

Afternoon ringing on the light six was accompanied by a second band ringing handbells in the church. A brief service at 4.30 conducted by the Curate of Radlett, himself a ringer, the Revd. Andrew Talbot - Dunsbury, was followed by tea in the nearby church hall. The Secretary welcomed the Curate to the meeting, & duly installed him as chairman.

Apologies for absence were received from A. Carter, Miss C. Leslie & Miss G. Brearley.

The minutes of the last district meeting were read, agreed & signed as a correct record. Arising, the peal secretary stated that the hoped-for record number of peals had been achieved.

Election of New Members

From probationary to full membership, Miss D. Hodge, St. Peter's, proposed K. Davitt, seconded Mrs Dodds

As new ringing members, Miss G. Lunn, Miss D. Kingham & Miss A. Stephens, of Harpenden, proposed Mrs Coburn, seconded Mrs Brown.

These elections were carried. The N.R.L.M. election of Richard Hayes of Sevenoaks and Peter Holden of London University, prior to peal attempts, was also ratified.

Social Activities

(1) Dinner. It was stated the committee had suggested either Nov. 29th or Dec. 6th. Investigations had revealed that Batchwood Hall would probably be available on

the first of these dates, but because of increased charges, it would mean ~~for~~ a possible slight financial risk if the ticket price of 30f were maintained. It was agreed that the District would be prepared to subsidise the dinner to a small extent, if necessary.

(2) ATV visit. The Secretary said he had written requesting a visit on Wednesday April 23rd, or on any Wednesday thereafter.

(3) Coach outing. The two committee suggestions of (a) a visit to the Whitechapel bellfoundry, and (b) a whole day riving in Oxford, were discussed. The proposed date is 27th September. K. Davill proposed & Mrs Hardy seconded that the bellfoundry ~~to~~ visit be arranged. A Wilby proposed and Mrs Coburn seconded the alternative arrangements. On being put to the vote, the Oxford trip was carried.

Forthcoming Practices

Special Practice S. Myrums 6th March. The Secretary also asked for other requests for special practices. A brief discussion on the Kington Assisted Practice scheme ~~(was also held)~~ followed.

Large Practice - St. Peter's St. Albans 13th March. A. Wilby said this would be a Royal practice, methods being Cambridge, London & Bristol. The blue line of Bristol would be made available to those who require it.

Date & Place of Next District Meeting

The Secretary said this should be at Hatfield, as arranged, on March 15th, but this had not been confirmed, although it was virtually a certainty. Mrs Coburn proposed & K. Davill seconded a proposition that Essendon be approached if necessary as an alternative. This was carried. Details were also given of charges to the proposed list of meetings for the year.

Special Methods for Meetings

The Secretary outlined the Committee suggestion that, because of the higher number of less experienced ringers in the district, the methods be aimed at such ringers & at budding conductors. For 6-bell meetings, all the minor methods in the diary were suggested, & for 8-bell meetings, DNCS, Hedman, St. Clements & Cambridge. This was discussed & appeared acceptable.

A.O.B.

The Secretary asked Tower Secretaries to advise him of their Sunday Service ringing times on the Sunday of the C.C. visit, so that these can be suitably advertized in the booklet which is being prepared.

The Secretary also asked for any information, especially photographs, which could be used to assist in the rewriting of "The History of Ringing in Hertfordshire", a task which is being undertaken by Mrs Goodman, of Brent Pelham.

A formal request from Harpenden for the promised donation from the V.B.F. was read. The Secretary proposed the amount given be increased to £50, seconded by G. Dods. After discussion, in which it was agreed that the amount to be given to Wheathampstead also ought to be increased, the proposition was carried. G. Dods suggested that the V.B.F. be brought to the notice of P.C.C.'s by tower captains; the chairman stated this was a good idea, but felt it was unlikely to produce any donations.

After a formal vote of thanks proposed by K. Davie, to the Rector & Curate of Radlett, & to the local ladies for the tea, the meeting was declared closed.

After a brief wait for the ~~the~~ end of Evening, during which handbells were rung, evening ringing continued until about 8.30pm. A number of

Visitors commented upon the light bells, & the opportunity was taken to finish the afternoon's work by rigging all the minor methods in the dairy.

T. J. Lock.

CHAIRMAN.