

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING.

Saturday January 17th, 1970. St. Peter's, St. Albans.

A slow start was made to the afternoon's singing, but was compensated for later by touches of Stedman Cakes and Spiced Surprise Royal. At 4:30 a short service was conducted by the vicar, Rev. A. Bradley, in which he gave a short but very amusing sermon. At the conclusion of the service three loads of Kent Feble Bob Royal was hung in hand by members of the district. The company then adjourned to the Abbey Institute for a rather unusual tea prepared by the ladies of the Abbey band.

Mr. A. R. Agg, general secretary of the association, was elected to the chair for the business meeting. Before opening the meeting Mr. Agg conveyed the President's apologies for absence, and explained that he was fulfilling a long standing promise to the Bishop Stortford District.

Members were asked to observe a short silence in memory of W. T. Holmes of Hatfield, and Canon Douglas Haspud, vicar of St Michael's, who both passed away during the last year.

Apologies for absence were received from J. C. Holland, K. J. Devill, D. Ayle (President), R. D. M. Clouston, R. F. Adcock, Miss C. Aubrey, J. H. Huckle, & G. D. Debenham.

The minutes of the last A.D.M. were read and signed as a correct record, there being no matters arising.

Collection of New Members. Re-election as singing members; M. Bew & Mrs K. Bew, of Haspenden; proposed by
Mr. ...

Mr. Coburn, seconded A. Dilby

As a ringing member; Miss J. Pickles of St. Michael's proposed by R. Haddy, seconded Mrs Haddy.

Transfer from probationary to ringing member, Miss D. Owen, St. Peter's; proposed Miss F. Dodds, seconded Mrs J. Dodds.

As probationary member; Miss F. Carpenter, proposed A. Dilby, seconded Mrs Coburn; M. Ashby & B. McDowall, proposed Mrs Talbot-Pinsonby, seconded Mrs J. Dodds.

The misses: M. Owen, R. A. Ellis, R. A. Hooper, C. M. P. Pochet, & A. C. Staines; proposed Miss F. Dodds, seconded Mrs J. Dodds.

As unattached members; A. Surr, proposed by P. Dale seconded R. Haddy, & P. M. Overfield, proposed G. Austin, seconded Miss E. Thorne.

As a non-resident life member; G. Lucas of Cynsford, Kent, proposed G. Austin, seconded Miss E. Thorne, & transfer from ringing to N.R.L.M. Mr. P. F. Dale, proposed Miss J. Blake, seconded Miss E. Foster.

These elections were all carried.

The secretary's report was read & adopted without amendment on the proposal of Mrs M. A. Coburn, seconded by Mrs J. Dodds.

Statements of Accounts were read and adopted on the proposition of A. R. Carter, seconded F. D. Ellis.

Comments. The secretary said the V.B.F. had a good income, but he would like to see it higher in 1970. Mrs. Coburn suggested that as the district fund is so healthy let us concentrate on V.B.F., & A. Dilby said, if needed we could grant money to V.B.F. from the District Fund.

Election of Officers.

Secretary. F. D. Ellis proposed by

R. Hardy, seconded J. C. D. carried.

At this point the general secretary & Mr Coburn both thanked Mr. Hardy for the work he had done in his term of office, & Mr. Coburn made a small presentation.

District ringing master. A. D. R. Dilby, proposed K. J. Dalpole, seconded G. Dodds, carried.

Ringing Dods representative. Miss H. Dodds, proposed Mrs K. S. Hardy, seconded G. Penney, carried.

District Committee. The following names were put forward:-

A. Dilby	proposed	K. J. Devill	seconded	K. Dalpole.
Miss J. Clarke	"	"	"	"
R. Hardy	"	G. Dodds	"	H. Dodds.
C. Edmonson	"	A. Dilby	"	J. Ellis.
G. Dodds	"	"	"	Mrs Coburn.
A. Carter	"	G. Penney	"	J. C. D.
K. Devill	"	Mrs Hardy	"	A. Dilby.
Mrs. Talbot. Pearson	"	A. Dilby	"	K. Dalpole.
Miss. J. Dodds	"	K. Dalpole	"	K. S. Hardy.
J. C. D.	"	G. Penney	"	J. Ellis.

