

ISSUE
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ATTEMPT
EASTER
MONDAY

Painswick Ringers Fail.

**FIFTH ATTEMPT TO REGAIN
RECORD UNSUCCESSFUL.**

On Monday twelve members of the Ancient Society of Painswick Youths made a fifth attempt to regain their lost record for the greatest number of changes in a peal of Grandsire Cinques on twelve bells. Ringing started at 7 a.m., but unfortunately broke down about 3.15 p.m.

It was on February 14th, 1920, that the Youths set up a record by ringing a peal (13,001 changes) in 8 hours 45 minutes. This record withstood all challenges until August Bank Holiday, 1929, when it was beaten at Ashton-under-Lyne with a peal of 15,312 changes in 11 hours 33 minutes.

It will be recalled that when the first attempt to regain the lost record at Painswick was made in December, 1929, there was a breakdown after about two hours ringing, while the cause of the failure of the second attempt, made in February of the following year, was the illness of one of the ringers. On that occasion it was observed after nearly six hours' ringing that the ringer of the tenor bell (which weighs over 25 hundred-weights), was showing signs of indisposition, so the bells were "brought round" in a peal, and when ringing ceased the ringers had completed a peal of 9,261 changes in six hours ten minutes. At the third attempt made on April 21st of the same year indisposition of the ringer of the tenor bell again caused failure after ringing had been in progress three minutes short of eight hours, the bells then being "brought round" in a peal of 12,227 changes.

The fourth attempt was made on November 8th, 1930, when 17,686 changes were completed in 11 hours 35 minutes. It was thought at the time that this attempt had succeeded, and a great reception awaited the ringers as they left the belfry, but subsequently one unfortunate repetition was discovered in the composition of the changes after the 16,000 mark had been passed. Thus, the achievement was not, in the world of campanology, regarded as a peal.

Monday's attempt was a peal of 17,159 changes, again composed by Mr. Albert Wright, of Pitchcombe, who composed and conducted the record peal of 1920, and it was estimated that if successful the peal would necessitate nearly twelve hours ringing without food or drink—a great feat of endurance.

There was only one change in the personnel of the twelve ringers as compared with the attempt of November, 1930, A. Prince, who took part in the first three attempts, returning to the "team" vice E. H. Stoneley. Of the twelve ringers six took part in the peal of 1920, namely T. Baldwyn, W. Ireland, A. Wright, W. Staite, A. G. Hannis, and J. F. Ballinger, the six other ringers being H. Phelps, A. Prince, L. Barry, S. T. Price, J. D. G. Harris and J. George (tenor).

Mr. George, who is well over 70 years of age, has taken part in well over 1,000 peals in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, and his achievement as the ringer of the tenor bell for nearly twelve hours at the last November attempt was the more remarkable because the failure of two of the three previous attempts to regain the record at Painswick was due to the indisposition of the ringer of the tenor, in each instance a much younger man.

When Saturday's attempt ended at 3.15 p.m., over 12,000 changes had been completed, and the breakdown was naturally a great disappointment. We understand that there is every probability of another attempt on the record being made later.