card would be appreciated.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Whittle-le-Woods, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells ready from 2.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. a head, to all who notify Mr. Adam Blogg, Waterhouse Green, Whittle-le-Woods, not later than Wednesday, July 26th. Business: Election of branch secretary and committee men, also nominations for association vice-president, ringing secretary, treasurer and two auditors. A good attendance is requested.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Chester on Saturday, July 29th. Service in Cathedral 3.15. Preacher: The Lord Bishop. Annual meeting in the Cathedral Parlour 4. Tea in Refectory 5. Tickets 2s. (members 1s. 6d.) from General Secretary, the Vicar of Middlewich, or from branch secretaries before July 22nd.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival, Saturday, July 29th, 2 to 9 p.m., at Callington. Bells: Callington (6), Linkinhorne (6), St. Mellion (6), Pillaton (6), South Hill (5). Service in Callington Church 4 p.m. Tea 4.45. Will those who intend to be present notify me by July 17th?—Rev. H. Trehwella, St. Paul's Vicarage, Truro.

SURREY ASSOCIATION (North - Western District), GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Leatherhead District).—A joint meeting will be held at St. Martin's, Epsom, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea at Wright's Restaurant 5.30 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. D. Cooper, 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon, not later than Wednesday, July 26th. All ringers heartily welcome.—D. Cooper and A. H. Smith, Hon. Dis. Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — A meeting will be held at Belchamp St. Paul's on Saturday, July 29th. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting. Will those intending to be present please notify me by Tuesday, 25th inst, to enable me to make tea arrangements. — F. Ridgwell, Dis. Sec., Queen's Road, Earls Colne.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Caldicot on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) available. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting follows.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Altery View, Newport, Mon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Burnley, on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Business: Election of officers and fixing date for annual social.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

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