Of the ten nominations received, the following were declared elected after a vote.

A. Dilby, R. Hardy, C. Edmonson, G. Dodds, K. Devill, Mrs. Talbot. Pearson, & J. C. D.

General committee representatives. Four nominations were received:-

C. Edmonson	proposed	B. b. Johnson	seconded	J. C. D.
G. Dodds	"	"	"	"
A. Dilby	"	K. J. Dalpole	"	H. V. Frost.
R. Hardy	"	G. Dodds	"	Mrs Coburn.

Mr. G. Dodds & Mr. R. Hardy were declared elected after a vote.

District poet Dites. K. L. Dewill, proposed G. Penney, seconded Mr. G. Dodds. carried.

Mr. G. Penney thanked Miss Fellows for her invaluable work.

Meetings. After reference to the recommended list, it was pointed out that neither the Abbey nor Radlett were conveniently available for the month's recs. Mr. A. Dilby pointed out how the recommended programme gave a better spread over 8/10 bell towers. For the rearrangement necessary the list was referred back to the committee on the proposal of G. Dodds, seconded R. Hardy. carried.

Special methods. After a discussion it was clear that opinions were divided on the usefulness or otherwise of these. It was proposed by A. Carter, seconded by B. Johnson, that this be left to the committee to decide.

An amendment was proposed by G. Penney, seconded by K. Dalpole that we have special methods as & when we want to; this to be arranged at each preceding meeting.

The amendment was carried.

Social activities. It was pointed out that the district dinner was already booked for Sat. 5th December at Batchwood Hall.

Other suggestions	proposed by	seconded.
Outing like last year	G. Dodds.	A. Dilby.
ITV visit	G. Penney	A. Carter.
Brewery visit	G. Penney.	

A. Dilby pointed out that it was not possible to

Just Wednes or Saturdays. The secretary pointed out a mystery too was also due for investigation by the committee.

Practice meetings. An assisted practice scheme is already in progress at Sandridge, & Baret have asked for one later. No other requests have been received.

Surprise practices. A long discussion ensued and the meeting remained divided. A proposal by G. Perrey, seconded by B. B. Johnson that surprise practices be continued, which should be open to all, & organised well in advance, was carried.

Ringling courses. Jan. 24th. The secretary gave the final details for the course at Haspenden, & asked for the names of any further interested people.

March 28th. The secretary also outlined the provisional details for the Toward Captains conference, & stated that the committee has agreed that be opened to all the Association. Further detail to be circulated later.

Canon Hasper memorial. To date £4.7.0 has been collected and the committee proposed that we increase this to 5 guineas from the district fund. The proposition was seconded by G. Perrey, & carried.

Resolutions for A.G.M. (i) To alter the wording of the rules with regard to subscriptions & penal fees to cater for decimal currency. The association treasurer, Mr. H. Hollings said this ^{could} increase subscriptions slightly, but in turn will delay any general increase in subscriptions.

(ii) Mr. G. Dodd's proposal to invite P.C.C.s to subscribe one pound annually. The proposer thought it would give P.C.C.s an interest in

the association. A long discussion followed in which it was clear not everyone was in favour of the proposition as Dodds.

Date & place of next A.D.M. It was proposed by J. Dodds, seconded by Miss G. Brasley, that be held at Hatfield on Jan. 16th 1971. This was carried.

Any other business. Mr. G. Perrey stated that a record number of peals were rung during 1969.

Miss G. Brasley asked that to save time could the minutes & secretary's report be printed and circulated prior to the meeting. In reply, the secretary thought it a good idea, but the cost would be prohibitive.

Mr. A. Dilby asked if anyone would be interested in a District peal month, but the feeling of the meeting was that this venture would get very little support.

A vote of thanks was proposed by G. Dodds to Rev. Bradley, vicar of St. Peter's, for the use of the bells, and the service, to the secretary for playing the organ, to the ladies for the excellent & unusual tea, & to the Dean of St. Albans for the use of the Abbey bells.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

The chairman having been discreetly removed, a collection was then taken for the presentation to be made to him at the A.G.M. on his retirement after 10 years as Honorary General Secretary.

Ringing in the evening was at the Abbey, and ranged from rounds to half a course of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus.

J. Dodds

CHAIRMAN

16 January 1971